

A Collection of Good Works by the Pensacola Junior College Foundation

COMPENDIUM

Fall 2007



Mrs. R.B. Hobbs
Tallahassee
Fla.

209 West College Ave.



INSIDE:

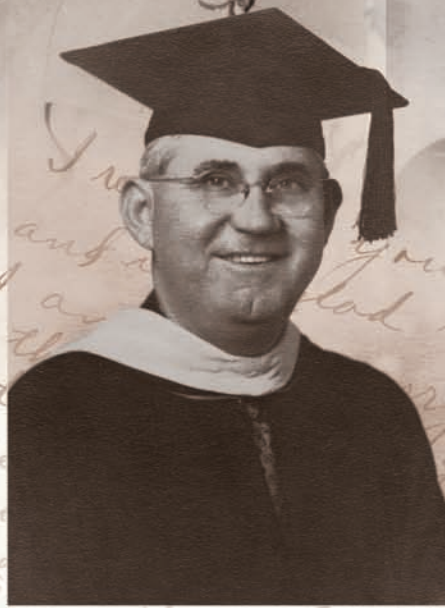
Making A Difference

J. D. SMITH,
MILTON

Hobbs Family Legacy

Bill Smart Remembered

Child Advocate Catherine Gallagher



Sunday, although I feel sure you do not Saturday. We worry over the John has been sick for a few medicine by Walker yesterday a Walker is taking the Ford Center working for Mr. Fairclough I have been feeling tough but I'm about

PJC FOUNDATION PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



CAROLYN DAVIS SIMPSON
PJC Foundation President

Blustery days, falling leaves and early twilight remind us that 2007 is quickly fading. As you inventory your accomplishments through the year, I hope that giving to Pensacola Junior College is on your list.

I have found that a gift to PJC is a gift that keeps on giving. For instance, your gift may provide the training that gets a single mom off the welfare rolls and into a meaningful career that provides for her family.

Or, your gift may result in a scholarship for that bright high school grad who is the first in his family to attend college. Perhaps your gift will be used to upgrade a computer lab, keeping PJC students on the cutting edge of technology.

I have seen the impact of these gifts on the lives of people who never before considered pursuing higher education. We reach people other institutions do not reach and, by changing their lives, our lives individually and as a community are improved.

In fact, financial support for PJC comes back to us through literally hundreds of educational opportunities, cultural events and community services all year.

Often state matching funds are available, making your donation an even greater asset for the college. Scholarship donations received before Feb. 1, 2008 will be submitted to the state and may be matched dollar-for-dollar, with the possibility of doubling your gift.

As you look forward to December's festivities, I urge you to consider closing the year with a charitable gift to PJC and making the most of state matching funds. Your gift to the college is an investment that changes lives for years to come.

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COMPENDIUM

The award-winning Compendium is published for alumni and friends of Pensacola Junior College.

NEED INFORMATION? PLEASE CALL!

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

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The Pensacola Junior College Foundation, Inc. is a private, non-profit 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 non-profit corporation and a direct support organization chartered by the state of Florida to provide private support to the college.



Friends Circle Up to Celebrate PJC's Open Doors

PJC opened its doors to welcome community leaders on a sunny April morning as the Foundation hosted its second annual Circle of Friends breakfast in the Student Center.

By the time PJC President Tom Delaino finished calling out ways the college had touched the lives of attendees, nearly everyone in the room was standing — a testimony to PJC's community-wide influence.

PJC graduate Catherine Gallagher shared how the college's open-door policy changed her life, helping transform her from a young, uneducated, single mother of five to a successful career woman with wide-ranging expertise from insurance to forestry to photography (see related alumni feature on page 12).

The Circle of Friends breakfast nourished PJC's Annual Fund with more than \$98,000.

Annual Fund covers critical expenses that tuition, fees, and state appropriations do not meet. These discretionary funds allow the college financial flexibility to fill important gaps in resources and pursue new initiatives, such as attracting grants.

Catherine Gallagher's inspiring words drew a standing ovation



Ed Moore, right, addresses the breakfast crowd



Below right: Saxophonist Bob Maksymkow and pianist Chip Cothran jazz up the morning



Gabrielle Martin, 6, leads the Pledge of Allegiance



Anna and Bill Spain and Bill Ramsey



Bobby Riggs and Mike Wiggins



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Reading Specialist's Dedication Still Touching Students



Debby and Bob Dubay

Dr. Seuss's Cat in the Hat character is a mere figment of Theodor Geisel's imagination and the likelihood of "the Cat" interviewing the governor of Florida stretches the fantasy even further.

For students in Debby Dubay's reading classes at Brownsville Middle School, however, fantasy often came alive as she impersonated the stories her children studied.

When Mrs. Dubay passed away on Feb. 14, she left a legacy of helping students for whom traditional learning was difficult. She was known for seeing hope in children whom others considered hopeless.

"She had a passion for people for whom reading was a challenge," said her husband Bob Dubay.

After Mrs. Dubay was diagnosed with cancer in 2006, this passion prompted her to pledge \$10,000 from her savings account to establish a self-perpetuating scholarship for PJC students.

The Debby Dubay Reading Endowed Scholarship will benefit students who need preparatory reading classes before beginning their vocational or college-level work.

The scholarship even caught the eye of students at Ferry Pass Middle School. They raised \$648 by paying to dress up each day of the school's Wacky Week, wearing hats, jerseys, camouflage and other themed attire.

Ferry Pass teacher Gary Horne had worked with Mrs. Dubay years ago at Brownsville Middle School and wasn't surprised that she launched a scholarship to assist struggling readers.

"Everything that Debby Dubay did was about helping kids," said Horne.

As K-12 reading supervisor for Escambia County, Kelly Aepli-Campbell worked closely with Mrs. Dubay, calling her an "extraordinary lady."

"Debby was smart, witty, and very dedicated to the teachers and students of Escambia County. She worked up until the very end. You wouldn't have known she was sick," said Aepli-Campbell.

Mrs. Dubay began as a classroom teacher, worked in Department of Defense schools, and ended her colorful, 25-year career as a teacher on special assignment for Escambia County.

More than 80 friends, family, educators and a myriad of her grateful students have contributed to the scholarship that will keep her zeal for reading alive for many years to come.

Donations to the Debby Dubay Reading Endowed Scholarship fund can be made to the PJC Foundation by calling 484-1560 or emailing foundation@pjc.edu.

"Everything that Debby Dubay did was about helping kids."

— Gary Horne,
Ferry Pass teacher



Sansing Scholars Cruise to Success on Universal Scholarships

More than 140 students who did not have the means to attend PJC have found an open door through Universal Scholarships funded by Pensacola businessman Sandy Sansing and his wife Peggy.

PJC students Chris VanLaningham and Elizabeth Burns are typical of those who credit their college success to the Universal Scholarship Sansing Scholars program that began in 2003.

"Without this scholarship there is no way I could attend PJC," says VanLaningham, who graduates next June and plans to get his bachelor's degree in civil engineering.



Sandy Sansing

"Although I'm married and don't live at home, Florida law labels me a dependent of my parents because of my age. This completely cut me off from other financial aid possibilities. This scholarship really made college possible for me."

Burns, a work-study student, echoes that she too fell through the cracks of traditional financial aid.



Chris VanLaningham



Elizabeth Burns

Photos by
Amy Harrod,
PJC student

"It's been eight years since I last attended college. Everyone at PJC was so helpful, but I could not afford to be a full-time student without this scholarship," says Burns, who graduates next summer and plans to get her bachelor's degree in elementary education.

"This scholarship helps to meet my needs so that I can succeed." For Sansing, a 1967 PJC graduate, providing these scholarships grows more rewarding each year.

"As I have gotten to know these students, I have a much deeper appreciation of how scholarships impact their lives. They tell me how education has given them a better future," says Sansing. "Peggy and I are just glad we are able to do this."

"PJC opened doors for me. I got an excellent education. This is a small way I can help open doors for students who need financial help," Sansing added.

Retired PJC Professor Honors Teaching Heritage with Endowed Scholarship

If a passion for education can flow through your blood, retired PJC professor Ken Wilder must have enough to float an aircraft carrier.

From his great-great-grandfather Richard Wilder, a school headmaster in Georgia in the early 1800s, to his mother Lyndol Kennington Wilder, Ken has a family tree loaded with teachers, principals, directors and superintendents.

In the 1920s, at age 16, his mother began teaching in Ponce de Leon. Then she worked her way through Florida State University when it was a teachers' college for women and later taught in Escambia County schools for many years.

"My mother was from a poor family but she and her sister Lynelle and her brother J.B. Kennington all became educators and earned master's degrees," Ken says. "J.B.'s wife, Ila, and Lynelle's husband, Russell Freeman, also were educators.

"They all had distinguished careers. In fact, my Uncle Russell began the Program for Academically Talented Students (PATS) that's still benefiting students today."

From his dad, Glen Wilder, Ken gleaned a different education, a living history of the Pensacola area. Especially enthralling were the stories of Ken's grandfather Richard Wilder II, who came to Pensacola around 1900. He acquired land, founded the Oak Glen Trading Co. in 1905, and pioneered electricity for the area. After getting the franchise for Delco Lights Division, he spent years wiring houses so they could be powered by generators with huge batteries.

"My grandfather was instrumental in getting electricity to rural Northwest Florida for residents from Pensacola to Apalachicola," Ken recalls.

In celebration of his rich heritage, Ken and his wife Karen have established the Wilder-Freeman-Kennington Endowed Scholarship to benefit PJC Adult High School graduates who want to continue with college courses at PJC.

In 1961, Ken was a PJC freshman who later earned a bachelor's degree from FSU and a master's degree from the University of Southern Mississippi. In 1971, he began a 30-year career at PJC, serving as Financial Aid director, counselor and Adult High teacher.

"Of all my duties at PJC, my seven years teaching in Adult High were the most fulfilling," Ken says. "My students often had hard times, bad home situations. I expressed an interest in them, checked up on them when they didn't come to class. They knew that I wanted them in class and my retention rate was very high.

"It was gratifying to see my students get diplomas and then move on to PJC as college students. If they can get through college, then their children likely also will go to college.

"My brother Richard and I, along with our families, have been blessed. I want to give back to our community, to make a difference for the future through education."



Karen and Ken Wilder



Left: Lyndol Kennington worked her way through FSU



Celebrating a Wilder family wedding

Kids College Scholarships Add Summer Fun for Children in Need

School's out, the sun is shining, but many low-income families do not look forward to the lazy days of summer.

Providing safe summer activities for school-age children is particularly difficult when the weekly paycheck barely covers necessities. Often, working parents must leave their children home, unsupervised, opening the door for risky behavior.

To help alleviate this need, the PJC Foundation partnered with Children's Services Center to provide five scholarships to PJC's Kids College. Geared for ages 6 to 14, Kids College offers a variety of courses ranging from art to computers to sports.

"These children had a great time that would not have been possible without Kids College Scholarships," said Edith Finley, PJC Continuing Education coordinator. "Seeing the success of this program has challenged me to personally support it through the Foundation."

Latonia Jennings, CSC's Family Services director, noted the need for continued support.

"We really hope to grow this scholarship fund so even more needy families can get help," Jennings said.

For more information on Kids College Scholarships, contact the PJC Foundation at 850-484-1560 or foundation@pjc.edu.



Summer fun at Kids College



Photos by Zeke Hazewinkel, PJC student

Toning Financial Flab

More than 100 participants toned their financial muscle at a first-ever Financial Fitness Friday at the Hartsell Arena. The Foundation teamed with Merrill Lynch and the Northwest Florida Chapter of Florida Institute of CPAs to host the April event.

“Attendees ranged from college students to retirees. Some came with specific questions and others came to pick the CPAs’ brains. Everyone felt that you can never learn too much about your money,” said Martha Cobb of Bloomer, Geri & Company, who spearheaded the event.

Gallery Gains Photo Collection

Esteemed photographer John Hirsh has donated 60 black and white framed photos to the Anna Lamar Switzer Center to become part of the gallery’s permanent collection. Hirsh’s photos depict his archeological journey through Peru, including Lima, the Andes Mountains, Lake Titicaca and the lost city of Machu Picchu.



Robinson Scholars Explore Europe

From the ancient cities of Italy to the breathtaking views of Switzerland, students in the Robinson Honors program combined learning with fun as they explored the history and culture of Europe last summer. Charlie Schuler, program chair, led the group.



Photo courtesy of The Corsair

Seligman Gift Helps Fill Critical Teacher Shortage

Professionals who want to teach will get assistance becoming certified teachers, thanks to the generosity of Jane Starr Seligman and her family. The Seligman family’s gift will assist, among other areas, PJC’s Educator Preparation Institute (EPI).

“Financial assistance with the certification training is very helpful, especially for those professionals who may be taking a pay cut to become teachers,” said Hollace Craven, EPI director.

Florida has a critical need for teachers in many areas such as math, science and technology. People with experience in these fields may be motivated to become teachers if they can receive scholarship help, Craven said.

PJC Alum Entertains Royalty

Sergeant First Class Antonio Giuliano, PJC 1984, a renowned tenor with the U.S. Army Chorus, performed at the White House State Dinner hosted by President Bush in honor of Queen Elizabeth II on May 7. Later in May, Giuliano also was a featured soloist with the Pensacola Civic Band in Seville Square for a Memorial Day salute.

PJC alum Antonio Giuliano (second from left) beams as Queen Elizabeth II and President Bush are greeted.



Jane Starr Seligman with her children (from left) Nan Ross, Arnold Seligman and Kay Valentino.

Making A Difference

For four decades the PJC Foundation has been making a difference ...

- for students whose only chance at higher education is scholarship funding
- for faculty who grow professionally through seminars, travel and research made possible through endowed teaching chairs
- for programs that are enriched with the latest technology and modern facilities through the Annual Fund

Undergirding each success is the outstanding service of our Foundation Board and Guild members. The following Foundation supporters share why they work to make a difference at PJC.



KEITH GREGORY
Cox Communications Gulf Coast
Vice President
and General Manager

Making Positive Impacts Keith Gregory

Since arriving in Pensacola in 1999, Keith Gregory has been involved in community organizations such as Pensacola North Rotary Club and has served on boards for Pensacola Area Chamber of Commerce, United Way of Escambia County, and PJC Foundation. He is past board chair of the Florida Cable Telecommunications Association and received professional recognition for leading Cox Gulf Coast through Hurricane Ivan recovery.

"PJC has long been a leader in making positive impacts to Northwest Florida," Gregory says. "I am absolutely

convinced that a more educated populace is essential for our community to grow and prosper.

"PJC is the perfect venue for providing relatively low-cost — yet full-service — educational opportunities. And, they do a terrific job in partnering with area businesses to address specific educational and training needs. PJC is such a huge value to our community."

Getting There From PJC Margie Moore

When Georgia native Margie Moore came to Pensacola in 1980, she had a talent for investment and a love of learning in tow. With two daughters in local schools, Moore held various PTA and school-related positions, as well as serving on boards for Baptist Health Care, Manna Food Bank, FavorHouse and Council on Aging. For her many years of service to the Foundation, Moore was honored as Foundation Governor Emeritus in 2004.

"My husband Alan and I support PJC because of the tremendous contributions the college has made and continues to make to the people in our community," Moore says.

"PJC's slogan, 'You can get there from here,' is so appropriate. Individuals can complete their GED, get a nursing degree, learn computer skills, take art classes, or complete two years and move to the next level of higher education. We are so fortunate to have such a wonderful institution in our community."



MARGIE MOORE
Merrill Lynch
Vice President
and Financial Advisor

Helping People Better Themselves

Dona Usry

PJC District Board of Trustees member Dona Usry is an avid community volunteer with numerous awards for her tireless efforts. In addition to serving as PJC Board chair for two years, Usry also serves on boards for the Salvation Army, WSRE Foundation, Panhandle Tiger Bay and Council on Aging. She is a member of the PJC Foundation, Pensacola Symphony, Museum of Art and Pensacola Little Theatre guilds and serves as president of the Manna Guild.

"I've always been interested in helping people better themselves. PJC is such a wonderful starting point for folks," Usry says. "We've been here 20 years and I have not heard one person say a negative word about PJC."

"So many people have said, 'PJC is where I got my start.' They say that their professors care for them and help them individually. I am pleased and honored to serve such a fine institution. I love my job."



DONA USRY
Community Volunteer

Seeing Excellence Firsthand

Robert de Varona

As a young man Robert de Varona came to the United States from Cuba and immediately made the most of education and business opportunities in his new home. He founded Varona Enterprises in 1972 and has been based in Pensacola since 1990, actively supporting organizations such as Pensacola Symphony, Pensacola Opera, Artel Gallery, Pensacola Jazz Society, Manna Food Bank, Covenant Hospice and the PJC Foundation.

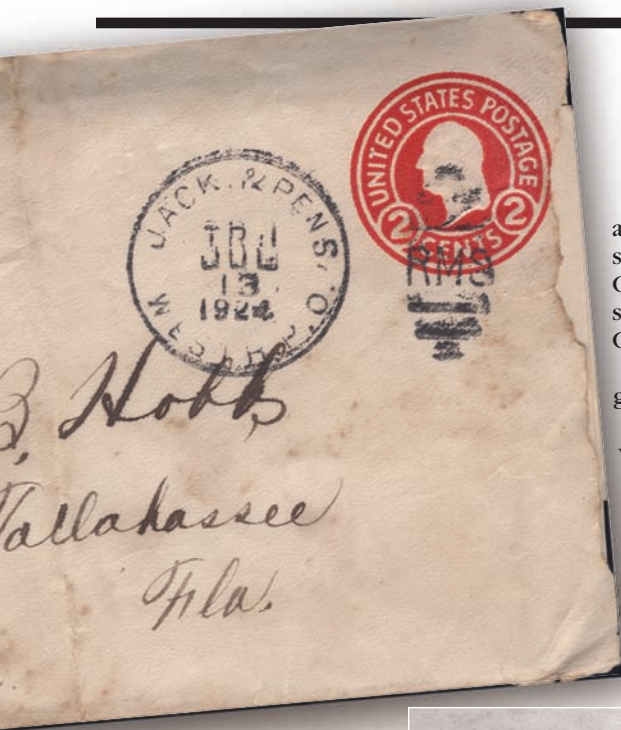
"I am proud and honored to serve PJC through the Foundation. I received my A.A. degree from PJC and am grateful for the opportunity to see firsthand what an excellent institution it is," says de Varona.

"Our community is fortunate to have a college that does such a good job of preparing students for the workplace, and, as a businessman, I often hire students and graduates of PJC."



ROBERT DE VARONA
Varona Enterprises
President

Santa Rosans' Legacy Enriches Education for Future Generations



Longtime Milton residents Raymond B. and Leila Simmons Hobbs spent their lives supporting the people of Santa Rosa County. Now years after their deaths, their spirits will live on in a state-of-the-art Center for Teaching Excellence at PJC.

The center is the result of a \$1 million gift honoring the tireless couple.

Leila Simmons was only 15 years old when she passed the examination enabling her to teach in a tiny schoolhouse in Santa Rosa County. As a young girl with a sharp intellect, she fell in love with the job of awakening young minds.

Four years after beginning her teaching career, in 1913, Leila also fell in love with the school's only other teacher and principal, Raymond B. Hobbs.

engineering. Both boys served in World War II, but Raymond was killed in combat, leaving behind his wife and a young daughter.

Following his military service, John enrolled at the University of Florida, graduating with a bachelor's degree in aeronautical engineering in 1948. Now in his late 80s, the Pace resident has returned to the community that his parents helped shape.

Leila's calling was always children — from the classroom to her own children to those she influenced through her countless activities. She taught for more than 50 years officially and many more unofficially, tutoring students free of charge.

COX CHAIRMAN
MILTON
Department of Education
Santa Rosa County
R. B. HOBBS, SUPERINTENDENT
MILTON.



Hobbs, a native of Santa Rosa County, lost his parents and sister when he was a young boy. He and his brother lived with relatives in Alabama, but eventually found their way back to their Santa Rosa County roots.

The two young teachers were married in 1914 and spent their lives giving — to each other, to their children, to their students and to their community.

The Raymond B. and Leila Hobbs Center for Teaching Excellence is the most recent in a long list of imprints the couple left on their world.

They had two sons, Raymond Jr. and John Hobbs. Raymond, the eldest, was valedictorian of his class at Milton High School. In 1938, he graduated from the University of Florida with a degree in



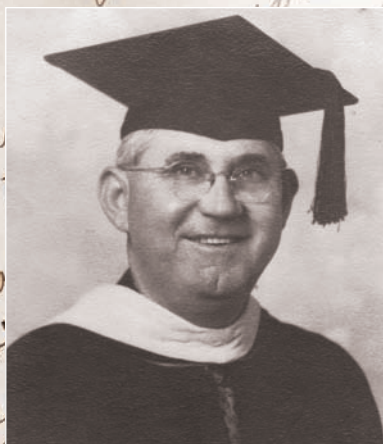
Leila and Raymond Hobbs

Her devotion to her own children won her the title of Santa Rosa County Mother of the Year in 1966. Leila's extensive list of accomplishments includes wide-ranging activities, from 4-H Club to Girls State to PTA to Milton First Methodist church to political campaigns.

According to one of her early teaching contracts, dated August 1914, Leila earned \$60 for each month that school was in session, with the proviso that the rural school could not take a "cotton picking vacation."

Besides his duties as a teacher and principal of Berryhill Grammar and Milton High schools, Raymond Sr. served as superintendent of Santa Rosa County schools. He also found time for a long list of community activities, such as Boy Scout leader, Sunday School teacher and Milton City Councilman.

Raymond believed that people had a civic duty to return service to their communities. In addition, he was known for his "Hobbservations" as friends termed his nuggets of wisdom.



Leila Hobbs, top
Raymond Hobbs

I received your
and was glad
I am very
that you
not, I will
We all make
sometimes, at
the matter, I
has been sick
about alright
yesterday and
to be alright
this
Hard Census
Haircloth.
for the last
again now.
Raymond
I want

Among his favorites was “Life is the childhood of immortality.”

He held strong opinions about the importance of educating all children.

“Every child in the United States is the foster child of our government and is entitled to an opportunity to develop his capacities to the highest degree,” he wrote.

He also held strong opinions about the love of his life, Leila.

“We have everything to be thankful for — good health, excellent children and the ability to earn a decent living,” he wrote to her in a 1939 letter accompanying a gift of a silver chest, 25 years after they married.

The gift was a thank-you from him and their two sons in appreciation for “the many kindnesses which you have shown to us at all times... We want you to be happy and spend the next 25 years with us sharing our joys and sorrows as you have done in the past.”



Hobbs as a young man

“Every child in the United States is the foster child of our government and is entitled to an opportunity to develop his capacities to the highest degree.”

— Raymond B. Hobbs



Raymond Hobbs began teaching in the early 1900s

\$1 Million Gift Opens Doors to Center for Teaching Excellence

The Raymond B. and Leila Hobbs Center for Teaching Excellence will soon rival the opportunities and facilities available at much larger colleges and universities, thanks to PJC’s second-ever \$1 million gift. The gift was celebrated at an October naming ceremony for the center.

The high-tech Hobbs Center will provide a model classroom setting where students in PJC’s education programs can observe and teach practice lessons. A one-way mirrored wall will allow direct observation and videotaping to give invaluable feedback to the future teachers.

PJC Adult High students also will benefit from the center, attending classes in an environment that immerses them in the latest technology as well as real-world learning.

Secondary Education Coordinator Tom Leonard says the gift will create a central hub where students will have cutting-edge research technology and a digital link to teacher direction and feedback.

All classrooms will be upgraded to include computer work stations for every student and a computer control center for the teacher.



Remodeling is under way for the Hobbs Center

“It’s the way of the future,” Leonard says about the improvements.

The Hobbs Center also gives Adult High students the option to take high school credit courses in selected high-demand workforce areas such as information technology, business, culinary arts and construction.

Considering the Hobbs’ lifelong commitment to education, the Hobbs Center for Teaching Excellence seems to perfectly embody their spirit.

“This is the best compliment that could be paid to their memory,” says Jeff Cantor, interim academic vice president and Pensacola campus provost. “What better way to be remembered?”

Donors Make A Difference

“This scholarship helps tremendously with my tuition and books.”

— Jerenda Hunt, Blue Cross & Blue Shield scholarship recipient in PJC’s Paramedic to RN mobility program



“With the Anna Lamar Switzer Scholarship I was able to

attend PJC’s graphic design program full time. I felt fully prepared to make the transition from PJC’s intense art department to an even more intense art school.”

— Lauren Gruber, A.A.S. in graphic design at PJC and B.F.A. at Parsons the New School of Design



Dedication to Family, Health Care, Education — Hallmarks of Bill Smart’s Life

Bill Smart, who passed away in March at age 80, had a passion for empowering people. Mr. Smart got his first taste of aiding others as a 19-year-old Army medical corps staff sergeant in Belgium. Despite numerous academic and professional accomplishments over the years, that early experience was emblazoned in his mind and heart, making the pursuit of quality health care a priority throughout his rich life.

When he returned home, he launched a 40-year career with Abbott Laboratories near Chicago. Thanks to the GI bill, Mr. Smart earned a B.S. in chemistry and an M.B.A. while on leave from Abbott.

He was a champion of public education, saying, “I have a strong belief that if we’re going to achieve the concept that all men are created equal, the surest route to that goal is through public education.”

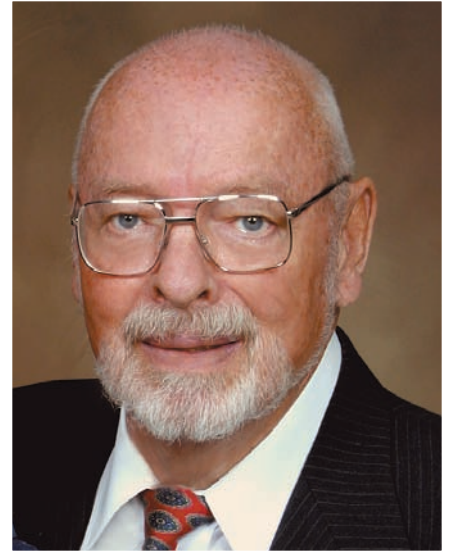
That passion motivated him to donate generously in his wife’s name to establish the Mary Ekdahl Smart Academy in Health Science Education on the Warrington campus. The gift supports five state-of-the-art human simulators.

Bill and Mary Smart had previously established an endowed chair and scholarship fund to benefit PJC’s health sciences programs.

In addition, the Smarts supported PJC’s Annual Fund, President’s Circle, Athletic Booster Club and Honors Program.

In his hometown of Waukegan, Ill., Mr. Smart was president of the board of directors for the community hospital and he served on the board of Gulf Breeze Hospital when he moved to Northwest Florida.

Although tireless in his professional and community involvement, Mr. Smart was clear on one thing — his most prized legacy was his family. Bill and Mary raised five children of their own as well as Mary’s niece and nephew after their parents died in a plane crash. He had nine grandchildren.



Bill Smart



The Smart family toured the cutting edge Mary Ekdahl Smart Center for Patient Simulation & Research in July



The Smarts with eight of their nine grandchildren



Bill and Mary Smart kept their seven children as their top priority

In the Words of Friends...

"I've never known a person who moved to Pensacola and embraced it with such enthusiasm. His actions were like someone who lived here all his life. Bill Smart made many lasting contributions which benefited the community. He never did anything for personal gain."

— E.W. Hopkins, PJC Foundation Founding Fellow

"Thousands of victims of domestic violence have been helped by his devotion to violence-free families."

— Sue Hand, FavorHouse of Northwest Florida executive director

"Bill and Mary Smart became a part of this congregation when they retired to Gulf Breeze/Pensacola many years ago. Their involvement in their new community was not limited to one sector of community life but included interest in their church, in education, in research and in assistance to those in need."

— Al Pruitt, rector, St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church, Gulf Breeze

"The results of Bill Smart's visionary contributions have attracted nationwide attention to the Warrington campus simulation center. His generosity will benefit countless patients and students for many years to come."

— Patrice Whitten, PJC Foundation executive director

"Mr. Smart was passionate about enabling students enrolled in health programs to become successful. His enthusiasm for the nursing students at PJC was demonstrated through the Mary Ekdahl Smart Center for Patient Simulation Training & Research. His passion, vision and gift will enable PJC to become a regional training and research center in health care."

— Marcia Williams,
PJC Warrington campus provost

"Bill Smart had enjoyed a storybook scientific career in the field of health care, and our first meetings were at Ross and Abbott laboratories, where he held major positions. When he moved to this area, we renewed the friendship. Even as a newcomer to the area, Bill became deeply interested in local government. He and Mary would often attend council sessions, offering suggestions and opinions based on his scientific knowledge. He was a man one could never forget."

— John Appleyard, historian



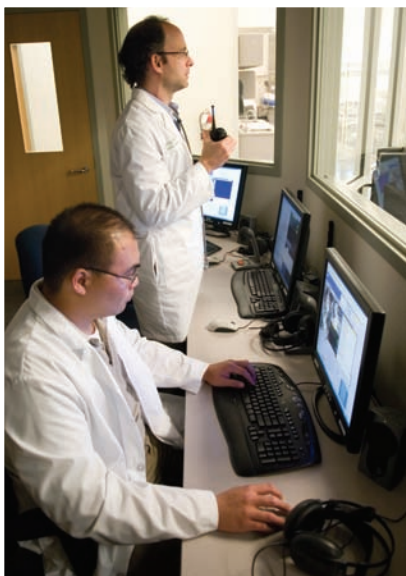
Smart grandchildren, above, Hannah Deutsch and Matthew Wren were clinicians for a day when the Smart family visited the Sim Center in July



Mary Smart at the Harvard reception



Health care professionals benefit from Harvard workshop at Smart Center



Smart Center observation room

Smart Simulation Center Draws Harvard Professors

PJC's high-tech Mary Ekdahl Smart Center for Patient Simulation Training & Research drew praise from three Harvard Medical School faculty who were there to conduct a workshop in May.

"It's better than anything we have," observed Robert Simon, education director for the Harvard Center for Medical Simulation.

The Harvard medical faculty chose the Smart Center as the site of their intensive three-day simulation training geared for physicians, nurses and paramedics across Florida.

"Thanks to our state-of-the-art facilities, this is the first time the Harvard workshop was offered at a community college," said Keith Samuels, director of nursing grants.

"Because of the demanding requirements, it is unusual for Harvard to offer this workshop away from the Boston campus."

Established largely through the generosity of Bill and Mary Smart, the 12,000 square-foot simulation center includes nine high-fidelity patient simulators, a cardiovascular and pulmonary simulator, an ER and primary eight-bed simulation lab with control room.

Currently seven simulation stations are equipped with custom recording systems that capture both video and sound.

"The Harvard workshop is an example of PJC's efforts to establish the Smart Patient Simulation Center as a national model," Samuels said.

ALUMNI PROFILE



CATHERINE GALLAGHER

EDUCATION:

PJC Adult High: 1975
PJC: 2005
(A.A.S. with honors
in Photographic Technology)

FAMILY:

Five grown children and six grandchildren

AWARDS:

Regional Spirit of Women Award
National Spirit of Women Award
Hats Off to Women
League of Women Voters Award
Outstanding VISTA — Florida

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

Gulf Coast Kid's House, co-founder
Gulf Coast Kid's House Prevention
Task Force, chair
Boys and Girls Clubs
Habitat for Humanity, charter member
State Coalition Against Hunger
Manna Food Bank
Guardian Ad Litem
Volunteers in Service to America
(VISTA)



Pensacola News Journal

Catherine Gallagher wins the Spirit of Women Award

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Gallagher Turns Darkness to Light for Hurting Children

For Catherine Gallagher, it's the 300 kids who come through the door of Gulf Coast Kid's House every month that keep her coming to the office.

"They're innocent. Who's going to speak for them?" asks Gallagher, who helped found Kid's House and now assists with its mission of minimizing trauma to child abuse victims.

Despite her own childhood trauma, a pregnancy that took her from majorette to mother at 16, and then two abusive marriages, Gallagher has an uncanny ability to ferret out hope in the darkest of circumstances.

During her most dismal days, with little money and no driver's license, that faint but persistent glimmer of hope was the dream of a high school diploma, a dream she achieved at PJC's Adult High School. She completed 11th and 12th grades in one year at age 30 as a single mother of five.

"This remains one of my most cherished accomplishments," says Gallagher, who later earned a degree from PJC in photographic technology. "PJC believed in me before I believed in myself. It felt like an open door. I didn't feel anything stopping me, blocking me, which was really important."

She was taking baby steps on a path that is now concrete. "If we follow our dream, believe in ourselves, grow our passions and encourage and inspire others, we can turn adversity into a positive force for change," Gallagher says.

She believes these realities are more potent than money or education in promoting well-being. She's found it's easier to work for good than to dwell on an excruciating past. She relishes the word "empowerment."

"I would like to think that my work to this day is about empowerment of women and children," she says. "Once a person can feel that, anything is possible."

High school diploma in hand, Gallagher went to work empowering others in her work with Volunteers in



Pensacola News Journal

Gallagher snaps a child for the Art of Adoption program

Service to America (VISTA). She worked in the Brownsville area rallying volunteers to improve their neighborhoods, realizing as she worked that housing was usually the most pressing issue for the poor.

As a result, she was a charter member of the local Habitat for Humanity chapter at a time when people were dumbfounded at the concept of building houses for those in need.

Next, a comfortable and profitable career in the insurance industry ensued, a job that allowed her to pursue volunteer work while assisting her children in college.

After 12 years as a single woman, Catherine married Paul Gallagher. His gift of Thoreau's *Walden* was their impetus for spending six years as park rangers, splitting their time between Massachusetts and Gulf Islands National Seashore.



Gallagher brought the Art of Adoption to Northwest Florida

“PJC believed in me before I believed in myself. It felt like an open door.”

— Catherine Gallagher

“I was finally at a healthy point in my life, and that’s how I attracted a healthy man,” says Gallagher, who is the grandmother of six.

After eight years devoted to a labor of love for abused children of Northwest Florida, Gulf Coast Kid’s House opened its doors. It was a bittersweet time, however, because Paul Gallagher passed away the same year. His last gift to Catherine was a framed Dean’s List certificate she received as a PJC photography student.

At the same time, Kid’s House was proving to be a godsend. Its effectiveness stems from providing one location where children go to tell their painful stories — stories that often die out when the process is laborious.

Before Kid’s House was available, an abused child had to go many places to tell his story. Often the child just found it easier to recant. But that’s not happening now, according to Gallagher, who is also implementing prevention classes for children and parents.

The effects are real and lasting, notes Assistant State Attorney Anne Patterson.

While the rates for prosecuting alleged child abusers used to be “abysmal,” more than 75 percent are now successfully prosecuted, says Patterson.

Peggy Custred, adoption recruiter for FamiliesFirst Network, met Gallagher about

Paul and Catherine



Pensacola News Journal



three years ago when Gallagher came to her with the idea for a project called Art of Adoption.

Once again, Gallagher’s positive energy was at work. Just as she was finishing a photography degree at PJC, she saw a feature on television about Heart Gallery, a program in which children awaiting adoption are professionally photographed and their portraits given exposure to potential “forever homes.”

“She came to us with the idea to do a Heart Gallery Project,” said Custred. “As a result, we evolved the Art of Adoption. Catherine has been tireless in her support and advocacy of this project.”

PJC photography professor Warren Thompson helped Gallagher launch Art of Adoption by shooting the initial photographs.

“I think the key to her success is her enthusiasm and, of course, she’s self-motivated. When you put those two together, it’s hard to go wrong,” Thompson says.

In 2006, Gallagher’s outstanding efforts on behalf of abused and foster children were recognized with the National Spirit of Women award.

Custred and Patterson emphasize that Gallagher has a quality that no amount of money or education can achieve —one that is probably at the root of all of her efforts.

“She works well with the children. I think she enjoys the children and has a real empathy for them,” Custred says.

Patterson agrees, “She’s a tireless advocate for abused and neglected children and has dedicated a large part of her life to improving their lives.”

For Gallagher, her paycheck is the hugs and joy she receives from the children for whom she has a passion.

MILESTONES

Margie Moore, Foundation governor emeritus, is one of only eight recipients worldwide of the Merrill Lynch David Brady Award. The award is named for David Brady, a Merrill Lynch employee who was killed during the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

Carol Carlan, Foundation governor emeritus, has been appointed to the statewide Blueprint Commission on Juvenile Justice. A founding member of the PACE Center for Girls, Carlan will help conduct public hearings on all aspects of juvenile justice programs and services.

Don Snowden, Music and Theatre Department head, has begun a two-year term as president of the Association of Concert Bands. He has directed the Pensacola Civic Band since 1987.

Bank of Pensacola and Sandy Sansing, both of whom assist numerous PJC students in their quests for a college education, were honored recently at the Philanthropy Awards Ceremony dinner hosted by the Association of Fundraising Professionals.



Pensacola News Journal

“Catherine’s Garden” offers children a place to play at Gulf Coast Kid’s House

“Children are just so open and loving and accepting...It touches your heart. It really does. How sad to betray their trust,” she says, hoping others will catch her vision.

“When you have 300 children a month coming through the doors of Kid’s House, you realize it’s quite important...It’s a call to the community for help.”

VOLUNTEER CORNER



JAN PETERSON

During the past few years I've thought very seriously about how I could "make a difference" in people's lives — a difference that would be lasting. While my passion was for the arts, it became clear to me that education is something that can and does change lives.

PJC offers so many opportunities for people to change their lives — and have a positive impact in the community — whether it is in the nursing, dental hygiene, culinary, construction or automotive industry, or by providing the foundation for further education at the university level.

As chairman of the Holiday Grande galas in 2005 and 2006, thanking fellow donors and helping to raise funds to support the mission of the Foundation has given me a sense of satisfaction and I'm very proud to be a part of the organization.

For a number of years I have served on boards of other organizations and chaired many fundraising events, and I've found the PJC Foundation staff and administration to be highly professional in the performance of their duties, and always sincerely grateful for the efforts of their volunteers. I would encourage anyone reading this to consider how you too can help "make a difference" for PJC students.

THE PJC FOUNDATION BOARD OF GOVERNORS AND GUILD CONGRATULATE

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FOR MANY YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO EDUCATION IN ESCAMBIA AND SANTA ROSA COUNTIES.



A Click Away — 24 Hours a Day

www.pjc.edu/foundation
<http://alumni.pjc.edu>

The Foundation has plugged in to the digital age, linking PJC alumni and friends to valuable news and information 24 hours a day.

Click on the Foundation website for the latest on scholarships, volunteers and events as well as links to current and past issues of Compendium.

Alumni can browse through the updated alumni website to connect with their Pirate peers, blog and discover giving opportunities, including leaving a named tribute to a family member or loved one.

A fresh feature of the alumni site lets members upload photographs to share with fellow Pirates.

From the alumni site, you can surf locations throughout the PJC community, including Job Services, where alumni can post their resumes.

June was a record month for visitors to the alumni site, with 323 hits.

Join the party and tap into your Pirate community 24 hours a day with a click of the mouse. Check out the Foundation site at: www.pjc.edu/foundation and the alumni site at <http://alumni.pjc.edu>.



PJC CLASS NOTES

Join PJC's online alumni community at alumni.pjc.edu

1969

As PJC Foundation President, **Carolyn Davis Simpson** has been busy investing her time and talents in her alma mater. In addition, she recently sold her employment agency and married Dr. Lindsay Simpson.

1976

When **Deborah Rosique** attended PJC, classes were \$12 a credit hour and the gas to get to them was 25 cents a gallon. After earning an associate's degree in secretarial science, she worked at the Learning Resources Center, which still ranks as one of her favorite jobs. She has since earned a bachelor's degree, worked as a substitute teacher, worked for FEMA, and is currently working in medical transcription. Her fond memories of PJC include regularly getting soaked by sprinklers on her way to class, getting stuck on rainy days on what was then a clay road by the track, and taking Lyceum every semester to improve her GPA.

1979

David Jordan has worked at several jobs since finishing his first degree and has recently returned to PJC to pursue a second degree. He also works as a fire inspector for the federal government and is the father of a 6-year-old son and a 13-year-old stepson.

1995

Cynthia Staudt studied drafting and design at PJC and is putting her skills to work at Rebol-Battle and Associates in Pensacola. She has three children and spends her free time gardening, shopping and reading. Her favorite PJC memory is the camaraderie of students and teachers. "I made lots of friends and had a lot of really good instructors. I would love to come back and do it all again."

1996

After graduating in dietetics, **Kathy Mercado** worked for Delta Health Group as a dietary technician/director of food service. Last year she obtained her Florida license in facials specialty from PJC.

2000

With an associate's degree in office systems technology in hand, **Rosie Cooper** earned her bachelor's degree in management in 2002 and her master's degree in teaching in 2007. She currently teaches high school reading.

2001

Billy Sadler, former Pirate baseball player, was invited to pitch for the San Francisco Giants at the end of their 2006 season.

2004

Joel Anthony, former Pirate basketball player, made Mountain West Conference 2007 Defensive Player of the Year at University of Nevada Las Vegas. At UNLV, the Montreal native set a conference record with 13 blocks in one game and led the team to a second-place finish in the conference.

Brett Swanson, former Pirate basketball player, played guard on the University of Florida's back-to-back NCAA National Championship teams. He is the son of PJC's basketball coach Paul Swanson.



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*From
the desk of*

Patrice Whitten



Our campus is bustling with the activity of fall, an exciting time for students as they pursue their first two years of college at PJC. For many of us, it seems like yesterday that we walked the grounds of this campus as young adults fresh out of high school or as more mature adults seeking to refresh our skills.

Consider supporting the efforts of PJC students to improve their lives and as a result, better our entire community. It is easier than ever to donate now, thanks to secure online giving options at our foundation web site, www.pjc.edu/foundation, and our alumni web site, <http://alumni.pjc.edu>, which boasts more than 600 registered members. Read all about our alumni and Foundation web sites on page 14.

In addition, alumni and friends can connect with other PJC supporters by joining the alumni association. The \$25 annual fee has a high return, including free access to PJC athletic events as well as many other perks.

We hope you will consider connecting with and supporting PJC as we help students build their dreams.



Dec. 4 — Holiday Grande



May — Annual Dinner



*Save
the Date*

March 19 — Circle of Friends Luncheon



Spring — Big Break Golf Classic

Go Pirate Teams!
Click on www.pjc.edu for a schedule

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