HOMECOMING 2005
Cardette Alumni Honored
WELCOME TO THE VALLEY!

It’s that time of year again! Summer draws to a close, school starts and we all settle into a demanding schedule of fall activities. A new tradition was started last year with the first issue of “The Valley” …… and after many congratulatory messages and positive comments, we continue the tradition with our Fall 2005 issue. On the following pages, you will find articles regarding recent happenings on our campuses as well as opportunities to take that trip down memory lane. At any event, our intent is for you to enjoy! We look forward to your comments and suggestions for future publications.

Dave Hubbard
Assistant to the President
Office of Development & Alumni Relations
Class of ’71

P.S. Our alumni association needs you! New ideas, planning for the future and your creative thoughts are solicited. If you would like more information, please contact our office at 903-670-2620 or e-mail me at dhubbard@tvcc.edu. Do not miss Homecoming 2005—October 1 and remember to visit our Alumni web page at www.tvcc.edu/alumni.
The Cardettes have been a source of great pride for HCJC-TVCC since the first 13 members stepped out on the field in 1960. For 45 years, these young ladies have served as valuable ambassadors for the College and East Texas. They represent TVCC with a smile and have entertained audiences of all ages across the U.S. and abroad.

This year TVCC will honor the Cardettes during Homecoming 2005 on October 1. The Cardettes will be featured at the Alumni Luncheon scheduled for 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in the Student Union Building Ballroom.

In the past TVCC has organized separate luncheons for its honored groups, alumni and alumni award winners. This year the three have been combined. All alumni are invited to the luncheon. The cost is $8.00.

“Having the different luncheons just split everybody up,” TVCC Assistant to the President David Hubbard said. “Even though we’re trying to get the Cardettes together, we know they’ll want time to visit with other friends who weren’t in Cardettes. This way we bring everybody together.”

The luncheon will feature memorabilia and photos throughout Cardette history. This year’s alumni award winners will also be announced. Among the 2005 honorees are former Cardette directors Jean and Debbie Baker, whose combined reign spanned 17 years.

“I’m so excited about getting all the former Cardettes together again,” Cardette director Darla Mansfield said. “The sisterhood of Cardettes is something that lasts forever and goes across generations. It’s so good not only to get the past members together, but for our current Cardettes to get to meet them and learn from them.”

In the past few years, Mansfield has worked to develop a stronger tie with Cardette alumni. She instituted an annual “Meet at the Tree” mini reunion for Cardettes who come to Homecoming. Following the half time show, current and former Cardettes meet by the tree beside the practice field across from Bruce Field for fellowship and photos. She has also developed a Cardette alumni newsletter.

For more information about the luncheon or homecoming events, or if you would like to help, contact Hubbard at 903-670-2620 or Mansfield at 903-675-6225.
TOMPKINS GYM COMES DOWN

Historical building carries many memories

The Alton Tompkins Gym was an auditorium and the student union building in the early days of the College.

Students danced there, performed there and played there. After it was renovated into a gym, it hosted fans who cheered on the Cardinals and later the HCJC Chicks.

It holds many memories for students through the years, and memories are nearly all that’s left of the “women’s gym”.

The gym came down this summer to make room for a new three-story technology center, part of the College’s master building plan. With the gym gone, only one building remains from the College’s past.

The first classes in 1946 were held in “The Cotton Palace,” a building used as an exhibit hall for the fairgrounds. Renovated into classroom space, the building later became known as the Science Hall, and is now the Liberal Arts Building. It was the first building on campus, and now the only structure remaining from HCJC’s first years.

HCJC Gets a Gym
In 1948, the College moved a large army surplus building from Camp Howze near Gainesville onto the campus. It was renovated into an auditorium and used as a student activity center.

The college built a new administration building, which included an auditorium on one end, in 1951, and the former auditorium was renovated into a spectator gymnasium.

The stage continued to be used however until the building’s last days. Boarded from view from the gym, the Cardettes had access to the space through the Cardette Director’s Office. It was used for storage and a small dance studio.

The college made renovations to the gym in 1964 as part of the college’s building master plan at the time, adding ceiling tiles, a false ceiling over the gym floor and paneling to cover the bare boards on the walls.

The College completed Cardinal Gym in 1966, at which time the old gym became known as the Women’s Gym.

The last team to play conference games in the gym was the 1965-66 Cardinal Basketball team under first-year head coach Leon Spencer. The team won the Texas Eastern Conference championship, but was unable to compete in post-season play. Earlier that year, the football team, under head coach Bob Baccarini, went undefeated in the conference and competed in the 20th Annual Junior Rose Bowl Classic, violating a bowl agreement with NJCAA and resulting in a one-year probation for both football and basketball.

The gym was renamed the Alton Tompkins Gym in 1991 following Tompkins’s death earlier that year. Tompkins was the college’s first basketball coach and athletic director and was instrumental in the organization of HCJC in 1946.

The Tompkins Gym has been the training grounds for many champions. The Lady Cardinals got their start there as the HCJC Chicks under coach Connie Russell who led the charge to develop a conference league for the women and later coached the Cardinal Cheerleaders to five national championships.

The Chicks changed their name and bloomed into the team to beat under Gary Ashlock, who coached the Lady Cards to
five conference championships in his 12 years as coach. Joe Curl followed suit, winning two conference titles in his three seasons as head coach.

Kurt Budke’s Lady Cards, however, took the game to a new level, winning four national championships and earning six consecutive trips to the NJCAA National Tournament.

The Lady Cards won their fifth national title in 2004 under current coach Michael Landers.

The gym was also the staging area for the well-traveled Cardettes for many years, as they prepared for performances at home and abroad.

The Master Building Plan

The new classroom building that will replace Tompkins Gym is the third construction project of the current master building plan. TVCC has completed construction of the M.L. Risinger Learning Resource Center at TVCC–Terrell and the Football Field House in Athens.

The classroom building project will likely change the face of the Athens campus more than any other single project. Along with the building, the project includes a new plaza to replace parking now in the heart of the campus.

The plaza will provide students a place to gather and provide a more convenient and safer route between the various academic buildings and Learning Resource Center.

The building itself will house computer and drafting labs, classrooms, and faculty offices. The plaza is designed to complement the building architecture, making it a new focal point for the campus.

Other construction plans for the future include expansion of the Fine Arts Building, renovation of the current Technical Building, renovation of Cardinal Gym for use as a student activity center, and construction of a new spectator gymnasium.

Alton Leon (A.L.) Tompkins

Alton Tompkins was born near Kickapoo Creek, just outside of Brownsboro in 1904. He attended school in Edom and Brownsboro and entered Lon Morris College in Jacksonville to get an education and play basketball.

He worked his way through college feeding pigs and washing dishes for 25 cents an hour. He taught and coached in Brownsboro and later Cross Roads until World War II interrupted his career. He and his wife Jewell moved to Las Vegas to work in defense plants before returning to Cross Roads.

Tompkins was instrumental in the organization of Henderson County Junior College, and served as a teacher, coach and athletic director until 1952, when he became vice president.

Jewell joined him at HCJC later as his secretary and continued to work for him until he retired as vice-president and academic dean in 1971. Jewell continued to work for the College in the bookstore and post office.

Throughout his life, he remained an avid fan of Brownsboro and HCJC sports, attending every home game and many out-of-state games until his health no longer allowed him to do so. He and Jewell also held an annual fish fry for the college basketball players.

Tompkins was dedicated to his students, and to help keep them in school, would assist them in finding jobs, help financially or even help clothe them. All this was done confidentially. He served not only as a teacher, but he and Jewell served as second parents to many students even after their retirement.

Tompkins and Jewell were named Henderson County’s 1984 Senior Citizens of the Year. He served as president of the Henderson County Fair Board, the Henderson County Parks and Recreation Board, the Athens Kiwanis Club and the Athens Fish and Game Club, and was a founder and president of the Texas Basketball Hall of Fame. He was an active member of the First Baptist Church of Athens.

He was cited by the Texas Legislature several times for his community service and his contributions to young people.

Tompkins died March 6, 1991 at the age of 86. The Women’s Gym was renamed Alton Tompkins Gym later that year.
With two full recruiting classes for the first time in his tenure as head coach, Mark Sartain is the first to express a “no excuses” approach to the 2005 season. He has high expectations for the season with 32 returning lettermen, including 12 starters, and what appears to be another strong signing class.

The season is starting off well with a new 11,000 square-foot football complex that will greet players when they arrive on the Athens campus. The facility includes an impressive weight room as well as spacious training, locker and classroom facilities. Coaches’ offices have also been relocated to the new facility.

The Cardinal offense returns several key performers, including passing yardage leader, quarterback Thomas Cook, All-Conference performers wide receiver Torey Degrat, and fullback Thurman Blake. Also returning is tailback Anthony Carter, who finished the season as the third leading rusher in the conference.

Recruiting efforts focused on protection up front, and the Cardinals expect at least 12 offensive linemen to report this fall. The Cards may also receive some additional help at quarterback with 24-4A Player of the Year Ben McMahan of Austin.

All-Conference defensive tackle Freddie Barnett will anchor the Cardinal defense. He is one of only three returning starters, but Sartain is confident in his remaining returning sophomores and what he calls a “physical” freshman class.

Although there have been some new coaches added to the staff, it’s hard to say they are new faces. Most of the staff will be familiar to fans of TVCC and Athens High School sports.

Sartain is beginning his third season as head coach. He was offensive coordinator at TVCC in the 1990s and helped lead the Cards to the school’s first national title in 1994. He spent eight years as head coach and athletic director for the White Oak ISD before returning to TVCC.

Others with TVCC and Athens ties include defensive coordinator Corey Chancellor, who played for TVCC in 1987 and 88; offensive line coach Bob Majeski, who coached the Cards under Carl Andress, linebacker coach Cody Robinson, who was the leading tackler for the 2004 Cardinals, and Chris Gillert, a standout athlete at Athens High School in the early 1990s. Now in his third season with the Cardinals Nick Jones is moving from special teams coordinator and running backs coach into the role of offensive coordinator.

Can’t make a game? Catch it on KYYK 98.3 FM or www.kyyk.com

### 2005 CARDINAL FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

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<td>Aug. 27</td>
<td>@ Butler County College</td>
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<td>Sept. 3</td>
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<td>Sept. 10</td>
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<td>Sept. 17*</td>
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<td>Sept. 24*</td>
<td>@ Cisco</td>
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<td>Oct. 1*</td>
<td>Navarro (HOMECOMING)</td>
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<td>Oct. 8*</td>
<td>@ Blinn</td>
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<td>Kilgore</td>
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<td>Oct. 22*</td>
<td>@ Tyler</td>
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<td>Nov. 5</td>
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<td>Dec. 3</td>
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*Southwest Junior College Football Conference Games
The Trinity Valley Community College Cardinal Cheerleaders are back on top.

The team won the National Cheerleaders Association Junior College Division Championship April 8 in Daytona Beach, Fla., the college’s eighth NCA title. The win gives TVCC the most national championships of any college in any NCA division. The win is Cheerleader Coach Lucy Strom’s first national championship. She assumed responsibility for the team in the fall of 2002, following back-to-back championships in 2001 and 2002 under then cheer coach Shannon Davidson.

The Cardinal Cheerleaders advanced to the final round after posting the highest score of the division in the preliminary competition.

“They cleaned up a couple of baubles they had on Thursday, so it was a very clean performance,” Strom said following the final round. “It was a great performance, and they definitely earned the championship trophy.”

TVCC scored a 9.04 in the finals, finishing ahead of defending national champs Navarro College, who scored an 8.87. TVCC and Navarro have now traded places at the top of the NCA Junior College Division three times since 2000.


The division is now dominated by Texas schools, with four of the five teams in the finals coming from Northeast Texas. Kilgore College finished third with 8.11, and Weatherford – new to the NCA championships this year – finished fifth with 7.66. The only non-Texan in the bunch was Barton County Community College (Kans.), who finished fourth with 8.03.

Choreographer Tyson Thomas from Cougars’ All Star Gym in Dallas designed TVCC’s winning routine. This is Thomas’ second year as choreographer for the team.

“I’m just so proud of all of them,” Strom said. “They were a really great group, and that was easy to see from the beginning. We’ll have several back next year, and from what I’ve seen so far, we’re going to be very strong again, especially in tumbling.”
Trinity Valley Community College has partnered with an experienced world traveler and antique dealer to offer a unique educational and shopping experience in London, England this winter.

In fact, the new partnership may take travelers to interesting destinations all over the globe.

“London is just an easy first trip,” Tom Page, who will serve as expert guide and antique advisor for the trip, said. “We speak the same language, and the timing of this is convenient for people who want to do some Christmas shopping.”

Page is the key feature to TVCC Community Services’ new venture which even bears his name, The TVCC Travel Page.

The TVCC Travel Page, will emphasize education, with opportunities to visit museums and historical sites, but will also afford travelers time to venture out on their own as well.

“This isn’t a guided tour,” Page is quick to point out. “There is plenty of free time to do what ever you want.”

Page has covered the globe in search of antiques. He has developed contacts everywhere he has traveled, and is making these trips to offer his expertise and help those unfamiliar with the cities they will visit.

His experience and knowledge of history has helped him gain access to museum curators and sites not normally viewed by the public.

“That’s the kind of thing I’d like to do on these trips,” Page said. “I can make some calls and arrange some interesting things to do that you may not have the opportunity to do traveling on your own.”

The trip is scheduled for Nov. 30-Dec. 7. The cost, including airfare, hotels and insurance, is $3,500. Those interested should contact TVCC prior to September 14. An information session for this trip is scheduled for September 7.

Page will be along to share his considerable knowledge of both the area and of antiques. He can help to authenticate items, make sure buyers get what they pay for, and help arrange to have the items shipped home.

“I hope we can arrange about four trips a year like this,” Page said. “There are so many places that are interesting to go. I think there would be interest in a photography trip to Africa, and I would love to arrange something like that.”

TVCC Dean of Community Services Gayla Roberts said they are in on-going discussions about future trips. They are currently working on a trip to Copper Canyon, Mexico for the spring, but other possible trips include Italy, a garden tour of England, canal cruises in Germany and France, and Kenya.

“We’re fortunate to have come across someone like Tom,” Roberts said. “I don’t know that we could have ever been able to offer something like this without someone with his knowledge and his willingness to share it.”

Page is a recognized antique expert and has been featured in many publications, including Veranda, Traditional Homes and Southern Accents. He has also testified numerous times as an expert witness in court cases involving antiques and has conducted antique appraisal events, similar to the popular Antiques Road Show.

Page was working as a banker in Houston when he decided to combine his love for travel and history and purchase an antique shop in Dallas. For the next 23 years, he ran the Heirloom House and traveled the world in search of unique items, sometimes accompanied by customers looking to furnish their homes.

Although he has a keen interest in 17th and 19th century items, his personal collection includes items from many periods, even ancient Egyptian artifacts and a fossilized nest of dinosaur eggs.

Page moved to Corsicana and made the commute back and forth to Dallas for years before retiring about three years ago. Then he sold his home and moved to Athens in 2003.

But Page isn’t one to sit still for long, so he contacted the college about arranging educational, cultural and shopping trips. It wasn’t long before he was sitting with Roberts at Athens Travel Store to plan their first trip.

“We’re really excited about being able to offer this,” Roberts said. “This is unlike anything we’ve done before, and once we know what people are interested in, we can arrange trips to other places. The best thing is Tom has been just about everywhere, so wherever we go, he knows people there and knows the area.”

An orientation including an overview of events, and possible side trips that will be available, will be scheduled prior to each trip. To enroll, contact the TVCC Community Services Office at 903-675-6212.
FOUNDATION SCHOLARS
Fund to help 18 more students attend TVCC this fall

The Trinity Valley Community College Endowed Foundation Scholarships will reach more deserving students this year.

This is the second year TVCC has been able to award scholarships from the fund after beginning the Enhancing Opportunity and Excellence through Endowment capital campaign in 2002. The five year goal of Phase One of the campaign is $3 million.

Using the interest from the scholarship fund, TVCC awarded the first 12 scholarships last fall. This fall 18 students will receive scholarships, and the College has added two new named scholarships – the Cain Endowed Academic Scholarship and the Hubert and Audrey Wilbur Endowed Fine Arts Scholarship.

Other scholarships made available through the Foundation are the Ginger Murchison Endowed Academic Scholarship, Archie and June Dennis Endowed Math & Science Scholarship, Willard and Sarah George Endowed Business Scholarship, and the Opportunity and Excellence Endowed Academic Scholarship.

Recipients of the 2005 scholarships are:

Ginger Murchison Endowed Academic Scholarship (four scholarships):
- Barton Cameron Routt of Malakoff is a graduate of Malakoff High School and plans a career in agricultural education.
- Robert Louis Russ of Eustace is a graduate of Eustace High School and plans a career in law.
- Stacy Lee Walker of Kaufman is a graduate of Kaufman High School and plans a career in photography.
- Misty Dawn Woodruff of Tennessee Colony is a graduate of Cayuga High School and plans a career in nursing.

Archie and June Dennis Endowed Math & Science Scholarship (two scholarships):
- Jessica Diane Haynes of Eustace is a graduate of Eustace High School and plans to study animal biology and literature at TVCC.
- Sara Marie Bell of Tool is a graduate of Malakoff High School and plans a career in forensic anthropology.

Opportunity and Excellence Endowed Academic Scholarship (six scholarships):
- Emily Ann Camp of Palestine is a graduate of Palestine High School and plans a career as a mathematics teacher.
- Dashiel Evan Hinds of Athens is a graduate of Athens High School and a pre-engineering major at TVCC.

The money for these scholarships has been provided by faculty and staff of TVCC, individual members of the community, and various organizations and businesses. The names of those who have given at least $1,000 are engraved on leaves of the Tree of Opportunity and Excellence, on permanent display in the Orval Pirtle Administration Building. Those who have donated $10,000 or more have their names engraved on stones at the base of the tree.

With a two years left in the first phase of the capital campaign, the Foundation has raised $1.25 million.

TVCC Assistant to the President David Hubbard said the Foundation is developing plans to expand fund-raising events into Anderson County and to more actively pursue outside Foundation participation in the campaign.

Events held this year helped raise $13,000 for scholarships. Events included the second annual golf tournament and a Texas Aloha Luau wine and cheese event. The Athens Central Business Association, for the second consecutive year, also donated proceeds from the Uncle Fletch Hamburger Cook-Off to the scholarship fund.

The TVCC team, by the way, is now the three-time hamburger cook-off champion.
The Trinity Valley Community College chapter of Phi Theta Kappa was again named among the top chapters in the region and internationally.

Phi Theta Kappa, the honor society for two-year colleges, held its Texas Region and international conventions concurrently in Grapevine this past spring. The TVCC chapter, Iota Alpha, ranked among the top 12 chapters in the state and in the top 25 among some 1,200 chapters internationally.

Iota Alpha also garnered several awards at both conventions, receiving special recognition for its service projects. The chapter was represented at the conventions by 26 members from all four TVCC campuses in Athens, Kaufman, Palestine, and Terrell. Chapter President Kim Fellner of Mahan won the Outstanding Chapter President Award at the regional convention and was recognized as one of 20 students to win the Guistwhite Scholarship and as one of 60 students named to the All-USA Two-Year College Academic Team during the international convention.

TVCC President Ron Baugh won the Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction. This award recognizes college presidents for their support of Phi Theta Kappa members, scholarships, advisors and functions. Iota Alpha advisor Dale Cates won the Robert Giles Distinguished Advisor Award. This award is based on an advisor’s service and leadership and is reserved for advisors who have served at least five years. Cates is a science instructor at TVCC.

The Cardinal Cheerleaders won the National Cheerleaders Association Junior College Division Championship in Daytona Beach, Fla. on April 8. It was TVCC’s eighth since 1989 and third since 2001. They now hold more national titles than any other cheer team in any division.

Richard Sanders, regional director for the Fifth Congressional District, read Hensarling’s statement and gave each cheerleader a copy during a brief ceremony at TVCC.

U.S. Congressman Jeb Hensarling wanted to make sure the eight-time national champion Cardinal Cheerleaders received due recognition for their accomplishments.

So their success is now a part of the Congressional Record. Hensarling entered a statement congratulating the team on its win on April 28, naming the individual members and team coach Lucy Strom.
TVCC INSTRUCTOR NAMED TO GREAT 100 NURSES LIST

TVCC nursing instructor Judy Callicoatt has been named among the Great 100 Nurses of Dallas/Fort Worth by the Texas Nurses Association.

Callicoatt is the Freshman Team Leader at the TVCC Health Science Center in Kaufman and has worked many years for Doctor’s Hospital in Dallas.

A 26-year veteran of nursing, Callicoatt is a licensed clinical nurse specialist who has worked in many areas in hospital settings and continued to work part-time for Doctor’s Hospital for most of her 10-year teaching career at TVCC. She still volunteers at a health-based clinic.

The Great 100 Nurses are selected from more than 600 nominated registered nurses considered role models and who make a significant difference in nursing, their hospital and the lives of patients, peers and their community, according to the TNA.

Those selected for the honor were recognized at a gala held at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center in Dallas.

TVCC GROUPS PART OF SHOW BROADCAST FOR TROOPS IN IRAQ

The Trinity Valley Community College Beef Cattle Show Team earned the Good Herdsman Award for the fifth consecutive year during the Houston Livestock Show this past spring.

The team competes in the Charolais division and earned numerous ribbons this spring in Houston and an earlier show at the 2005 Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show in Fort Worth.

The Good Herdsman Award is a prestigious honor and difficult to win since it takes constant vigilance. For the award, students are judged on how well they keep the livestock and exhibits throughout the show.

During the fall semester, the team competed in the State Fair of Louisiana and the East Texas State Fair in Tyler, where they also won numerous awards, including two reserve grand champion awards in Louisiana, and a grand champion award and the Herdsman Award in Tyler.

TVCC SHOW TEAM EARN TOP HONORS AT HOUSTON LIVESTOCK SHOW

TVCC STUDENTS WIN AT NATIONAL SPEECH TOURNAMENT

TVCC Forensics Team members Sal Garcia and Theresa Baldwin were among the winners in the Phi Rho Pi National Tournament held recently in Philadelphia, Pa.

Garcia and Baldwin presented their interpretations of speeches as part of the Phi Rho Pi National Tournament. Garcia is a graduate of Seminole High School, and Baldwin is a graduate of Hempstead High School. The two advanced to the national competition along with fellow team members Matt Ontiveros of Richmond, Jake Flores of Richmond, Chase Wooldridge of Georgetown, B.K. Goodman of Denison and Daly Powers of Spring.

During the fall semester, the TVCC Forensics Team finished second overall in the Texas Community College Speech and Theatre Association Tournament.
THE VALLEY

ALUMNI AWARDS
TVCC to honor former students, friends at Homecoming

MOST OUTSTANDING ALUM
Jack Holland

Judge Jack Holland didn’t let any moss grow under his feet. Shortly after retiring as 173rd District Judge after 36 years of service, he was sworn in as municipal judge in Gun Barrel City.

Holland holds the record for the longest sitting district judge in Henderson County, and retirement wasn’t even his idea. At 75, he had reached the age limit set by state law for a judge in active court.

Holland grew up in Athens, played football in high school and attended HCJC before enrolling at the University of North Texas in 1947. At the age of 19, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force, where he served one year on active duty and six in the reserves.

He graduated in 1952 with a degree in social sciences and worked a few months with an auto finance company in Houston before deciding to attend law school at the University of Texas.

He graduated from UT in 1955, passed the bar and got a job as a trust officer for Frost National Bank in San Antonio. He and his wife, Jean, moved back to Athens in 1959 and he began to practice law. Over the next 10 years, he also served as city judge and was elected county attorney.

In 1969, he was appointed to the 173rd District Court, which at that time covered Henderson, Anderson and Houston counties. As caseloads increased, the responsibilities for these areas were divided, and in the 1980s, the 173rd court covered only Henderson County.

The following year, he ran for the position in the general election, won the race and has held the seat uncontested since.

Holland is active in numerous area organizations including the Athens Rotary Club, Masonic Lodge, and Athens Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, and he and his wife, Jean, are members of the First United Methodist Church.

RED AND WHITE AWARD
Patrice Walker

Patrice Walker never thought of herself as an author, but she always loved to write. It took a $1.57 bottle of water and a family tragedy to inspire her to share her gift with others.

The result is her first book, “When Water Was Free”, a nostalgic and honest look at her life and how life in America has changed since her childhood days growing up in Athens.

It began when she stopped at a convenience store and bought a bottle of water that she “almost couldn’t afford.” Then her two daughters were involved in a car accident that took the life of their father, Walker’s ex-husband.

The experience left her pondering the things that were most dear to her – her family and her faith – and drove her desire to leave her children with something about her life and the lessons she had learned.

What started as a “love letter” to her children became a wonderful gift to readers everywhere. Self-published under her printing imprint, SimDen Publishing, the book takes the reader through highly personal experiences in Walker’s life, some good, some tragic, some humorous. All held valuable lessons for her.

Walker describes the book as “an afternoon conversation with the reader which takes place on my mother’s front porch, in Athens.”

Walker graduated from Athens High School, was in the band at TVCC and marched in the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade.

She is working on other projects, including a companion journal for her book and a book to herald the stories on extraordinary women. She also travels for lectures and book signings and was a guest speaker at two cultural and literary events at TVCC last year.

CARDINAL AMBASSADOR AWARD
Jean and Debbie Baker

For more than a decade, Jean and Debbie Baker guided the Cardettes not only in halftime performances, but in performances around the world.

Under the Bakers, the Cardettes traveled to France, Switzerland and Russia and performed aboard the SS Emerald Seas cruise ship to Nassau, Bahamas. They also traveled across the U.S., performing in...
New York, Philadelphia, Miami, Hollywood and New Orleans, as well as the Sun Bowl in El Paso, State Farm National Convention in Dallas and Governor Ann Richards’ inauguration parade in Austin.

Jean also designed the uniforms still in use today, including the now trademark red hats. She also instituted the well-known “thank you” Cardette response.

Jean came to TVCC in 1983 from Quinlan High School, where she was director of the Bluebells drill team. As part of the deal, she brought her daughter, Debbie, along with her as choreographer.

Jean served as director for 12 years. Following her retirement, Debbie stepped in as director and remained at TVCC another five years.

Since retirement, Jean said she has been enjoying life, works part-time for a local doctor, volunteers at East Texas Medical Center-Athens, and travels.

“All those years traveling with the Cardettes really sticks with you,” she said. “Before we got on the plane, I had to check that everyone had their boarding pass.”

Of her time at TVCC, she said the trip to Moscow, Russia was the highlight. It was still early in Russia’s transition, and people were struggling with a new form of government and economy.

“Being in Red Square at that time was almost a surreal experience,” she said. “But even though it was a hard time for them, they still loved their arts, and made time for it.”

While Debbie worked as choreographer, she also attended classes. She graduated from TVCC in 1986 and completed the Associate Degree Nursing program in 1990. As a sophomore, she received the National Collegiate Nursing Award.

After leaving TVCC, she put her nursing skills to use for a while, working for a local doctor. She earned her teaching certificate from LeTourneau University in 2002 and has taught fourth and fifth grade classes over the last four years. In 2005-06, she will teach at Athens Middle School. She also served as advisor for the Athens High School Slingerettes for one year.

Last year, her fifth grade class nominated her for the Disney Hand Teacher Award.

CARDINAL AMBASSADOR AWARD
Ray and Ann Raymond

Ray and Ann Raymond are former HCJCTVCC students and have long taken an active role in promoting the College and its fund-raising efforts.

Ray was appointed to the TVCC Board of Trustees in 2000, filling the unexpired term of the late George Becker, who had often suggested to Raymond that he would make a good board member. He serves as vice president of the board and serves on the Foundation Board.

He and Ann are eager to assist with any college event, especially if it involves fundraising for scholarships.

Both Ray and Ann are graduates of Mabank High School and attended the College.

Ray finished his junior college work in 1957 and attended Texas A&M-Commerce, working toward a degree in agriculture education. He worked with former TVCC Board President Andrew Gibbs as a bookkeeper at Tri-County Ford before going to work with the Kaufman County Electric Cooperative, where he served in various positions, including 30 years as general manager.

When a neighboring college district made plans to move into Kaufman County, Ray worked with a committee of community leaders to promote Kaufman County being included in the TVCC district. He later worked to help the Kaufman Hospital become a satellite of Presbyterian Hospital and bring the TVCC Health Science Center to Kaufman.

He has helped bring about change in many other ways in Kaufman County, as well. Ray organized the Kaufman County Solid Waste Cooperative in 1996, directed the consolidation of New Era Electric Cooperative and Kaufman County Electric Cooperative to form Trinity Valley Electric Cooperative in 1997, was a founder of the Kaufman County Leadership Council and helped organize the Kaufman County Rural Fire District No. 1. Ray retired from the Electric Coop in 1997 and worked six years for Bank of Texas and Wells Fargo Bank in public relations, and is now retired from ReMax Homeland Realty in Kaufman.

In his 45 years in the Kaufman area, Ray has served on numerous civic organizations and was named the 1996 Kaufman Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year. He currently serves as Chairman of the Kaufman County Veterans Memorial Park Committee. A park is being built in Kaufman, and the dedication date is set for November of this year.

Ann attended the College from 1957-1959 and was active in band, choral club, Kappa Alpha Pi, Phi Theta Kappa, Future Teachers of America and Student Council, and was named to Who’s Who, Miss Future Teacher and was a homecoming queen nominee.

She and Ray were married in 1959, and after their children were born she attended Texas A&M-Commerce and received a B.S. degree in 1969.

She taught in elementary grades and retired from Kaufman ISD in 1998 with 21 years of teaching in Kaufman and four years at Kemp ISD. She served the last three years of her career as Dean of Students for J. W. Monday Elementary School in Kaufman.

While teaching at Kemp ISD, she was selected Teacher of the Year. She is a member of the Presbyterian Hospital Auxiliary, where she has served as President and is now serving as Treasurer, and is a member of the Kaufman Study Club, where she has served as President and is currently Secretary and Reporter.

The Raymonds are members of the First Baptist Church of Kaufman. They have a son, Tommy Jack Raymond, daughter-in-law, Stephani, a grandson, Kyle Ray, 8, and a granddaughter, Jordan, 14.
MEMORIES
Recent thoughts and updates from alumni
For other memories, visit our website: www.tvcc.edu/alumni

40’s
Odell “Legs” Jordan, Class of ’49, passed away on January 24, 2005 in Groveton, Texas. He was a 4 sport letterman at HCJC and was voted “Best All Around Boy” in 1949. His many accomplishments over the years included: basketball and football coach at Graham High School. He had lived the past twenty three years in Trinity County, Texas, where he owned and operated his own business.

Grady Ellis, Class of ’72, who had lived with his family in Jacksonville, Texas for many years and owned and operated Jacksonville Animal Hospital, died on August 31, 2004 after a lengthy battle with cancer.

Jana Meyer, Class of ’76, was a member of Student Education Association and was nominated for Who’s Who in AAJC. She now lives in Dallas, Texas.

Les Pepin, Class of ’72, is retired from the military and he and his wife Brenda live in Rusk, Texas. When he attended HCJC, he was a two year member of the Cardinal Band.

90’s
Becky Myers Alambar, Class of ’91, was a former Cardette and was a member of Student Senate. She is married to Bert Alambar and they have been married ten years. They have two children, Brody and Brittany. She has a photography studio in Krum, Texas.

Mark Brown, Class of ’93, lives in Carthage, Texas. His address is 110 Bird Drive, 75633. He coaches and teaches at Marshall High School.

James Lawson, lives in Freeport, Texas. His address is 703 West 4th Street, Freeport, TX 77541.

80’s
Karen Adams Harrington, Class of ’83, was a Cardette Officer and involved in speech and drama. She was also a member of Phi Theta Kappa. After leaving HCJC, she graduated from Wayland Baptist University with a BS degree in Business Administration. Karen has been married to Patrick Benton Harrington for 17 years. They met while both were enlist ed in the U.S. Air Force. Currently, they live in Hawaii and will be there for the next three years. They have a 16 year old daughter and a 9 year old son.

Patti Rakestraw Lightfoot, Class of ’84 was a Cardette Officer in ’83-’84. She graduated from UT-Tyler with a degree in Elementary Education. She has taught for 17 years and currently teaches kindergarten for the Murchison ISD, near Athens. She has a teenage son and daughter.

Cheryl Byrd Smitherman, Class of ’86, remembers her days in Cardettes and serving as co-captain. She is married with 3 children. She is currently the manager for Labor and Delivery at Baylor Medical Center in Irving, Texas.

Patrice Kissentaner Walker, Class of ’86, now lives in Dallas.

70’s
Thomas Ray Brown, Jr., Class of ’77, lives in Metairie, LA. His address is 704 Melody Drive, Metairie, LA 70002.

Rod Dickerson, Class of ’73, was in the Cardinal Band and Student Senate. He now lives in Little Rock, AR.

C. L. Hocker, Class of ’63, lives in Georgetown, Texas.

60’s
H. James Hill, Class of ’64, after leaving HCJC, received his BS degree from the University of Nevada-Reno and his M Ed from the University of Nevada-Las Vegas. From 1967-1977, he taught high school government, history, business and was a basketball coach. From 1970-1977, he taught on a part time basis at Clark County Community College. Since 1977, he has served as special education teacher, athletic director, principal of Pioche Elementary School and director of Special Education Services of Lincoln County School District. He is now retired and works as a part time educational consultant for the same school district. He is married to Edith and they have 9 children. They reside in Panaca, NV.

80’s
Stephen Magee, Class of ’98, was a member of the Cardinal Regiment and the TVCC Choir. He now lives in Mesquite, Texas.

Henry McClendon, Class of ’94, is serving our country in Kuwait. He is a Captain in the Army and is currently deployed to support Operation Iraqi Freedom. He has been away from the states for some time and does not know when he will return. He lives in Japan with his wife and two children.

Michael Pierce, Class of ’97, was a member of the Cardinal Regiment and the TVCC Choir. He now lives in Mesquite, Texas.

Roderick Shelby, Class of ’94, was a member of the 1994 National Champion Cardinal Football team. His address is P.O. Box 4151, Shreveport, LA 71134.
### MEMORIES ...continued

#### 00’s

| **Stephanie Cooksey**, was a member of the Cardinal Regiment, TVCC Choir and PTK. She now attends Sam Houston State University. |
| **John Douglas**, was a member of the Cardinal Regiment and the TVCC Choir. He now lives in Huntsville, Texas and attends Sam Houston State University. |
| **Jeff “Smiley” Mallory**, Class of ’00, played football at TVCC and later attended Texas Southern University and played football there, received his Bachelors in Design Technology degree in 2003. He is currently in the graduate program at TSU and is doing an internship with the Office of Mobility in Houston. |
| **Sheradon Robbins**, Class of ’03, is currently attending The University of Texas at Austin. She is in the nursing school’s professional sequence program, working toward her BSN degree. She has been named to the University Honors List and a member of the UTNSA. |
| **Jessica Shields**, Class of ’02, was a member of the Cardinal Regiment and now lives in Dallas. |
| **Christina Smith**, Class of ’01, and former drum major of the Cardinal Regiment Band & a member of the TVCC Choir, completed her degree at SFA-Nacogdoches in December 2002 and now serves as seventh grade band director with the Henderson, Texas ISD. She married in December 2003 and now resides in Nacogdoches, Texas. |

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$25.00

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*Join the HCJC-TVCC Alumni Association Today!*
HOMECOMING 2005 SCHEDULE
Honoring all former Cardettes

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2005

9:00 a.m. — HCJC-TVCC Alumni Association Breakfast
(All are welcome to attend.)
- TVCC Cafeteria Conference Room
- Reservations Required*
- Cost $6.00

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. — Alumni Luncheon
- Student Union Ballroom
- For all former students
- Former Cardettes will be showcased
- Distinguished alumni will be honored
- Reservations required*
- Cost $8.00

2:30 p.m. — Pre game Activities
- Presentation of Homecoming finalists and crowning of queen

3:00 p.m.— Cardinal Football vs. Navarro
- Alumni award winners and former cardettes honored at half-time

*For reservations, call 903-670-2620 or e-mail dhubbard@tvcc.edu