

# **FOCUS** ON PARIS JUNIOR COLLEGE

## Friends honored posthumously by PJC



**Barney Bray III**

Two lifelong friends have been selected as posthumous recipients of the Paris Junior College 2019 Distinguished Alumni Award, according to PJC President Dr. Pam Anglin. The late Barney W. Bray, III, Class of 1964 and Thomas Cedric “Tommy” Townsend, Class of 1963 will be honored during PJC’s 2019 Homecoming festivities November 9 at the Love Civic Center.

Bray passed away July 30, 2018 and Townsend died November 18, 2013. The Distinguished Alumni Award is the highest honor bestowed on alumni by the College.

“In their lives, both of these gentlemen believed in the value of education and sup-



**Tommy Townsend**

*continued on page 3...*

## Bowman to chair annual fund campaign

Ginna Walker Bowman has been named as the Chair of the 2019 PJC Annual Fund which will kick off later in the fall. This marks the seventh year of the Annual Fund which has raised over \$2.5 million to address the many pressing needs of the students and College.

A member of the PJC Class of 1960, she currently serves on both the Paris Junior College Board of Regents and PJC Alumni & Friends Association.

“The two years I spent at PJC were wonderful,” said Mrs. Bowman. “I had outstanding instructors and made lasting friendships there. I look forward to leading the 2019 PJC Annual Fund.”

“It is such an honor to have Ginna leading our Annual Fund Campaign,” said Dr. Anglin. “As a member of our Board of Regents, she truly understands how additional resources strengthen the College’s mission of being the educational provider of choice for our region.”

Derald Bulls, Director of Institutional Advancement and Alumni Affairs at PJC said she is known for her community involvement.

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**Save the Date for  
 PJC 2019 Homecoming  
 Nov. 7-9**



# Progress for students

BY DR. PAMELA ANGLIN, PRESIDENT

Paris Junior College has worked this past year to broaden opportunities for residents of the region and to assure a trained workforce of the future.

PJC received approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to offer an Associate of Science in Sports Management and Recreation. PJC will provide the first two years of coursework towards a bachelor's degree and seamless transfer to Texas A&M University Commerce.

An articulation agreement was signed with Texas A&M Commerce for PJC Associate Degree nursing graduates who have passed board exams and are licensed Registered Nurses to take additional hours at PJC. Students would then transfer to Texas A&M Commerce for their senior year, take an additional 30 credit hours at the university, and graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. This will help meet the needs of area hospitals needing to hire BSN graduates.

PJC is now offering a certificate in cyber-

security as an option in the existing computer networking program. Cybersecurity is becoming more and more critical for business, industry and other organizations.

The college won the Texas Mathways Exemplar Award. PJC was selected from the 50 Texas community colleges for having made the most progress and seeing great student success in completion of college level math courses. Successful completion of college level math courses has helped increase graduation rates significantly at the college.

PJC continues to receive national recognition for being among the first thirty colleges selected by the Association of Community Colleges to participate in Guided Pathways. Students select a Pathway upon initial enrollment at the college and Student Success Coaches work with students to keep them on path, assuring successful completion of courses and timely graduation.

This helps students get through their chosen field of study as quickly and seam-



*Pam Anglin*

lessly as possible to minimize cost and time to degree.

PJC graduation rates of its students continue to be among the highest in the state among all community colleges.

PJC workforce program graduates find employment with local industries. The college continually works to assure that the programs offered provide a trained workforce to meet local needs.

Allied Health programs were equipped with simulation labs to provide for real world experiences for our students, enhancing their clinical training.

Drama Department students entertained the community with two wonderful performances last year including "The Hobbit" and "Fahrenheit 451."

PJC's Beta Zeta chapter of Phi Theta Kappa received national recognition when it was named a Five Star Chapter. Four students were named to the Texas All-Academic Team.

This year will see the addition of several workforce non-credit programs where individuals can earn workplace credentials to meet industry needs.

The long-term economic future of the area is dependent upon a trained workforce. This takes a commitment from all segments of our area to work together including local school districts, the college, business and industry, and city and county leadership.



*PJC received the Overall Exemplar Award at the 2018 Math Pathways Awards during the Texas Pathways Institute late last year. Mathematics pathways are a rapidly-growing national movement in colleges and universities, aligning math courses more closely to students' intended major and career interests. Research strongly indicates that misaligned and lengthy math course sequences are a leading barrier to students completing college. Shown receiving the Overall Exemplar Award on behalf of Paris Junior College in Dallas were, from left, PJC-Sulphur Springs Center Director and Dual Credit Coordinator Rob Stanley, PJC-Greenville Center Director John Shasteen, Math Division Chair and Instructor Mallie Hood, then-retired Vice President of Academic Studies Ed McCraw, English instructor Chris Nichols, Financial Aid Director Linda Slawson, Vice President of Student Access and Success Sheila Reece, and Registrar Amie Cato.*

# Distinguished Alumni, *continued from page 1*

ported it in ways few may know,” said Dr. Anglin. “It was my pleasure to work with Mr. Bray as a member of the PJC Board of Regents and he was a tremendous asset to our community. He introduced me to Mr. Townsend who was well connected throughout Austin and the Texas Capitol where he not only represented PJC but advocated for issues which benefitted the College and his hometown.”

A graduate of Paris High School, Bray graduated from PJC and East Texas State University, now Texas A&M University-Commerce, with a bachelor’s degree in history and sociology.

Following a short stint selling heavy trucks in Dallas, he returned to Paris to work in the family construction company, also serving six years in the Army Engineer Reserve. He later acquired a solid waste company and spent many years building a regional waste company and landfill. He also owned Bray Rental Property.

Bray served on many local boards, including three bank boards (most recently Guaranty Bank & Trust), the Boys & Girls Club of Paris, and the Paris Junior College Board of Regents. He also served on the Paris Economic Development Corporation. He was a proud member on the Wall of

Honor at the Boys & Girls Club of Paris.

He and his wife Dee were married for 46 years and were blessed with two children; daughter Jessica Rice and her husband, Andrew, and son Josh and his wife, Beth. They have six grandchildren: Brayden, Rachel, Holden, and Easten Rice, and Anniston and AnneLee Bray.

A well-known and respected colleague to many, Townsend served for a number of years as the Executive Director of the Texas Trial Lawyers Association (TTLA). Prior to joining TTLA, he was Senior Vice-President and Chief Legislative Counsel for the Texas Association of Realtors for thirteen years. Around the Texas Capitol, he spent seven years as the Sergeant at Arms for the Texas Senate.

In addition to his professional accreditation as a Certified Association Executive, Townsend was active in the association management organizations at both the national and state level. He has served as President of the National Association of Trial Lawyer Executives, Chairman of the Texas Society of Association Executives, and Chairman of the Political Action Committee of the American Society of Association Executives.

Among honors Townsend received included: Executive of the Year Award by the Texas Society of Association Executives, the Tejano Appreciation Award by the Texas Tejano Democrats, and the Partnership Award by the American Association for Justice.

Townsend and his wife, Cassie (Maddox), also of Paris, were married 43 years and proud parents of three children: daughter Blair Townsend, Portland, OR and sons, Justin Townsend of Austin; Trent Townsend and wife Ann Mackey Townsend, and their child Zoe Maddox Townsend and Thomas Connor Maddox, also of Austin. Tommy is also survived by his cousin, Sandra Chadwick of Powderly, Texas.

Tickets for the Distinguished Alumni Award Luncheon are \$25 per person and can be purchased from the Office of Institutional Advancement and Alumni Affairs in the PJC Library, Room 102. Tickets may also be paid for by credit card by calling the office at 903-782-0276. The luncheon will begin at 11:30 a.m.

## 50 years of nursing graduates



*Associate Degree Nursing students prior to their fall awards and pinning ceremony held August 16, 2019, the 50th year of producing a graduating class, according to Nursing Director Stephanie Parker. Seventeen nursing students participated in a “capping” ceremony on May 13, 1969.*

**FOCUS** is published by Paris Junior College on behalf of the PJC Alumni and Friends Association. Its purpose is to serve as a communications link between Paris Junior College, alumni, former students, and friends.

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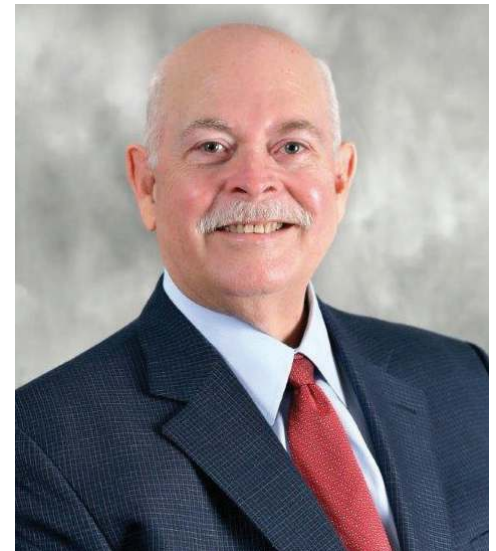
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Homecoming 2018 was a wonderful time at PJC. The Student Government Association Parade kicked off three days of fun. Dr. Anglin hosted another great President's Reception bringing alumni and friends from years gone by as well as more recent attendees together. PJC had the pleasure of recognizing five alumni during the Awards Luncheon who have made their mark in their respective careers. Our basketball teams performed well in their home opener finishing our festivities on a high note.

One of my personal highlights was the visit back to campus from a group of former student-athletes and their families who, for most, were making their first trip back in many, many years

since graduating in 1974. Four members of the PJC basketball team attended. Ironically, I was a freshman when these four were sophomores. Thanks to the interest of Harold Howard from Midland, we began pooling our resources and coming up with as many teammates of this group as possible.

At one time, there were going to be six coming home for the weekend but a health issue prevented one from New Mexico and another had an emergency come up in Colorado. But Harold, John (Roy) Luckey, Tim Christensen (who also played baseball), Willie Coulter and I reminisced leading up to their visit and now have a good database of this group to be in touch with going forward.



*Derald Bulls*

What struck me was, although it had been years since they had been together, they began where they left off. At the luncheon, Harold realized he was connected to a former Dragon who had a hand in him coming to Paris. PJC Basketball Athletic Hall of Fame member and PJC Alumni & Friends Association board member, Mike Long, had taught in Midland many years ago and had a chance to catch up with his former player, Harold.

The group sat in the Dragon Athletic Hall of Fame room prior to the men's game and caught up with each other, filled in the blanks for what other teammates were doing or had done, and vowed they wouldn't let this much time keep them from coming back again.

Over the last few months, I've been in constant touch with Harold and John about alumni from their era here, and they keep me in the loop about other players, families and we have become prayer warriors with each other.

While I attended a few of their games during their sophomore years, I regret I didn't get to know them then — but am so thankful I get to know them at this chapter in our lives. They had success in each of their own careers: Harold went to Austin College, Tim to Stephen F. Austin to play baseball, Willie went on to Henderson State and John to Southwest Texas State (now Texas State).

The tie that binds them is green and gold. And despite a 44-year absence, these men have carried PJC with them every step of the way and are forever grateful for the opportunity extended them here. Fellas, I'm thankful for your friendship and know we'll get together again soon! #Dragons4Life!



*Left to right: Members of the 1974 PJC basketball team were introduced during Homecoming 2018. Shown from left are Dr. Pam Anglin, PJC President; Tim Christensen; Harold Howard; John Lucky; Willie Coulter; and PJC Athletic Director James Dawson.*

## Support PJC athletic programs and show your pride in the College

Show your #DragonPride



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Those wanting to share their pride in Paris Junior College will find a large selection of clothing, hats, office accessories, golf and hunting gear, outerwear, baby gear and even accessories for pets at [www.shopdragonsathletics.com](http://www.shopdragonsathletics.com). You'll also find brands such as Adidas, Columbia, and Under Armor. Profits from online store purchases go to the athletic program at PJC, while showing your pride in your favorite team!

# Annual Fund Campaign chair, *continued from page 1*

"Mrs. Bowman is such an advocate for PJC and has been such a constant encourager to me. She believes in PJC and has been generous through the years in creating opportunities to assist students through scholarships."

A graduate of Paris High School, Mrs. Bowman attended PJC on band and journalism scholarships. Among her honors as a student, she worked on *The Bat*, the student newspaper, and served as editor of the yearbook, *The Galleon*. She was selected as the Band Queen, class favorite, elected to the student government association, president of the Texas Junior College Press Association, member of Phi Theta Kappa, and received the coveted Distinguished Service Award.

Mrs. Bowman went on to earn her BA and MA degrees in journalism and English from East Texas State University, now Texas A&M University-Commerce. While there she was named as the editor of the yearbook, *The Locust*, a member of Chi Omega soror-

ity, and graduated summa cum laude.

She began her teaching career in Sherman in 1961 after marrying Dr. Larry Walker. She would later teach at Highland Park High School in Dallas and edited *The Iatros*, the Southwestern Medical School yearbook. The couple returned to Paris in 1969 and Dr. Walker was a well-known and loved physician in the community, passing away in 2004.

With a strong interest in education, Mrs. Bowman served eight years on the Paris ISD board, including terms as president and secretary. She currently is completing her seventh consecutive year on the PJC Board of Regents and served another three years previously before moving out of her district for a time.

She has given of her time to the initial "gifted and talented advisory board" of PISD, and she and her late husband, Dr. Walker, were honored by the District in 2003 at the "I Love Paris" Gala.

In the community, she has been active in many organizations including the St.

Joseph's Community Foundation Board, Young Life of Lamar County, Paris Visionaries in Preservation, Lamar County Child Welfare Board, and Downtown Food Pantry.

Other organizations she has been involved in are Fun 'n Flowers Garden Club, Cosmos, Lydia Bible Club, Artist Guild of Lamar County, and Tempo Music Club.

In 2010, she married Jay P. Bowman and they were active at First United Methodist Church where Mrs. Bowman sang in the choir, was a Sunday School teacher, and Chairman of the Board of Trustees. Mr. Bowman passed away in 2014. She currently is a member of Calvary United Methodist Church, sings in the choir, teaches, and serves on the Board of Trustees.

She has three children, Callie Thompson, Stephen Walker and wife Terri Leigh of Paris, and Jennifer McDonald and husband, Don, of Fort Smith, Ark. She has three step-children, and is "Nana" to twelve grandchildren.

## PJC attends PTK international meeting

Four Paris Junior College students from the Beta Zeta chapter of Phi Theta Kappa joined thousands of fellow members in Orlando, Fla. for the PTK International Convention, Catalyst. While there they saw PJC President Dr. Pam Anglin recognized with a national award. The students were Olga Bonilla, Sophia Cunningham, John Martinez, and Rachael Whetstone. Also attending were PTK club advisors Melissa Arnold and Trina Lubbe. Arnold received the Horizon Award for new advisors who complete the Five Star Advisor Curriculum. Dr. Anglin was one of 14 community college presidents chosen nationwide to receive the Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction. This award is given to college presidents who have shown strong support of student success on their campus by recognizing academic achievement, leadership, and service among high-achieving students at their colleges.

"It was an honor to be recognized," said Dr. Anglin, "but the most special thing was that the nomination originated from our students."

Recipients are nominated by students on their campus and are only eligible to receive the award once over the course of their career.



*PJC President Dr. Pam Anglin joined 14 other presidents receiving the PTK Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction, PTK's most prestigious award for community college presidents, made possible by a nomination from PJC students. Also attending were, from left Advisor Melissa Arnold, students Rachael Whetstone, Sophia Cunningham, Olga Bonilla and John Martinez, and Advisor Trina Lubbe.*

PTK's most prestigious award for community college presidents is named in honor of the late Dr. Shirley B. Gordon, PTK's longest-serving Board of Directors Chair and a founder and long-time president of Highline Community College in Washington. The three-day conference offered educational forums for students and advisors on PTK history and university transfer information. PJC students were able to attend workshops on managing their digital footprint, scholarships, resumes, team leadership, financial challenges, stress management, building portfolios, and much more.

# Donors, recipients meet at banquet

A highlight of the spring semester was held on April 18 when donors from throughout the region had the opportunity to meet face-to-face with students who have benefited from a scholarship this year.

“It is a very special time to say ‘thank you’ to our donors for making these special gifts possible,” said PJC President Dr. Pam Anglin, “and what a wonderful time it is for students to meet the donors who have enabled them to achieve their dreams.”

Now in its fourth year, the dinner features brief comments from donors and students sharing their stories and providing a better understanding for both the giver and recipient.

Donors shared their family’s story, including Mary Snell (PJC Class of 1975) and Carol Dunmon (Class of 1981), who told of the

scholarship provided by their late aunt and uncle, Ruby and William Hintz.

Dr. Craig Stephens also spoke. Though not a PJC graduate, he’s a friend to PJC and relayed the story of his late uncle, George Stephens. His father’s younger brother was a PJC football player who died of injuries from the game in 1938. The young man’s friend was Eddie Robinson, who went on from PJC to a stellar baseball career. Robinson created a PJC scholarship in Stephens’ name.

Crysta Corriston Duncan, a nursing student and recipient of the Geraldine Toon Clifford Scholarship, shared her experience of being a classroom teacher working toward the nursing career she has had as a passion since her youth.

“Today’s students work hard to create time

for studies,” said Director of Institutional Advancement/Alumni Affairs Derald Bulls. “They are often balancing a family and full- or part-time jobs in addition to their school work.”

While many donors live a great distance away and are unable to attend, the College is blessed with a diversity of donors, and many living in relative proximity to Paris can and do attend.



Dr. Craig Stephens

## OPTIONS TO RECEIVE *THE FOCUS*

Each issue of *The Focus* is uploaded to the PJC website when it is sent to press. If you would prefer to receive you copy electronically, please email us and let us know. Your decision will save postage, paper and expedite your delivery! Send your request to: [alumni@parisjc.edu](mailto:alumni@parisjc.edu).

## Giving Day a Success!

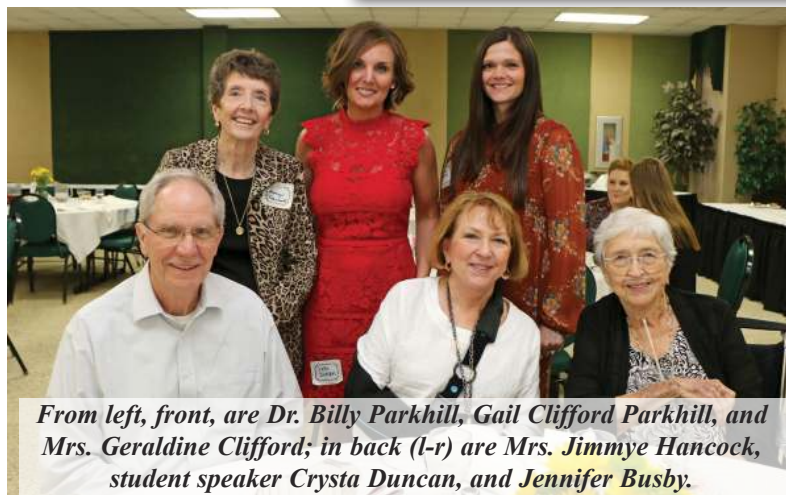
On Tuesday, April 30, PJC joined over 185 non-profit organizations throughout a 32 county East Texas area as part of East Texas Giving Day. The efforts of the event, spearheaded by the East Texas Community Foundation (ETCF), totaled \$1.3 million raised with PJC receiving \$10,706 in gifts from alumni, friends, and businesses.

According to Derald Bulls, PJC’s Director of Institutional Advancement and Alumni Affairs, “We are truly thankful to our donors, near and far, who again rallied behind PJC to continue to support the goal of creating opportunities for our students. We are especially grateful to a local match donor who pledged \$5,000 to match, dollar-for-dollar, the first \$5,000 raised during Giving Day. While donors could pre-schedule gifts in the two weeks leading up to the Giving Day, many donors chose to use the 18-hours, from 6 a.m. until Midnight on April 30 to make their online gift through the special website.

This is the second year the College has joined in this day-long event and has received over \$21,600 in gifts through this concentrated effort. During Giving Day and in the weeks leading up to it, PJC utilized variety of social media channels-email, Facebook, and Twitter to let the “PJC Family” know about this exciting day.

PJC’s Student Government Association, African-American Student Union, student athletes and other student groups for their assistance during this important day. At the conclusion of the effort, PJC’s Phi Theta Kappa chapter assisted by writing personal thank you notes to each donor.

*continued on next page...*



From left, front, are Dr. Billy Parkhill, Gail Clifford Parkhill, and Mrs. Geraldine Clifford; in back (l-r) are Mrs. Jimmye Hancock, student speaker Crysta Duncan, and Jennifer Busby.



Shown from left, front, are Kathy Moseley, Stephen and Alicia Perry, and Taylor Threadgill, and in back, John Lee, and donor speakers Carol Dunmon and Mary Ruth Snell.

# Duane Allen honored with stage name

Late last fall, Paris Junior College was tremendously proud to welcome back 1962 graduate and 1985 Distinguished Alumnus Duane Allen for a dedication in his honor. The Board of Regents of Paris Junior College chose to bestow the honor of having the stage in the Ray E. Karrer Theater be known as the Duane Allen Stage. Allen was joined at the ceremony by his fellow members of The Oak Ridge Boys, Joe Bonsall, William Lee Golden, and Richard Sterban.

“Well, I’m blown away,” said Allen, after receiving a plaque recognizing the dedication. He explained that his friend Ronnie Nutt had raised the possibility months before but he heard nothing until seeing on Facebook the week before that it was going to happen.

“And I’m totally unprepared,” he said, “so everything that I’m going to say to you today comes from right here [pointing to his heart], not from a piece of paper.”

Allen told the crowd of having several reasons for coming to PJC, including three scholarships. In addition, he worked and sang in a part time gospel group to pay his way through college.

But his main reason for coming to PJC first was that if he had gone to East Texas State, (now Texas A&M-Commerce University), he would have had to study classical music because that’s all that was offered at the time. He wanted to do what he has gone on to do, so he came to PJC.

“I came here and I studied business administration,” Allen said. “I studied economics. I studied distributive education. I studied speech and drama right there on that stage. They wrote plays for me and operettas for me. I didn’t know that later on in my career, I would need business administration, distributive education, economics, speech and drama. The first job I got with the Oak Ridge Boys, I had to talk for them. I didn’t know that I would have to learn how to make the bottom end on our ledger be black. All of the things I learned here at this college, were later on some of the most important things I could have ever learned in any higher education place of learning - right here.”

Allen went on to attend East Texas State and graduated.

“So I was able to reach all my goals and dreams by coming here first,” he said, “not knowing that this place right here would give me the foundation to do what I’ve been able to do with the Oak Ridge Boys Corporation, and help run a business successfully for 52 and a half years that I have been here with three of the greatest partners I could ever have in my life.”

He also revealed how he came to have the first



The stage in the Ray E. Karrer Theater was named in honor of Duane Allen last fall. Shown after the ceremony are (from left) William Lee Golden, Joe Bonsall, Richard Sterban, and Duane Allen, members of The Oak Ridge Boys.

vocal scholarship, calling it a “Forrest Gump” experience. He actually received a band scholarship, the only kind of musical scholarship given then, from Mr. Gore the band teacher. Allen said, explaining that he was given a tuba.

“I wore that dude, and the first thing I had to do was play in a football game,” said Allen, “on the outside. We played at halftime. You beginning to get the picture? I was the last person on the very end of the row. We marched to the 50-yard line where everybody was supposed to turn around. I didn’t even know what a 50-yard line was; we didn’t have football in Cunningham... I kept going. Forrest Gump. I got back and Mr. Gore said, ‘Mr. Allen, you don’t

have to play in the band anymore.’”

He explained that was when they began writing plays for him and the stage part came about. They wrote two original plays, one each year that he was at PJC.

“The experience that I got from working with Mary Jo Oliver and Mrs. Allen Wise will be with me forever,” said Allen. “They were original plays, all the music, all the scripts, everything was original. And we did have big crowds, we did have to do multiple nights. And this is an experience I’ll cherish the rest of my life. I love to sing the praises of PJC and this honor that you’ve given me is one that I’ll cherish forever. Thank you very much.”

## East Texas Giving Day, *continued from page 6...*

In a wrap-up meeting ETCF revealed that again this year, 23 percent of all gifts received were from first time donors. Demographically, 73 percent of donors this year were female and 83 percent were over the age of 45. Of all donors, 57 percent accessed the ETGD.org website using their smartphone, which is an increase over last year. PJC was fortunate in that the processing fee for each gift was covered by donors over 80 percent of the time.

The date for the 2020 Giving Day has been set for April 28. This year, ten Lamar County organizations took part in Giving Day. While the campaign centers around an online format, donors may always make gifts or memorials by check, cash or credit card by calling the Institutional Advancement office (903-782-0276) or by contacting dbulls@parisjc.edu or mailing to the office at 2400 Clarksville Street, Paris, TX 78460-6298.



PJC students (l-r) Jaida Muhammed, Rifeigh Wright as Pyro, and Jamielynn Parker helped out with ETGD.

# STAYING CONNECTED

In each issue of *The Focus*, we take great pride in helping you stay in contact with alumni and former students. We welcome your submission of current information through the "Alumni and Friends" page on the PJC website.

Several members of PJC's Texas Institute for Jewelry Technology family were devastated by the November 2018 fires in California. **Jacob Smith** (Class of 2011) and his wife, Tanessa, along with his brother, **Michael** (Class of 2007), lost not only their homes in the fires but also their business, Sierra Gem Company. Their mother, **Nicki Smith** is a former staff member of PJC. The two sons were in business with their father, **Andy Smith**, also a 1983 TIJT graduate. Michael was a horology student when he graduated in 2007 and is currently enrolled in the Jewelry Technology program.

## 1920s/1930s

A biography about the late **Hope Ridings Miller**, a PJC English instructor in the late 1920's and early 1930's, has been released. Entitled, "Washington's Golden Age: Hope Ridings Miller, the Society Beat, and the Rise of Women Journalists," the book is written by Joseph Dalton. Beginning with Ms. Miller's roots in East Texas, the book covers her years as the Society Editor for the Washington Post, and as a syndicated columnist, magazine editor and author. All of the First Ladies, from Eleanor Roosevelt through Pat Nixon, make appearances in the book along with the greatest hostesses Evalyn Walsh McLean and Perle Mesta, as well as the Duke and Duchess of Windsor and other royalty from both Europe and Hollywood. A copy of the book has been purchased for the PJC Library.

## 1950s

**Michael D. Miesch, Jr. PhD**, Class of 1953, of Irving, TX has authored two publications recently, *Seven Vital Truths for God's Children* and *Lifting the Veil of Revelation*. He was inducted into the PJC Academic Hall of Honor in 2010.

**Fred** (Class of 1954) and **Joy Allen**, of Arlington, TX celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on December 29 at the First Baptist Church, Benbrook, TX.

## 1960s

**Don Molino**, Class of 1966, Senior Farm Broadcaster for the Louisiana Radio Network, has been named the 2018 National Farm Broadcaster of the Year by the National Association of Farm Broadcasting. The association represents more than 1,300 radio, TV and satellite stations nationwide. Molino is a former national and regional vice president for the organization. He has spent the past 36 years at the Louisiana Radio Network, reporting several times each weekday on farm news and agri-business. His broadcasts are heard on more than 20 radio stations across the state. The Paris native earned a broadcast journalism degree from East Texas State University and reported in other Texas markets, including Dallas. His experience in farm broadcasting began in 1973 with the Mississippi Radio News Network.

Don lives in Baton Rouge, LA. (donthefarmboy@yahoo.com)

## 1970s

**Denis Abernathy**, TIJT Class of 1976 and 1980, recently held a 50th anniversary of his jewelry store, Denis The Jeweler, in Stillwater, Okla., that was begun by his father in 1968. Following his service in the U.S. Navy, he heeded his father's suggestion and began his training at PJC studying jewelry repair, stone-setting and casting. He later returned to study watch repair. After working in a number of environments, he took over the family business five years ago.

**Gene Anderson**, Class of 1974, has been named as the interim City Manager for Paris, TX. Anderson has served as the city's Director of Finance for the past 34 years and will continue those duties as he oversees the manager function. This is second time Anderson has served this interim role in his career with the City. While at PJC, he was a member of PTK.

**Dr. Jacquelyn Rodgers Robouin**, Class of 1978, is one of 15 psychotherapists providing crisis, grief and group therapy to over 17,000 students at the University of California at Santa Cruz. Her specialty is working with students of African descent as well as those with different levels of abilities.

## 1990s

**Daniel Baker**, Class of 1990, is the Operations Manager for AAA Cooper Transportation, and lives in Bedford, TX (danielcbaker1969@gmail.com).

**Mike Ford**, Class of 1996, a Lieutenant Colonel in the Texas Army National Guard, highly decorated veteran, and resident of Brookston, TX, has assumed command of the 372nd Combat Sustainment Support Battalion (CSSB) during recent ceremonies at Camp Mabry, Texas Military Department

Headquarters, Austin. The CSSB is headquartered in Dallas and comprised of six companies and some 850 soldiers from El Paso to San Antonio.

**Jennifer Ressler**, Class of 1990, has joined the staff of Roden-Pryor Funeral Home, Paris, TX as a pre-need counselor. Following PJC, she attended Texas Woman's University where she earned her bachelor's and master's degrees.

**Tina Weddle**, who attended PJC in 1998, was promoted in January 2019 to Loan Department Supervisor at the downtown location of Liberty National Bank.

## 2010s

**Sydnie Carpenter**, a 2018 PJC graduate, and Nathan Dooley were married September 22, 2018 at the Clarksville Country Club. The new bride is no attending Texas A&M-Commerce pursuing her bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and working part-time at the Lamar County Courthouse in the Commissioner's Office.

**Lucy Funk**, TIJT Class of 2018, moved to Paris to attend the TIJT but has recently opened an artisan consignment shop in downtown Paris (125 Lamar Avenue). Drawn to the community by the reputation of the TIJT, she found much more to offer in her new-found home. Tresors de Paris Art and Gems is in a 1916-era building with three storefronts and an upstairs apartment.

**Donald R. Lewis, III**, 2018 graduate of TIJT, is utilizing his skills at Baublitt's Jewelers in Kerrville, TX. Baublitt's owner, **Walter Saunders**, is also a TIJT graduate. (Donald.Lewis.3@gmail.com)

**Tiffany Medford**, Class of 2018, calls Royce City, TX home and is working part-time as a substitute teacher while pursuing her bachelor's degree in general education. (tmedors5910@dragons.parisjc.edu)

## 2019 Homecoming Plans Underway

The 95th Homecoming Celebration of Paris Junior College is set for Thursday through Saturday, Nov. 7-9. The annual PJC Homecoming Parade is set for Thursday, Nov. 7, and leaves campus at 4 p.m., proceeds downtown and around the plaza, then returns to campus. A pep rally follows at the Hunt Center. Friday, Nov. 8, PJC President Dr. Pam Anglin will host alumni and friends during the President's Reception in the McLemore Student Center Ballroom, 5:30 p.m. until 7 p.m. All alumni, supporters and retired faculty and staff of the college are invited. Saturday, the Distinguished Alumni Award Luncheon will be at the Love Civic Center at 11:30 a.m., honoring two special alumni posthumously, Barney Bray, III and Tommy Townsend. Tickets for the luncheon are \$25. The afternoon caps off the weekend with the basketball teams playing at the Hunt Center. Special hotel rates have been arranged at the Holiday Inn Express (903-785-0088) and Comfort Inn and Suites (903-785-0089). Both are on N.E. Loop 286, close to the PJC campus; request the PJC preferred rate. For more details contact Derald Bulls at (903) 782-0276 or dbulls@parisjc.edu.



2018 Academic Hall of Fame inductees are shown, from left: James A. "Jim" Wade, James R. Rodgers, Judy R. Hodgkiss, and Sheila Coursey.



# PJC Memorial Foundation Gifts

The Paris Junior College Memorial Foundation is grateful for gifts given during 2018. Additionally, memorials provide a living legacy to your loved ones.

## UNRESTRICTED GIFTS

Robert & Sonja Campbell

Carroll Starnes

## GIVEN IN MEMORY OF MARGIE BELL

Earl Bellamy, MD

Mrs. James Sparks

Richard and Shirley Gauldin

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Jerry D. & Beverly Robertson

Michael & Jenna Ormsbee

Shelley McDowell

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Derald & Lesa Bulls

Dr. Earl Bellamy

Robert & Ann Norment

## GIVEN IN MEMORY OF HELEN BONHAM

### SHORT

Ouida Black

GINNA BOWMAN

Derald & Lesa Bulls

## IN MEMORY OF SAM EMBRY,

IN MEMORY OF ANGIE ADAMS,

IN MEMORY OF JANE MARTIN, AND

IN MEMORY OF JAMES CARTER

Mark & Melissa Arnold

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## IN MEMORY OF JOHN BRITT

PJC Social Sciences Faculty

## IN MEMORY OF ERNEST HAWKINS

Kathy Campbell, LuAnne Bourland and Ray

Hawkins

## IN MEMORY OF HAROLD BROWN

Beverly Matthews

## IN MEMORY OF RON KYLE

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## IN MEMORY OF JIM MOORE

Don & Janie Bonham

## IN MEMORY OF MARGARET AND ERNEST

HAWKINS

Ouida Black

## IN MEMORY OF DR. ROBERT MOSELEY

Dr. & Mrs. Richard Swint

## IN MEMORY OF JOHN CHANEY,

IN MEMORY OF HAROLD BROWN,

IN MEMORY OF ALLYSON FASKEN

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IN MEMORY OF DANNY REAVES

Red River Valley Honkers

## DOROTHY MCCLURE ENDOWMENT

Estate of Charles McClure

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JOELLA HUGHES LUCAS

PJC Alumni & Friends Association

## IN HONOR OF DR. LEROY AND

WANDA WHITAKER

PJC Alumni & Friends Association

## IN MEMORY OF SHIRLEY SWINDLE

Charles & Judy Hodgkiss

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## IN MEMORY OF RONNIE LANDERS

Mike & Jenna Ormsbee

## IN MEMORY OF DR. EMMA DOYLE

Derald & Lesa Bulls

## IN MEMORY OF LYNN McDANIEL

Roger Coco

## IN MEMORY OF RICHARD STAUTER

Michael & Jenna Ormsbee

PJC Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Department

## IN MEMORY OF HARLEY STALEY

Don & Shirley Carroll

## IN MEMORY OF BETTY OWENS

Robert & Dorothy White

## IN MEMORY OF BARNEY BRAY

GINNA BOWMAN

## GEORGE STEPHENS ENDOWMENT

Eddie and Bettye Robinson

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Audrey Lakes

## IN MEMORY OF JESS NICKERSON

Dr. Pamela Anglin

## ASSOCIATION OF FORMER STUDENTS

### ENDOWMENT

PJC Alumni & Friends Association

## IN MEMORY OF JOHN CANN

Curtis & Barbara Fendley

## IN MEMORY OF JIM KIRBY

Frank Wear

## IN MEMORY OF JESSIE DAVIS

Michael & Jenna Ormsbee

## IN MEMORY OF CATHERINE WEAVER

Red River Valley Honkers

## IN MEMORY OF BARNEY BRAY

Derald & Lesa Bulls

## IN MEMORY OF MORGAN WALKER

Bob & Ann Norment

Paula Portugal

## New Cybersecurity Program at PJC

Every 39 seconds a cyber-attack happens to individuals, small businesses, corporations, and governments. To respond for the all-time high demand for skilled cybersecurity professionals, PJC is now offering a program in Cybersecurity.

PJC Computer Information Systems Instructor Cedric Crawford and Computer Networking Instructor Marjorie Pannell developed a 48-hour Cybersecurity certificate and a 60-hour Associate of Applied Science Degree in Cybersecurity.

"When Congressman John Ratcliffe visited our campus a couple of years ago," said PJC President Dr. Pam Anglin, "he encouraged me to add a cybersecurity program to help meet our national skills shortage. We immediately began sending current staff to cybersecurity conferences and searched for an instructor to teach in our program. The result is the new cybersecurity program starting this fall with both a certificate and associate's degree."

The scarcity of cybersecurity professionals is a crisis itself. This shortage of skilled workers costs companies millions of dollars and placing national security at risk to advanced cyber-attacks. The U.S. Department of Labor expects job growth for Information Security Analyst to grow at 28 percent through 2026, which is much faster than the average for all occupations.



*PJC instructors Cedric Crawford and Marjorie Pannell developed the curriculum.*

# SAYING FAREWELL TO PJC FRIENDS

If you are aware of the passing of one of our PJC Alumni, please contact our office so we can share that with friends and classmates. We monitor a number of sources but often we may not be aware of those who live outside the Paris area.

**Robert B. Moseley**, DDS, 68, of Paris, Class of 1969, passed away March 26, 2018. For over 42 years he practiced dentistry in Paris, and served multiple terms as PJC Alumni & Friends Association President.

**George Christopher Emerson**, 54, of Paris, TX Class of 1991, died August 18, 2018. He worked for R.K. Hall Construction Company as a project manager.

**Christine Roden Lipe**, 85, of Boxelder, TX, Class of 1983, passed away August 25, 2018. She worked for many years at Clarksville Nursing Center.

**Vicki Denise Reeves**, 58, of Pattonville, TX, Class of 1992, died August 29, 2108 and worked as a nurse for a number of years.

**James "Mitch" Mitchell Castlebury**, 58, of Paris, attended 1981-82, died September 10, 2018. He attended PJC on a tennis scholarship and joined Kimberly Clark when the plant opened in 1983 and retired from there in 2009.

**James Frederick Rives**, 87, of Houston, TX, Class of 1950, died September 16, 2018. He has a successful career in investment management and advising and real estate.

**George G. Moore**, 90, of Austin, TX, Class of 1951, died September 18, 2018. He was a retired electrical engineer from the Balcones Research Center at the University of Texas at Austin.

**Jim Fred Kirby**, 82, of Dallas, TX, Class of 1956, passed away October 2, 2018. He worked in the mortgage banking industry for forth years and later formed Kirby Mortgage and Investment Company

**Sherry Gayle Clarkson**, 59, of Blossom, TX, attended 2003, died October 2, 2018.

**Jessie Ruth Webb Davis**, 64, of Powderly, TX, attended 1972, died October 7, 2018. She was employed by Legal Aid Services of Oklahoma and Choctaw Casino.

**Billie Blaylock**, 88, of Paris, former student, died October 13, 2018. She taught special education and in the regular classroom for forty years.

**Sam McCord**, 85, of Campbell, TX, Class of 1956 or 1957, died October 14, 2018. He played football at PJC and later at East Texas State before beginning a professional career as ET's Chief of Security and later as Director of Alumni Affairs.

**Helen Bonham Short**, 85, of Powderly, Class of 1951, died November 23, 2018. She was the first employee hired at Campbell Soup and worked there until her retirement. She was a noted artist in the region. At PJC she was voted "Most Friendliest."

**Carroll Moore Starnes**, 82, of Paris, Class of 1944, died November 28, 2018. She was a music teacher for over 40 years, teaching at all levels.

**Jeffrey Cade Mahan**, 19, of Honey Grove, TX, a 2018-19 student at PJC, died December 9, 2018. He worked at Mahan's Welding Services.

**Mona Ann Barnwell**, 76, of Paris, TX, Class of 1961, passed away January 11, 2019. Her career as a nurse spanned 42 years.

**Venita Jane (Barber) O'Neal**, 88, of Paris, TX, attended 1940-42, died Sunday, January 13, 2019. She worked for the Texas Department of Agriculture for 29 years.

**Phyllis Ann (Lovell) Guigere**, 66, of Sulphur Springs, TX, former student, died January 15, 2019. She worked in the health care field as a respiratory therapist and later an LVN, retiring from Gentiva Home Health.

**Barbara Ann (Linkswiler) Sale**, 73, of Paris, TX, former student, passed away January 24, 2019. She worked as a teacher's assistant for PISD for over 30 years.

**Bill Scudder**, 75, of Texarkana, TX, Class of 1963, passed away January 27, 2019. He played baseball at PJC and the University of Alabama and spent 34 years as a teacher and coach.

**Sarah Nell (Clem) Smith**, 92, of Paris, TX, Class of 1945, passed away January 25, 2019. She retired from the Texas Highway Department.

**Bob G. Exum**, 83, of Paris, TX, attended 1958, died January 29, 2019. He worked for UARCO for 20 years and retired from the U.S. Navy after 40 years at the Navy Recruiting Command, Dallas.

**Sammy Earl Player**, 80, Paris, TX, Class of 1958, died January 31, 2019. A veteran of the Texas National Guard, he retired after 38 years with General Electric Corporation.

**Gail Keith Thrasher**, 79, of Midwest City, OK, Class of 1959, passed away February 20, 2019. A veteran of the Berlin Crisis, he was a professor of psychology at Rose State College for many years.

**John L. Hasselmeier, Sr.**, Class of 1946, passed away May 24, 2015 in Lubbock. He was a World War II veteran and retired coach and principal in Lubbock.

**Loren A. Stephens**, 74, of Paris, Class of 1964, passed away April 3, 2019 in Plano, TX. The Kansas native came to PJC on basketball and baseball scholarships and met his soulmate, Wanda here; they shared 54 years of marriage. He worked for 48 years in the Paris ISD in many leadership capacities. He was a member of the PJC Alumni & Friends Association and served as Vice President.

**Rebecca (Becky) Gates**, 52, of Paris, student 2007-08, died April 8. She was a graduate of the PJC School of Nursing.

**Cathryn West Williams**, 92, Class of 1944, passed away April 8 in Frisco. She retired from Texas Power & Light Company and had also worked at Camp Maxey and with the Social Security Administration.

**Cheryl Lavonne Johns**, 71, former student, died April 13, 2019 in McKinney, TX. Her career led her to Campbell Soup and later Babcock & Wilcox for 35 years.

**Barbara Jean Cochran**, 82, former student, of Powderly, died April 17, 2019. She had worked as an executive secretary for Joske's Department Store.

**Annabee O'Brien Salter**, 71, Class of 1967, of Paris, died May 5, 2019. She was retired teacher having taught many years in Lamar County schools.

**Jean Kuykendall Robertson**, 93, a PJC graduate, of Trinity, TX passed away May 5. At PJC she was a member of Phi Theta Kappa national community college honor society. She owned a ladies apparel

business in Houston for many years.

**Dr. Richard Winn Harrison**, 72, Class of 1967, died April 26, 2019 in Kilgore. He was a retired Kilgore College professor and administrator having spent 39 years at the College.

**Billie Lou Brown Duncan**, 93, Class of 1945, of Paris, passed away May 29, 2019. She retired from Southwestern Bell Telephone Company and active in the community.

**Billy Ray Anderson**, 81, attended 1976-76, of Fulbright, TX died June 1, 2019. A Navy veteran, he retired from Uarco Business Forms and as Red River County Veteran Service Officer.

**John Clifton Daughtrey**, 93, a former student, of Paris, died June 7, 2019 after a lengthy illness. He was a veteran of the Korean War.

**Johnny Crawford**, 78, Class of 1959, of Paris, passed away June 9, 2019. A long-time local coach and driver's education instructor, he was manager of the 1958-59 PJC national championship baseball team.

**Jeffrey Lynn Smith**, 58, Class of 1984, of Oak Ridge, TX, died June 9, 2018. A graduate of Fannindel High School, he was a lifelong resident of Oak Ridge.

**Bennie Dongene Smith**, 92, former student, of Longview, TX passed away June 12, 2019. He retired from Southwestern Bell Telephone Company following a 40 year career.

**Carolyn Jeanette Barrios**, 62, Class of 1997, of Paris, died June 19, 2019. She was a registered nurse specializing in psychiatry. (DOB 12/8/1956)

**Jeral Ray Gibson**, 78, Class of 1961, of Paris, passed away June 20, 2019. A graduate of Idabel (OK) High School, he played football on scholarship at PJC.

**Don W. Drake**, 69, Class of 1985, of Paris, passed away June 23, 2019. He worked for McCuiston, Christus St. Joseph's and Paris Regional Hospitals as a radiology technologist for over 35 years.

**Daphnia Lorene Downs**, 81, Class of 1957, of Chicota, TX died July 3, 2019. She spent 40 years as an educator as a homemaking teacher and counselor in the Chicota, Prairiland and Paris districts.

**Clinton Kelly Exum**, 61, Class of 1976, of Paris, passed away July 13, 2019. His career was spent in the automotive industry in sales and finance before retirement.

**Sammy Edwin Knox**, 71, Class of 1966, of Longview, TX passed away July 14, 2019. A member of the 1966 PJC baseball team that qualified for the NJCAA tournament and enshrined in the PJC Athletic Hall of Fame, he went on to play at the University of Alabama. He retired after a 32 year career with Texas Instruments.

**Paul Keith Denney**, 63, Class of 1976, of Paris died July 18, 2019 after an 16 month courageous battle with brain cancer. A well-known local architect, he served as a member of the PJC Board of Regents, was President of the PJC Alumni & Friends Association, and played in many local music groups throughout his life.

**Beverly Loraine Moore**, 79, former student, of Paris, died July 23, 2019. During her time at PJC, she

*continued on page 12...*

# Gifts to the PJC Annual Fund

The 2018 PJC Annual Fund Campaign was again a great success thanks to gifts from alumni, businesses, foundations, and friends. On behalf of co-chairs, Joan Mathis and Becki Norment, thank you for your generosity. Through your kindness, PJC has new opportunities to benefit our students.

## DRAGON (\$10,001-\$25,000)

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## PATRON (\$5,001-10,000)

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Joel & Mary Jo Hughes Endowment  
Josh Bray/Sanitation Solutions  
Barney Bray Endowment

## PRESIDENT'S LIST (\$2,501-5,000)

Dr. Pamela Anglin  
First Federal Community Bank  
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Paris Masonic Lodge  
Roan Oak Masonic Lodge  
Vista Energy / Luminant/Lamar  
Power Plant

## DEAN'S LIST (\$1,001-2,500)

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Don & Barbara Wilson  
Wilma Wintz  
Chastity Woodson  
Norma Wright  
Young Title Company, Sydney Young

## FRIEND (\$1-100)

Lamar County Adult Probation  
In memory of Ron Kyle  
Richard Amis  
William & Brenda Baker  
Karen Ballard  
Vicki & Ronnie Ballard  
Tom Bass  
Don & Janie Bonham  
Dr. E.E. Brooks  
Chuck Burton  
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Bettie Ann Huggins  
Peggy Jack  
Frank H. Johns  
Audrey Lakes  
Lonnie & Yolanda Lasenbby  
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Jill Walker Pierce  
Russ Pritchett  
Sherrie Reinert  
Maj. Rhonda Rogers, USAF Retd  
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Joyce Rutter  
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Connie Stauter  
Dr. & Mrs. J. Craig Stephens  
George Stephens Endowment  
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## Saying Farewell, *continued from page 10...*

assisted with the Poor Man's Theatre preparing beans and cornbread. She volunteered for the hospital and at PrimeTime.

**Carl R. Jensen**, 84, a PJC graduate, of Sumner, passed away July 26, 2019. With a career in ranching and air conditioning repair, which he accomplished his associate's degree attending classes at night.

**JerriAnn Box-Cunningham**, 59, Class of 1993, of Austin, TX died July 27, 2019. She was a registered nurse in the cath lab of St. David's Medical Center Heart Hospital, Austin, for 20 years.

**Eric Lynn Pearson**, 61, former student, of Deport, TX passed away August 4, 2019. A retired member of the Paris Fire Department, he served in the US Navy.

**Elmer Gene Ellis**, 78, Class of 1960, of Tyler, TX died July 28, 2019. The former President and CEO of East Texas Medical Center System, Ellis spent 50 years leading the organization. He was named as a Distinguished Alumnus of PJC in 2010.

**Dan Davis Abeles**, 86, Class of 1953, of Clarksville, TX died August 2, 2019. An Air Force veteran, he had a varied work career with McDonnell Douglas Aircraft company and retired from the City of Paris.

### FORMER PJC EMPLOYEES

**Vicki Carrell Humphrey**, 59, of Paris, passed away April 4, 2019 after a courageous battle with cancer. She served as an Administrative Assistant in the Math & Science Department at PJC.

**Linda Lou (Baker) Flanary**, 78, of Paris, a long-time PJC Chorale accompanist, passed away March 7, 2019. She was a sought-after pianist and served under three Secretaries of State while living in Austin.

**James E. Thomas**, 75, of Paris, died April 23, 2019. He served as vice president of financial affairs at PJC and later owned Office Equipment Center, Paris.

**Jerry Don Waters**, 78, of Paris, passed away June 17 in Sherman, TX. He taught in the Texas Institute for Jewelry Technology from 1976-2010 when he retired.

## Watchmaking Program receives support

Two of America's most prominent horological institutions combined forces and funds to maintain U.S. horological institutions. Last April the Horological Society of New York (HSNY) announced a donation match with the American Watchmakers-Clockmakers Institute (AWCI) at HSNY's annual Gala & Charity Auction.

During the evening, HSNY President Nicholas Manousos updated guests on the state of U.S. watchmaking schools. Three programs have closed in the last decade, with only nine full-time schools remaining. Together, HSNY and AWCI pledged to keep horological education alive by each donating \$10,000 to the Texas Institute of Jewelry Technology at Paris Junior College.

"This collaboration illustrates the positive difference that HSNY and AWCI can make together," said Manousos. "Supporting watchmaking education is crucial to our industry, and these matching donations will be particularly effective in ensuring student watchmakers from the Paris Junior College have the tools they need to succeed. HSNY looks forward to continued collaboration with our friends at the AWCI."

"HSNY and AWCI have been working together for almost 60 years to support watchmaking," said AWCI Executive Director Jordan Ficklin. "When

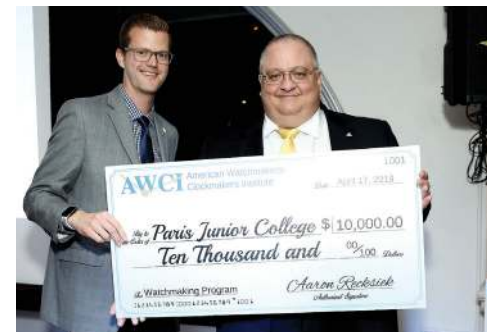
AWCI President Aaron Recksiek visited the school in Paris this winter he could see that they had many needs in order to elevate the program to the standards of the industry. The AWCI Education, Library, and Museum Trust agreed to donate \$10,000 which allowed the two organizations together to provide \$20,000 in financial support to the school."

In addition to cash contributions, AWCI and Eckcells (a material supply house supporting independent watchmakers), presented the school with a Wellner cleaning machine valued at \$14,000.

The awards were received by Paris Junior College Watchmaking Instructor Stanley McMahan.

"This generous contribution from the memberships of our premier U.S. watchmaking organizations will greatly enhance and accelerate student learning in the watchmaking program at PJC," said McMahan. "Support for watchmaker education at this level demonstrates the overwhelming commitment of the American watchmaking community to the strong future of this exciting profession! The program's first 75 years has provided a great foundation upon which to build. The new equipment this makes possible will form a strong and modern foundation of craftsmanship for our graduates."

Look the program up at [www.parisjc.edu/watchmaking](http://www.parisjc.edu/watchmaking).



*HSNY President Nicholas Manousos (left) presents a donation of \$10,000 to PJC Watchmaking Instructor Stanley McMahan. AWCI President Aaron Recksiek presents \$10,000 to McMahan.*