PJC sees record fall enrollment

MARTA GOERTE  
Co-editor

Enrollment for the fall 2008 semester at Paris Junior College is up 456 students from last year, knocking all past records out of the park.

Among the Paris, Greenville and Sulphur Springs campuses, enrollment has reached 4,742 students compared to last fall’s 4,286. “This is the first year in the history of PJC that we reached over one million contact hours,” said Dr. Pamela Anglin, president. Contact hours are compiled by multiplying all the students enrolled times the number of hours students spend in the classroom.

According to Anglin, there are many reasons why enrollment is so much higher this year. High gas prices and the higher cost of living in general are encouraging more high schoolers to stay local to obtain their two-year degrees. The number of dual-credit courses for high school students has also increased. The new Greenville campus is also an attraction. “It’s exciting to be in a new building,” Anglin said.

The grand opening for the new Greenville campus building was held on September 18. PJC will partner with Texas A&M University–Commerce in the spring, offering junior and senior level business classes, which allow more students to stay local and in the junior college atmosphere.

“This is an exceptional group of students,” says Anglin. “Our hope is that local students are realizing that they can get their first two years here at PJC before moving on to a four-year university.”

Warning: parking pass required

STEPHANIE NORMAN  
Co-editor

Students and employees are at risk of being fined for failure to display a PJC parking pass according to Otho Bowmer, PJC chief of Safety and Security.

Parking passes and ID cards can be obtained from Bowmer from 8 a.m. to noon Monday through Thursday in the Security Building north of the Student Center.

“You are required to have a PJC permit,” Bowmer said.

Students are required to provide a license plate number in order to receive a pass.

Applicants fill out one paper to get both cards. For those receiving each one for the first time, there will be no charge. On the other hand, if a card is lost or stolen, there is a $15 replacement fee.

Under certain circumstances, fees can be waived, such as if a card is broken or falling apart; the old card must be turned in before a new one can be issued. The average charge of parking tickets is $25 and $50 for parking in a handicap spot. An additional $10 is added to all tickets for those without parking passes.

These cards benefit the holders. ID cards are used as on-campus library cards and if shown at team games, ID cards may provide a discount or even get you in free.

Parking passes are used for safety matters. For instance, if another driver hits your vehicle while you are in class, officials can find you.

“If we had a problem in the parking lot, we could look up your ID number,” Bowmer said. “Otherwise, we would have to call a wrecker, and you’re going to have to pay the wrecker fee.”

Most tickets are written for wrongfully parking on campus. All staff and students are prohibited to park in visitor spaces and unless you have a special issued handicap tag, you may not park in marked handicap spaces.

“It’s common sense,” Bowmer said. “If the parking lot is full, it does not give you the right to park wherever. You may have to walk a little bit.”
Opinion/News

Adults are still growing up too

STEFANIE NORMAN
CO-EDITOR

Straightforward and to the point: grow up; no one wants to be friends with a lowlife.

In today’s day and time, individuals like you need to support themselves. Now is the time to get off your lazy bum and perform a task worthwhile. It’s not like a million dollars is going to drop out of the sky into your open arms. You have to work for it.

Don’t be afraid to put a little elbow grease into life. The longer you put off priorities, the odds are less you have the best outcome.

Childhood is over my friend. Sorry to say, but most of you are going to struggle through life if you don’t begin making adult choices right now.

Take a minute and think about what you want out of life. Gather ideas of what you expect of yourself. I bet it excites you to think about your future.

The real world is a game. You are on your own team and everyone is your opponent.

After all the lessons you’ve learned and lectures you’ve heard, gather some knowledge and make the best out of the life you have.

You can’t be childish forever. As people grow up they build careers and families. Then come the bills and taxes. Nothing in life is free.

Going to school to better yourself is a great start, but after that you can’t just drop everything and decide to quit.

When Martin Luther King said, “I have a dream…” do you know what he did? He did everything in his power to try and make his dream real.

The point is, you have to work for what you want no matter how hard it seems, or how many sacrifices you need to make to get there.

Growing up is the best part and longest path you are ever going to travel. It’s not going to happen overnight. Now, as soon as possible, is the time, your time. Don’t wait for anyone else. Be the first to make the transition and show the world what you are capable of doing.

“It’s not like a million dollars is going to drop out of the sky into your open arms.”

Well, news flash: you have to make all that happen by yourself. Mommy and daddy aren’t going to hold your hand and show you how to cross that river.

The time has come to take a breath and plunge into life.

It’s not like a million dollars is going to drop out of the sky into your open arms.

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“He’s freaking hilarious. I feel really stupid going in there and when I come out I feel like Plato and he is Socrates.”

- Kenneth Price -

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Features

Greenville campus draws crowd

Right: Students congregate in the new Greenville campus bookstore.

Left: Cars fill up the Greenville campus parking lot.

PJC supports Banned Books Week

PJC to host events in support of Banned Books Week, Sept. 29 through Oct. 2

KELLY SHURBET
WHITNEY TURK
STAFF WRITERS

The American Library Association is celebrating the 27th anniversary of Banned Books week and PJC will sponsor several events. The ALA theme this year is “Celebrating the Freedom to Read.”

With the theme of “banned books,” volunteers will be reading in the Learning Resource Center from 9 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 29 through Thursday, Oct. 2. Movies based on banned books will also be playing in the foyer of the LRC.

PJC will provide refreshments at 1 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 1. The Greenville campus will serve refreshments as well at 1 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 2.

The LRC will sponsor a Contest entries are due by 4 p.m. Oct. 1

SGA students plan movies, chili cook-off for semester

Kasey Cantu voted for SGA officers last week with Brandi Amos, SGA president and Deanna Young, coordinator of Student Activities looking on.

Kelly Shurbet/The Bat

Social events are held every Tuesday night. The movie “Forgetting Sarah Marshall” is set for Tuesday, September 30 at 9 p.m. outside the library.

Free popcorn and drinks are provided. Bring your own chair or blanket. In case of rain the show will be moved to the ballroom.

The life skills by participation in SGA are organizing events, making friends, understanding the structure of public organizations, and having fun according to Young.

The officers of the SGA open and speak at several events on campus. SGA officers for the 2008-2009 academic year are president Brandi Amos; vice president Sattie Nyachway; secretary Caitlin Commiato; treasurer Vallery Schmidt; historian Kaylan Brooks; parliamentarian Chris Crouch.

A scholarship fund of $500.00 is awarded to an individual in the SGA every semester.

SGA meetings are held every Monday in S.C. Room #105 at 12:30pm and are open to all students.
New faces on campus

Randy Johnson
Staff Reporter

Four new full-time instructors joined the Paris Junior College faculty this fall. They are: Dr. Crystal Torti, Corey Lyon, Kevin Ward, and Blaine Jones.

**Crystal Torti**
- **Years Teaching:** 7
- **Graduate of:** Sul Ross University, Texas A&M-Commerce
- **Degrees:** Bachelor’s in Interdisciplinary Studies, Master’s of Education, Reading Specialist, Ed. D. in Supervision, Curriculum and Instruction

**Corey Lyon**
- **Years teaching:** 12, first year coaching college
- **Graduate of:** Kansas Newman University
- **Degrees:** Bachelor’s in Education, Master’s in School Leadership

**Blaine Jones**
- **Years employed:** 11 years at Northeast Texas Community College, full time paramedic for 10 years, been in EMS for 22 years total
- **Family:** Husband, C.J. Torti, son, Aiden
- **Hobbies:** “Anything outside.”

**Kevin Ward**
- **Years teaching:** 6 months
- **Graduate of:** Eastern Oklahoma State College
- **Degrees:** Associate degree in Welding Technology

LeeAnn Marchand picks up a voter registration card in the Applied Technologies building. Look for the picture of Uncle Sam over tables in the library and Applied Technologies building. PJC Government instructors and the SGA are sponsoring these tables. Registration cards must be mailed no later than Monday October 6, for people to vote in the November 4 election.

Police Academy students graduate

The first Paris Junior College/Northeast Texas Community College Police Academy students graduated recently.

The nine Hopkins/Hunt County natives are the first class to graduate through the Academic Alternative Police Academy program that began through Paris Junior College in 2006. The collaborative effort began when PJC and NTCC signed a local agreement for the two colleges to work together to provide local students in the Criminal Justice Program an opportunity to obtain their Peace Officer Certification along with their two year Associate’s degree.

NTCC has a new state-of-the-art firing range and driving range that PJC was able to utilize in completion of the academy training. Kevin Rose, Dean of Workforce Education at PJC stated that these types of agreements are a look into the future where more agreements of these types should and hopefully will be occurring to provide the best possible training and delivery of instruction to best serve the community and create opportunities for students.

Another phase of this agreement will occur when NTCC will once again collaborate with PJC on the new Greenville campus to provide a traditional fast-track Police Academy in early 2009. For more information on the Criminal Justice Program at Paris Junior College contact Lana Biggerstaff Adams at 903-782-0497 or 903-454-9333.