

INTOUCH

Trinidad State Junior College

Student Focused Servant Leadership

Interim President, Felix Lopez

Hits the Ground Running





MAKING HEADLINES

Trinidad State Junior College
Educational Foundation

600 Prospect
Campus Box 204
Trinidad, CO 81082
1-800-621-8752, Ext. 5520
Fax 719-846-5489

Foundation Board of Directors

Kim Lucero, President
Mike McMillan, Vice President
John Garcia, Secretary/Treasurer
Don Anderson, Member
Mimi Zappanti, Member

Members

Vibeke Adkisson
Jack Bearden
Toney Cantu
Crist Cunico
Gerri DeAngelis
Laura DeBella
Joey DeGarbo
Mary Lee DeGarbo
Pete Deluca
Mike Dixon
Jennie Garduno
Leslie Gerbracht
Charlotte Kilpatrick
Howard Lackey
Charles Latuda
Bruce MacLiver
Jeff Mangino
Jonathan Mangino
Leroy Martinez
Sisto Mazza
Monty McGowen
Dan Nuschy
George Newnam
Robert Rubidoux
Kathryn Rubin
Cheryl Santi
Harry Sayre
John Tarabino
Ed Trommter

Emeritus Members

Lorraine Azar
Roy Boyd (deceased)
Robert Dixon
Richard Loudon (deceased)

Associate Members

Mike Bailey
John Didero
Sandi Dotter
William Kancilia
Richard Sawaya

Ex-Officio Members

Felix Lopez,
Interim President, TSJC
Toni DeAngelis,
Executive Director



Interim President, Felix Lopez

The 85th anniversary celebration of Trinidad State Junior College is upon us. As the oldest college in the State of Colorado, Trinidad State Junior College is the jewel of Southern Colorado. TSJC has served the Trinidad area since 1925 and Alamosa since 1994. For many students in Southern Colorado, the only opportunity to benefit from the higher education experience begins and ends at TSJC. For many more, TSJC has become the place to start an educational career that leads them into some of the most prestigious schools in the United States. Countless students have given testament to TSJC as the catalyst for their current success. In the words of a graduate from the class of 1961, Mr. Jethro McCoy, "If it were not for Trinidad State Junior College I would not be here today" giving full credit where his educational, life building skills, and athletic opportunity began; a true measure of institutional success. Personally TSJC

afforded me an opportunity to begin my journey through higher education. Now, I have the privilege of guiding students as they walk through their own educational path.

In light of the historic and unprecedented financial challenges now confronting Colorado and the nation's colleges and universities, there must be new strategies to revolutionize higher education into a new way of doing business. Colleges and universities will have to maintain or improve efficiency with diminished resources; remain affordable and available despite heightened financial pressures; and clearly demonstrate the outcomes of the teaching and learning process. A college wide articulation agreement with Colorado State University at Pueblo is well underway to articulate most of the programs TSJC offers, thus providing a clear advantage to our students.

In these challenging times, it is imperative to provide students the necessary skills to enter the workforce as well as transfer into four year colleges. Although the economy begins to show signs of stabilizing, higher education in Colorado will face a financial balancing act to counter current budget deficits. Trinidad State Junior College continues to work hard to sustain enrollment growth, quality of education and a paramount level of customer service.

Stop by my office, or any office at the Trinidad or Alamosa campus where we are ready to listen attentively to any questions or concerns you may have. As faculty and staff, our responsibility is to provide educational excellence to our students and community to make TSJC an even better place to start.

Respectfully yours,
Felix M. Lopez
Interim President

IN TOUCH

Volume 17, Number 1 Fall 2009

In Touch is published twice a year by the Trinidad State Junior College Educational Foundation. Publication dates may vary according to the College's calendar, events, scheduling and funding. Please contact the Alumni/Foundation office with any additions or corrections.

Alumni/Foundation Office
Phone: 719-846-5520 Fax: 719-846-5489
Toll Free: 1-800-621-TSJC
Web site: www.trinidadstate.edu

Interim President	Felix Lopez
Editor	Toni DeAngelis
Writers	Kathy Donnelly, Jenna Mangino, Mike Salbato
Graphic Designer	Andrea Hedges
Cover Photo	David Barrack

The InTouch Magazine was published with support through funds from the Colorado Enterprise Zone Marketing Grant.

2009 YEAR IN REVIEW



Robert Philbin

Robert Philbin Named TSJC Faculty of the Year – Trinidad Campus

Professor of Physics, Robert Philbin, was named TSJC Faculty of the Year for 2009. Philbin has taught physics, math, computer science, and astronomy at TSJC since 1991. He earned his BS in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines and his Master's degree in Astrophysical Sciences from Princeton University. His research at the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory was numerical computation of electron distributions in weakly-ionized plasmas.

Ted Smith Named TSJC Faculty of the Year – Alamosa Campus

TSJC Valley Campus Faculty of the Year for 2009 was Ted Smith. Smith earned a BS degree in 1984 from Colorado State University in Ft. Collins in Fishery Biology with concentration in Aquaculture. Ted currently instructs 50 credit hours in fish culture

coursework, encompassing all aspects of production aquaculture ranging from "the biology to the business" of finfish and other products of aquacultural significance.



Ted Smith

Woods Student Success Center

June 30th marked the dedication of the Ruth Ann Woods Student Success Center (SSC). The Center was dedicated in recognition of her commitment to fostering lifelong learning and success among students. The mission of the SSC is to enhance academic opportunities and support for all students to increase retention, graduation, articulation agreements, and transfer of TSJC's diverse student population. Woods thanked the community members who made charitable contributions to the project and the TSJC staff who all had a part in making the SSC a reality.

STEM Grant Update

By September 2010, the goals of the TSJC Transforming STEM grant are to train faculty in new STEM coursework; purchase equipment for science and math laboratories and classrooms; complete the Success Center on the Alamosa Campus; integrate video-on-demand technology; promote the Environmental Engineering Program; and develop new STEM courses. To date, nearly \$30,000 has been contributed towards the \$100,000 endowment challenge grant goal for STEM program and scholarship support. *For more information on how you can help us reach our \$100,000 goal, please contact the Foundation Office.*

George Leone Classroom and Lab

TSJC and the family of George Leone proudly recognized and honored a colleague, friend, father and husband, George Leone, for his devotion to helping students learn his passions - Math and Science. With the Leone family's generous gift and STEM funding, the space was transformed into a state-of-the-art classroom and lab. George's commitment and dedication to the students and staff at TSJC is still acknowledged by the TSJC family and throughout the community. Thank you, Leone Family!

Dr. Marci Bowers Nursing Lab

Dr. Marci Bowers made a generous donation to purchase equipment for a "Smart Classroom" for the nursing lab at the Trinidad Campus. Our nursing students now have the benefit of an enhanced learning environment to better prepare them in the skills necessary for the future. Thank you, Dr. Bowers!

Pioneer Natural Resources Room

The new Pioneer room is testimony to the great business-higher education teamwork, collaboration and partnerships that went into its symbolic renovation and renaming. Pioneer Natural Resources contributed funds for the new technology in the Pioneer Room located in the Sullivan Student Center where meetings are held for College and public use. Thank you, Pioneer!

Athletic Reunion

The athletic reunion held this past summer for the classes 1960-65 may have been small in participation, but the experience for those that attended was uplifting. From the memories that came flooding back upon walking up the steps to the Berg Building for registration to seeing each other in some cases after more than forty years, the chatter and tales told over the course of the weekend were priceless! While the stories may have been slightly embellished, it was a blast to listen about the games and the experiences on and off the field of play! Jethro McCoy even provided the play-by-play on an old game film. Thank you to Jethro, Jess Willis, and Felix Duplessis for suggesting the reunion!



The Only "Hands On" Third Year Program in the Nation

Trinidad State Junior College and Brownells announce historic program

Trinidad State Junior College (TSJC) Interim President Felix Lopez and Pete Brownell, President of Brownells, the world's largest supplier of firearm accessories, gun parts and gunsmithing tools, have announced an innovative partnership to launch an advanced (3rd year) gunsmithing program beginning January 2010.

Trinidad State's respected two-year gunsmithing school was established in 1947, and is believed to be the first of its kind ever offered by a college in the United



Pete Brownell, President of Brownell's



Felix Lopez, Interim President of TSJC and Speedy Gonzalez, Gunsmithing Instructor accept the Brownell check.

States. It attracted capacity enrollment, dominated by veterans of World War II.

Throughout the ensuing 62 years, TSJC has built a world-wide reputation for the excellence of its program with the firearms industry, which has supported the program by many generous donations, and been quick to hire TSJC's accomplished gunsmithing graduates.

Once again, TSJC is taking the lead in developing a program to meet the needs of industry when the Brownells Trinidad American Firearms Technology Institute opens its doors on the 3rd floor of TSJC's Banta building in January.

The partnership and relationship between TSJC and Brownells has developed and grown in recent years. In 2007, Brownells was named to the Trinidad State Junior College 'Captains of Industry' hall of fame after donating a CNC milling machine along with computer workstations and software to the college. In 2008, Brownells made a donation of \$40,000 which was used to purchase two new Bridgeport-type milling machines and a variety of other needed tools for the gunsmithing program.

Development of the Brownells Trinidad American Firearms Technology Institute began with conversations between the College and representatives from Brownells about the need in the industry for gunsmithing graduates who not only understand firearms, but also the business side of gunsmithing, including retail sales, inventory control, counter sales, customer service, and dealing with vendors and management. Brownells' President, Pete Brownell, shared his vision for this program to reflect real world employment in a working gun shop environment.

With the needs of the industry in mind, the Trinidad State Junior College Gunsmithing Department Advisory Committee began work on developing a 3rd year gunsmithing curriculum and resolving challenges to bring this program to fruition such as student employees, retail sales on campus, a location for the program, and start-up funding.

To start the program, Brownells has donated \$250,000 for facilities remodeling and needed inventory and equipment for the 3rd year students who will provide gun repair, parts, and services for local gun enthusiasts, hunters, and for nearby NRA Whittington Center in Raton, New Mexico.

'Gunsmithing Business Practices' and 'Gunsmithing Shop Management' will be taught through modules instructed year round by experts directly involved in the industry. "The goal of the 3rd year program is for graduates to be ready for employment directly out of school," said Lopez. Gunsmiths already employed and even gun shop owners and managers may choose to attend certain modules of particular interest.

"This third year program allows our students to gain entrepreneurial skills that will make them not just successful gunsmiths, but savvy business leaders," said Dr. Sandy Veltri, Vice President Student/Academic Affairs.

In addition to its 2-year Gunsmithing Program and the upcoming addition of the 3rd year program, Brownells Trinidad American Firearms Institute, TSJC also conducts a Summer NRA Gunsmithing Program that offers short-term summer courses designed for anyone interested in learning gunsmithing and the art forms that have been associated with gunsmithing as a hobby or a vocation.

For more information about the gunsmithing programs offered at Trinidad State Junior College, please visit the website at www.trinidadstate.edu, or call Lynette Bates at 719 846-5650.

ALAMOSA NEWS

State patrol breaks ground on new SLV headquarters

Partnership Between State Agencies

Col. James Wolfinbarger, Chief of the Colorado State Patrol, said the agency's new regional office in Alamosa would be a significant upgrade over the current office, which the state patrol has occupied since 1938. The \$3.1 million building is expected to be finished in March.



As a direct result of collaborative efforts between Trinidad State Junior College and the Colorado State Patrol (CSP), the patrol will be moving to a new facility in the San Luis Valley in the spring. The CSP has been stationed at its current location since 1938 and has experienced hazardous working conditions and tight quarters for a number of years. Members of the patrol are excited about their new home which will provide additional office space, safer working conditions, and state-of-the-art communications equipment. Donald Naccarato, who serves as the Communications Director for the patrol, illustrated what the current working conditions are like for the employees, "fourteen full-time communication personnel in a room that's the size of a lot of peoples' closets." In addition, the building will provide the investigations unit, motor carrier safety office, and the hazardous materials unit with sufficient office space to run their operations. Overall, the new location will be 8,000 square feet and provide office space for troopers, dispatchers and support staff members.

In 2004, TSJC received a donation of a 5 acre parcel from SLV businessmen Butch Southway and Leroy Martinez for future expansion needs of the Valley Campus. During discussions between TSJC and the State Patrol, TSJC decided to split the parcel to accommodate the needs of the patrol. In doing so, TSJC gained major site improvements such as utilities, curb and gutter, and drainage. The College is leasing the land to the patrol for a nominal cost for 50 years. Once complete, TSJC's police officer standard training (POST) will have space for instruction. The POST program teaches students the standard training techniques that are required to become a police officer. As an added bonus, TSJC students will have potential internships with the patrol. The facility will not only benefit TSJC, but the entire San Luis Valley.

The San Luis Valley Emergency 911 Telephone Authority Board also contributed to this move by providing \$400,000 worth of new communication technology for the new building. The equipment includes a new radio tower, a microwave communication site, and other upgraded radio and communication devices for the dispatch crew. The crew handled over 100,000 service calls last year and also acts as a communication medium servicing over fifty state and federal agencies located within the Valley.

Established in 1925, TSJC is the oldest community college in the state. The CSP began serving Colorado residents in 1935. Given the long history and tradition of the two state agencies, Col. James Wolfinbarger, Chief of the Colorado State Patrol, recognized the unique "partnership between two public entities rooted in a dedication to the citizens of Colorado." According to Mike Karbach, Real Estate Programs, Asset Manager, this partnership met State program specific goals and State real estate specific goals while providing a need to both parties. It's a win-win situation. Wolfinbarger credited the Authority Board for its contributions as well as state lawmakers on the Joint Budget Committee, who guided the project through a state construction freeze. The committee allowed the agency to use \$1.2 million from the Highway Users Tax Fund, in addition to the \$1.9 million lawmakers had set aside in 2006.

"This new facility will not only provide a new home to CSP, but will also provide a training room, public meeting space, and serve as a public safety hub to benefit the entire community well into the future," said Wolfinbarger. The CSP plans to get the system officially on-line in March and will host a dedication ceremony in late spring.



Above: Artist rendering of what the new CSP facility will look



Above: Photo of the progress on the facility as of November 2009

Photos courtesy of Robert (Bob) Dirnberger, Director CSP Support Services Branch.

CLASS NOTES

1920's

Dolores "Del" Plested, '26, passed away November 9, 2009 at the age of 101. She was in the first graduating class from TSJC and later earned a degree in journalism at the University of Colorado. Del knew when and where to be if news broke out. She saw the Hindenburg moments before it exploded in 1937 and covered President Dwight Eisenhower when he had his heart attack in Denver in 1955. One of Del's assignments was to buy something for Ike. She bought him red pajamas and had a local store embroider "Much Better, Thanks" on the pocket. A picture of him in the pajamas made the cover of Life magazine. She was also among the reporters covering first lady Jackie Kennedy at Vail in the early 1960s. Del also wrote three books: one on her life, one on the coal mine in Trinidad where her father was an executive, and one on her family's history.

1940's

Ralph Woodworth, '49, transferred to CU Boulder to major in chemistry, but later became a draftsman at Boeing and worked on the B-52 bomber project. He liked the "big airplane" business, but moved to Los Angeles where he worked at the McDonnell-Douglas airport for 17 years. Ralph specialized in pilot mechanical control systems design on various aircrafts. Under the Douglas Aircraft employee scholarship program, he became a USC Trojan and earned a degree in mechanical engineering. During a recession in the aircraft industry, Ralph was laid off at Douglas. After nearly a year of unemployment, he became an engineer for the US Navy where he was involved with the production of missiles for 19 years. Strangely, of all the projects Ralph worked on, very few examples are still in service except for the B-52 which has been in continuous service for about 55 years. Ralph has been retired for 18 years.

1950's

Joe Machetta, '53, is the current owner of the Sand's Theatre in Brush, CO. After arriving in Brush in 1958 the theatre gained a new lease on life when it was reopened by Joe. Joe purchased projection equipment and acquired a lease for the property. He then spent some weeks cleaning and refurbishing

the building before opening on the night of April 18, 1958. Joe purchased the building in 1966 and changed the name from Emerson Theatre to the "Sand's." He chose the name because it seemed reflective of the sandy, often dusty, topography of northeastern Colorado, and also because he was an admirer of the Sands Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas. Soon after reopening, Joe installed a stage and occasionally booked live performances. The "American Beatles," a band from Pueblo which emulated the better known Beatles of Liverpool, were among the more popular live acts, playing before sell-out crowds until the 1960's. In 2005 the Sand's Theatre was put on the Colorado State Historical Society's Register and is the only business in Morgan County to be on the Register. A special 50th Anniversary celebration was held in April 2008.

Kranga J. Shaddy, '55, passed away in March, 2009. "Mr. Shaddy" was employed with the Trinidad School District from the 1950's until his retirement in 1992. In April, the Trinidad High School library was renamed and dedicated to honor the late dedicated educator and friend. Former student and friend, **Louis Rino, '88** petitioned the School Board in February of 2008 to consider memorializing Mr. Shaddy's name for his positive impact on Trinidad's students. Even though his passing was unexpected, he had been informed by the Board of Education that he would be honored in this way. In conversations with Rino, he expressed his gratefulness for the honor that was to be bestowed upon him and expressed how fortunate he was to have worked for School District #1. Mr. Shaddy was also an active member in the community serving on the County Health Board, the TSJC Advisory Board as well as being a prominent member of the local Democratic Party.

1960's

Georgia (Cholakos) Rino, '60, attended TSJC and was the 1960 Homecoming Queen. She also attended Adams State College and earned a degree in elementary education. Georgia served area schools for 44 years, was a lifetime employee of School District #1, and most notably was elected twice to the School's Board of Education, where she served as president and had been honored by the State of Colorado with a McGuffey Award for her

many contributions to education. Sadly, Georgia passed away November 9, 2009, but has left a legacy that will last a lifetime.

Gayle Hopkins, '61, is the Associate to Director of Athletics at the University of Arizona (UA). His role is to spearhead the effort to secure support from former athletes as well as other special efforts to incorporate alumni in current departmental activities. He also directs projects to influence former athletes to return to complete their degree. Gayle initially joined the UA staff in 1983 - coming from Claremont College where he was track coach and director of physical education - to help develop Arizona's academic services office. He assumed development duties in 1992. A native of Davenport, Iowa, Gayle is recognized as one of the greatest athletes in Iowa prep history. After TSJC, he was a standout athlete in track at Arizona and was the Wildcats' first NCAA champion (long jump, 1964). Gayle represented the United States in the 1964 Tokyo Olympics as a long jumper. He was an instructor in Tucson, San Francisco State, and Claremont. Gayle holds a bachelor's degree from Arizona, a master's degree from San Francisco State and a doctorate from Claremont. He is married to Patricia Hopkins, and they have a daughter, Alissa, a 1992 UA graduate, and a son, Chris, who played running back at Arizona State from 1992-95.

Dennis Nickle, '62, visited Trinidad this past summer. He reminisced about his friends and experiences at TSJC from being the first to live in the dorms to eating at the new student union/cafeteria to talking of fellow classmates Larry Cromer, John Schultz, Joey Newman, and Gayle Hopkins. Dennis also came to TSJC from Davenport, Iowa to play baseball. While attending TSJC, he played baseball and basketball. He noted that both teams went to nationals. After TSJC, he married Kathy Duran, '63. They moved to Florida where he worked for Harris Corp, an electronics firm, as a program manager. Sadly, Kathy passed away in 2002. Dennis & Kathy had three children and now have five grandchildren. He still keeps in contact with Coach Wilson, former TSJC baseball coach.

David W. Farrell, '65, moved from St. Charles, IL twenty years ago to Florida (near Orlando) and has loved it ever since. He is currently working for Thorpe

Enterprises, an Atlanta based Security Company managing the Florida operation supplying security officers throughout the state. David travels from Jacksonville to Miami and all points in-between. His wife, Connie, has worked at Walt Disney World in The World Marketing Department for 20 years. David is also a Florida Highway Patrol Auxiliary Trooper and works on road patrols and special events such as, Daytona 500 / The July Daytona 400 race / the Tampa Bay Buc's home games and a lot of hurricane coverage throughout the Southeast US. He reports, "I still do some gunsmithing for myself and for the Highway Patrol."

Ron Lopez, '65, recently visited the Alumni Office while on a visit to Trinidad. After attending TSJC, Ron attended the University of Evansville where he earned his Bachelor's Degree in Accounting. He has been a Controller for Spencer Industries for 10 years, is married and has two children.

Bob (Lewallen) Stare, '65, worked in the entertainment business and was a general manager for several different cable TV systems. After having to lay-off almost 300 employees, he decided to go into teaching, something he knew he would eventually do. Bob has been teaching computer applications for about 18 years and has loved every minute. With his business background, Bob was also active in the teacher's association, serving as Vice President for almost 10 years.

Carol (Cimino) Patrick, '66, was recently recognized by the Trinidad-Las Animas County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce when she received their "Education Award". This was a well deserved award for the successful career of one who gives much of her time and energy to serve students who are inclined to succeed and do so, because of her knowledge and encouragement. Carol serves her community's students and those from afar in a most unselfish giving of her time.

1970's

Bernal Baca, '72, retired from Yakima Valley College a year and a half ago after 30 years on the faculty. "I currently am a lobbyist for the American Federation of Teachers Washington."

Ray Mallory, '72, shared that he has fond memories of the two years he spent in Trinidad in view of Fishers Peak and under the teaching of the fine instruction of Bill Prator, Ed Shulin, Warren Key and others that encouraged him and his classmates to do their best. "Some

beautiful rifles in my gun cabinet are a result of their caring instruction."

Virginia Wattle Newton, '73, majored in Education and received an internship in a Teacher Corp Internship Program at Drake University in Des Moines. She is currently employed with Denver Public Schools as Humanities Facilitator. For the past 18 years, Virginia has been serving as a literacy coach working with middle school students to improve their reading and writing skills. She also serves as a staff developer training teachers with the most current and best teaching strategies. Virginia also is part of a small TSJC alumni group living in Denver that get together once every year and reminisce.

Michael DeFelice, '74, transferred to Eastern Oregon University where he was able to continue his college baseball career. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1977 and returned to Colorado to begin a teaching career that spanned 31 years. Michael retired from Widefield School District in the spring of 2009. "TSJC was a great place to start! It helped give me the confidence I needed to be successful in school and gave me the chance to play college baseball. Thank you TSJC!! I owe so much to you. Continue to educate and motivate kids."

Helen Veltri, '79, married while still in high school eventually earning her GED. She continued her education by taking classes at TSJC while working full-time, raising her 2 children and helping her husband John and brother-in-law Frank in their printing business. She was the Choir Director at the First Christian Church for 20 + years, PTA president at East Street Elementary School, and enjoyed substitute teaching whenever she could. Helen loves her community and she has proven that in her work over the years. She's been employed by several Las Animas County Offices and the Trinidad Urban Development and Renewal Office. In addition, she wrote the original grant for Trinidad's first elderly housing project, Corazon Square. Helen is best known for the 26 years she was the Director for the Trinidad Housing Authority (THA). When she initially took over the THA she had a manual typewriter and one employee. As THA's director, Helen always received a "High Performer" ranking by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). At her retirement celebration, it was proclaimed "*Helen Veltri Day*" for her many achievements and dedication to her community. After 60 + years of working, Helen is adjusting into retirement life. She and her husband John keep busy with their hobbies and family.

1980's

Brett Chappell, '88, recalled going to the JUCO World Series his freshman year under Coach Rick Zimmerman. After TSJC, Brett played 2 years at Mesa State College then enlisted in the Navy and went through the SEAL selection program (BUD/S), graduating Class Honorman. He went on to serve as a SEAL operator at SEAL Team 8 in Little Creek, VA. Brett currently is living in Arizona.

1990's

Dan '95 and Jackie (Bowman) Robinson, '02, are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Brody. Brody was born on December 2, 2008. They currently reside in Trinidad, CO.

Patrick Amisi, '98, recently made a 2 week trip to Africa to distribute more than a half ton of donated books, computers, medical supplies and clothes to orphanages, schools, hospitals and clinics in some of the poorest parts of Kenya. Patrick and his family moved to Colorado in the 90's and wanted to give back to their homeland organization. They founded Transafrika. Many of the books were donated by Fort Logan Elementary School in the southwest Denver Metro area. Computers, more books, clothes and medical supplies were donated by businesses and other individuals throughout Colorado. Patrick's trip to Kenya was originally planned for last year but had to be postponed due to internal violence in Kenya in 2008. The violence revolved around an election dispute and during the violence in which thousands were killed, an orphanage that Transafrika supports was burned to the ground. The children were relocated to other orphanages in the area. Transafrika's long term goal is to rebuild the orphanage and house even more children. The percentage of orphans in Kenya is very high due to a high incidence of HIV-AIDS and other diseases and political disputes in nearby countries such as Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea and Somalia. For more information about Transafrika, please see www.transafrikacultural.org.

2000's

Melissa Mincic, '00, has earned a Ph.D. in Applied Developmental Psychology from George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. While a student at George Mason, she studied social-emotional development throughout childhood, particularly during the preschool years. For her dissertation research, Melissa worked with teachers, families and children in the Rocky Mountain SER Head Start Program in

Continued on page 10

Hurting HELPING Healing

The pain of suicide

Shining a Light on Mental Health

Trinidad State Junior College (TSJC) recently welcomed Ross Szabo, Director of Youth Outreach for the National Mental Health Awareness Campaign and a speaker for CAMPUSPEAK, Inc. Szabo gave a moving and dynamic presentation to students, faculty, staff and also to members of the community. The message, while difficult for some, was the mental health of our youth.

“TSJC’s Suicide Prevention Committee, which is funded by a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

(SAMHSA) Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act Grant, contracted with Mr. Szabo to discuss how it is possible to take charge of one’s own mental health by discussing his painful mental health journey,” said Dr. Sandra Veltri, Vice President of Student/Academic Affairs and TSJC SAMHSA Project Director.

A popular high school athlete, Szabo said he was sixteen when he was diagnosed with bipolar and anger disorders with psychotic features. He said that he used drugs and alcohol to escape reality. “I never did learn how to express my feelings very well. So when I had my first episode with bipolar disorder, I really had no idea how to put my thoughts and feelings about it into words,” Szabo said. “I lived in a rural small town in Pennsylvania, where no one talked about this stuff. We just didn’t have words for these kinds of things. We had alcohol and violence, sure, but we didn’t really have words.” Szabo was hospitalized when he attempted to take his own life. When he returned to school, his classmates no longer thought of him as ‘cool,’ but ‘crazy,’ he said. “This is an indication of the self-destructive youth culture that makes it cool to drink and do drugs and not care,” Szabo said.

Throughout high school and college, Szabo continued to struggle with mental health and substance abuse problems. After one alcohol binge his freshman year in college, he had to have his stomach pumped. Another time he passed out for 22 hours straight. He admitted that was a “common occurrence.”

Finally Szabo decided that he needed to change or else he would end up dead. He stopped binge drinking, changed his sleeping habits, and stopped smoking ‘weed’ and cigarettes. He began speaking to young people to urge them to care and have the strength to try to change bad behaviors and conforming to the stereotypes that lead to negativity. He tells students to go to people who will help them with their problems.

Nationally, over 1,100 young adults take their own lives on college campuses according to the JED Foundation (<http://www.jedfoundation.org/>). Andrew Solomon, the author of *Noonday Demon: An Atlas of Depression*, stated, “Mental illness among young people is epidemic. Too often, those who are afflicted are ashamed, too often, they isolate themselves, and too often—the results are catastrophic.”

TSJC’s Suicide Prevention Committee is in its second year of a three-year funded grant cycle. One of their goals is to provide training to faculty, staff, administrators and community members to increase the number of trained gatekeepers in the community. Accordingly, TSJC has conducted Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) workshops on both its Trinidad and Alamosa campuses. ASIST workshops are an intensive 2-day gatekeeper training activity to assist participants in suicide intervention skills.

A Survivor’s Story

By
Vicki Rienks ‘83

Any death is tragic, but, when it’s due to suicide, it’s much worse. The grieving family is left with no answers, and often times they feel guilt. “If only I had been a better mother.” “Did I tell him I loved him the last time I saw him?” “Was there some clue that I didn’t pick up on?” These are the things that the families will have to deal with for the rest of their lives. There will never be any answers.

On the afternoon of Tuesday, November 21, 2006, I was at work when I my daughter-in-law and my granddaughter walked in. Their faces were somber and I didn’t know what was wrong. They told me that I had to go in my office and call my son, Ray. When he answered, he said, “Mom, there has been an accident and Aaron didn’t make it.” “What kind of accident?” I asked. “He killed himself, mom”. I immediately went into shock. I vaguely remember leaving the office, and my daughter-in-law driving me home. I know that people were talking to me, but, it all became what I call “white noise.” I could see their lips moving, but, I heard none of it.

It turned out that my son, Aaron, had actually been dead for a couple of days, but, nobody knew it. He hadn’t shown up for work on Monday, but, no one tried to find out why. It wasn’t until the next day when his girlfriend tried to get into the house and her key didn’t work that anyone suspected anything. She called his work place and was told that he hadn’t shown up for work again. Eventually the police were called and they gained entry into the house where they found him dead in his bedroom with

a gunshot wound to the head. Although there was no suicide note, we believe that he was depressed because he and his girlfriend were breaking up. Our family had no prior knowledge of their breakup, so we had no idea that anything was wrong.

Aaron had been living up in Washington, so we had his body cremated and brought here to Trinidad. Due to the fact that an investigation had to be done, the weather was bad, and it was the Thanksgiving holiday, we weren't able to have the funeral until December 1st. It seemed like an eternity to me. Friends and family came from near and far to attend the funeral. The church was packed and people had to stand outside. The outpouring from the people in Trinidad was amazing. I will always be thankful for my dear family and friends who have continued to be so supportive.

On several occasions, however, some strange things have happened. I was shopping at Wal-Mart and I saw someone that I have known for years walking toward me pushing her cart. When she saw me, she literally spun around and quickly walked away as fast as she could. I knew she was trying to avoid me because when I saw her again, she ducked her head and pretended that she didn't see me. This same scenario happened several other times with other people. On another occasion, I was talking with someone face to face. When I mentioned that my son had died, she went right on with her conversation as if she didn't hear me. We were standing only three feet apart at the time, so I know she heard me.

Suicide is a very difficult subject to talk about; nevertheless, acknowledging the person's death is still very important. The grieving family needs your love and support. If you don't know what to say or do, buy a sympathy card. You will be able to find one that has exactly the right words on it and it will make a world of difference to the family. Also, there is no statute of limitations on expressing your sympathy. Even if it has been a while since the tragedy happened, go ahead and do something anyway. It will make someone feel much better knowing that you care.

The loss of a loved one by suicide is devastating. The "survivor(s)" will experience grief and bereavement in their own unique and individual manner. The American Association of Suicidology states that, "The grief that ensues can be intense, complex and long term." In addition to the grief, the "survivor" will experience a host of emotions. There is no timeframe for bereavement. However, survivors are concerned with adjusting to a life without their loved one.

WARNING SIGNS:

Ask yourself if the person is:

- Suffering from depression
- Isolating themselves from loved ones
- Giving away prized possessions
- Displaying poor performance in work/school
- Talking about death, wanting to die
- Acting out in violent ways
- Taking careless risks
 - Reckless driving
 - Running red lights
- Making terminal statements
 - I want to die,
 - I won't have to worry about that anymore
- Suddenly happy after long a term of depression
- Increased use of drugs or alcohol

RISK FACTORS:

Has the person experienced one or more of the following situations:

- Significant loss
 - Job loss
 - Death in the family
 - Death of a friend
- Changes in lifestyle/finances
- Impending legal action
- Recent imprisonment, upcoming release
- Abusive relationship
 - Physical
 - Emotional
 - Sexual
- Chronic illness
- Previous suicide attempts
- Self-mutilation
 - Cutting
 - Burning
 - Carving

What can you do to help a depressed or suicidal friend?

What NOT to do:

- Don't keep their threats a secret.
- Don't ignore or condemn them.
- Don't minimize the problem.
- Don't minimize their feelings.
- Don't try to handle the situation alone, get professional help.
- Don't make promises that you cannot keep.
- Don't interject with your own problems.
- Don't leave them alone.

What to say:

- I'm here for you.
- I really care about you. Let's talk and figure out how to make things better.
- Things are tough now, but you've got to hang in there and I'm here to help.
- I would feel horrible if you hurt yourself and I don't want you to die.
- No one and nothing is worth taking your life for.
- I hate to see you suffering like this, let's think about where could go to get some help.

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline toll-free number, 1-800-273-TALK (273-8255), which is available 24/7, can be used anywhere in the United States, and connects the caller to a certified crisis center near where the call is placed.

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline website: <http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org>.

Looking out for friends and loved ones is an important part of preventing suicide. You can call the Lifeline to speak with a crisis worker on behalf of someone you are concerned about. The crisis workers have access to local resources, and can help you identify ways to get help to your loved ones. So call 1-800-273-TALK today to help save a life.

To find out more about the difference you can make in a friend or loved one's life, visit <http://www.whatadifference.org>. The What a Difference website is for people living with mental illness—and their friends. You'll find tools to help in the recovery process, and you can also learn about the different kinds of mental illnesses, read real-life stories about support and recovery, and interact with the video to see how friends can make all the difference.

TSJC is the recipient of a federal grant funded through the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Campus Suicide Prevention Program. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is part of the Department of Health and Human Services.

Pueblo to complete her research project, entitled Dialogic Reading with Emotion-Laden Storybooks: Intervention Methods to Enhance Children's Emergent Literacy and Social-Emotional Skills. Currently, Melissa is a postdoctoral fellow in the Early Childhood Special Education Leadership Program in the University of Colorado Denver's School of Education and Human Development. She hopes to continue conducting research related to her dissertation and administrative support for intervention programs in order to prepare Colorado's preschoolers for academic and social-emotional success in kindergarten and beyond.

Dustin '03 and Michelle (Felthager)

Mincie, '03 proudly announce the birth of their first son, Liam Hunter. Liam was born on October 27, 2009. They currently reside in Pueblo, CO.

Jina (Mangino) Malouff, '03, married Marty Malouff on June 20, 2009. Jina graduated from University of Colorado at Colorado Springs with a degree in accounting. For a brief period, she taught accounting at TSJC. Currently, she is a Licensed Insurance Consultant and office manager of Farmers Insurance, Mangino Agency where brother **Jonathan, '01** is agent. Jina is the daughter of **Jeff, '76** and **Judy (Martorano), '77**.

Michael Carson, '04, said, "I wouldn't be here if it weren't for TSJC. The base TSJC gave me is incredible. You never stop learning. Network Technology changes every day. I've learned to use the resources at my disposal to get the information I need." He was the head laborer for the demolition portion of the remodel when TSJC acquired the Alamosa campus site. During that process, he listened to an employee who was involved with data cabling for the computer system at the college. Michael was impressed that, even as the "low man on the totem pole," this worker's wage was \$22 an hour. His father-in-law had talked about network technology, and he decided to investigate. Knowing little about computers, his first step was to enroll at TSJC and take some computer basics. As his knowledge of computers grew, so did his interest. He moved on to the CNG program and learned about computer network technology under the tutelage of Monica Falk. Just before graduation, he was hired as an Information Services Support Technician with Valley Wide Health Services. He then graduated in May with his AAS in Network Technology. Michael assists with the day-to-day support of as many as twenty network applications in 17 Valley Wide Health System facilities in Southern Colorado.

Tiffany (Oselio) Medford, '05, married Ryan Medford on July 25, 2009. The happy couple lives in Albuquerque, NM. Tiffany is working on her Doctorate in Physical Therapy.

Jenna Garcia, '06, graduated from CSU-Pueblo in May of this year with a 3.971 GPA and aspires to change lives as an elementary school math teacher. Jenna was named the 2009 recipient of the Threlkeld Price for Excellence Award. This is the most prestigious award for students given by the University. Congratulations!

Ramone "Spike" Alire, '08 and Jessica Montoya proudly announce the birth of their daughter, Wynter Rose Alire. Wynter was born on January 15, 2009. They currently reside in South Dakota.

Dave Nastley, '09, left in June for a job lead in Azerbaijan from Aquaculture professor, Ted Smith. Azerbaijan is a country independent from Russia only since 1991. Located just south of Russia and next to Armenia, whom it is still at war with, Azerbaijan promised to be a challenging and interesting place to work. Dave has traveled extensively worldwide but has never been to the country of Azerbaijan. He is looking forward to assisting fish farmers by helping them update and better themselves thereby increasing their fish production. USAID, the United States Agency for International Development, is the agency hiring Dave. A United Nations and State Department Agency, USAID has provided U.S. economic and humanitarian assistance worldwide for over 40 years. His new job will last a minimum of four months or as long as the assistance is needed. Regarding the TSJC Aquaculture Program, Dave said, "The program couldn't have been better. Ted Smith is a teacher that cares about his students even after they've graduated." At 41 years of age, Dave is looking forward to beginning his new career in Aquaculture, the fastest growing agricultural industry in the world.

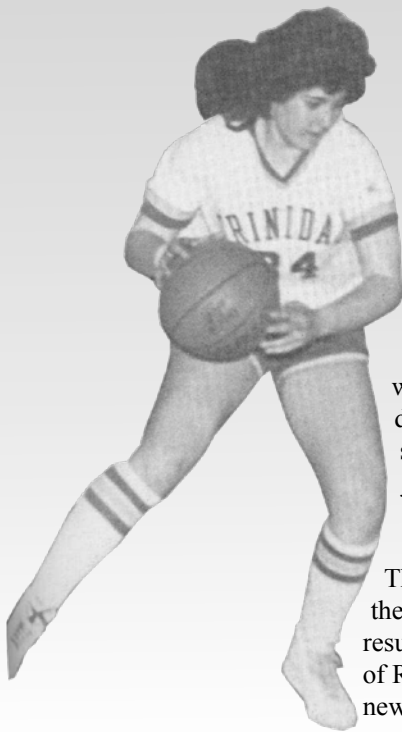
Brandon Rosenhoover, '09, says, "Look at me now!" Challenged throughout high school, Brandon knew some questioned his ability to succeed. But he has plenty to be proud of and to look forward to. Throughout high school, he thought that Forestry was the career he wanted to pursue. However, he decided to consider the Aquaculture program offered at the TSJC Valley Campus. After one semester, Brandon was hooked. He is now in Utah, with his brother, on a job hunt. But ultimately, he wants to return to Colorado and work in a fish hatchery here. "If I

can just help one person, then I've done my job." When asked how working in a Fish Hatchery would serve people, he responded, "I've been thinking about that. In these tough economic times, one big stress reliever for a lot of people is to go fishing. If I can help raise a quality product for that purpose, I will be serving people."

Holly Stevens and Kelsey Apodaca, '09, Trojan Softball players, were named Academic All-Americans by the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA). The honor of NJCAA Academic All-American is bestowed upon student-athletes who maintain a grade point average of 3.6 to 3.79 while earning a minimum of 45 credit hours. Students who earn a 3.8 or higher are named Distinguished All-American. Pitcher Kelsey Apodaca received the Distinguished Award via her 3.95 GPA. Besides excelling in the classroom she had a great sophomore season finishing the season with seven wins. She was also named to the Region IX All-Tournament Team. First Baseman Holly Stevens finished with a 3.75 GPA. On the field she finished with a .295 batting average with three homeruns and 25 RBI's.

Jess Trujillo, '09, has been awarded a \$50,000 Biology Transfer Scholarship. The scholarship was funded through a TSJC grant from the USDA Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service that provided curriculum improvements, state-of-the-art scientific equipment, and also provided six scholarships for students to attend TSJC to study biology or natural resources. Trujillo encourages middle school and high school student to study math and science during high school. "It will give you such a running start when you begin your college career." He would also like young people to "look a little closer at the natural world and do what they can to preserve it." Jess has transferred to the University of New Mexico to major in conservation biology with environmental science as a minor. He plans to obtain an advanced degree and eventually work with fish.

John Knopf, '09, has recently passed the CSP exam and is the Health & Safety Manager for Ops Contracting Services in Memphis, Tenn. "Your ASP in OSH provided the door way for me to take the CSP exam. The information that I learned in your courses combined with my field experience enabled me to pass the examination on my first attempt."



SPORTS

Moving Forward to Excellence

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL SET TO RETURN TO TSJC IN 2010

"The Trojan Legacy of Athletic Excellence" is the slogan on the mural that was painted on the east wall of Scott Gymnasium. The mural features pictures of sports programs from TSJC's past looking down over Toupal Court. It shows everything from football to cross country, wrestling to tennis, and shooting to track and field. There are two other programs featured on that wall but they are no longer just part of TSJC's past. First, golf returned to Trinidad State in 2006 and now in the fall of 2010 the Lady Trojan Basketball team will retake the court.

It has been over 20 years since Trinidad State Junior College fielded a Women's Basketball squad. The last full season was played in 1985-1986 under the direction of Coach Marv Wetzel. Thanks to the efforts of Interim President Felix Lopez and Athletic Director Rich Holden plans are in motion to resurrect the program. A schedule is being constructed which will see the Trojans join the southern part of Region IX where they will again compete with Otero, Lamar and Northeastern Junior College. The new team will hope to tap into the rich Trinidad State athletic traditions to make an immediate impact.

"Tradition is so important to the success of any endeavor in life. The tradition of outstanding athletics at Trinidad State Junior College was what attracted me to this area," commented Holden. "The numbers, in terms of wins and losses speak for themselves in all of the programs throughout the years, but it's the many people who got their start, or have served in any capacity as a Trojan, that tells the real story of TSJC athletic tradition. With the addition of Women's Basketball next year, we will once again be reviving part of this outstanding athletic tradition."

"On behalf of our athletic staff, I would like to thank President Felix Lopez for believing strongly in the benefits of athletics in our rural community colleges and especially in Trinidad. The biggest thanks in these economic times, however, belong to the TSJC Educational Foundation and the TSJC Booster Club. These two groups have continued to provide, year in and year out, support that allow us to compete in the very competitive National Junior College Athletics Association."

Recruiting for this new group of Lady Trojans will be getting underway soon! GO TROJANS!!

SPORTS UPDATES

BASKETBALL: The Trinidad State basketball team finished the 2008-09 season tied for the South-Sub Region title with a 16-15 winning record. Receiving high praise was Coach Rich Holden who was named Coach of the Year for the South-Sub Region. Holden earned the honor in just his fifth year at the helm of the TSJC Basketball team. After losing six sophomores from last year's team, the 2009-10 Trojans will be looking to find a new identity with three returning players and three outstanding transfer prospects to make up the sophomore leadership for this year's Trojans. With hard work and an emphasis on team play, Coach Holden is striving to reach three team goals – win 20, win a South Sub region title and do well in the Region IX tournament.

BASEBALL: The 2009 Trojans won the Empire Conference crown with a 24-6 record. They spent much of the season in the top 20 of the NJCAA rankings and finished the year with 43 wins. Standout baseball catcher, Andrew Kapple, was named First Team All-American by the National Junior College Athletic Association following his standout sophomore season with the Trojans. Kapple will continue his baseball career at Stephenville, TX playing for the Tarleton Texans.

SOFTBALL: The first TSJC Softball Alumni Classic was held in October at Southside Park. Thirteen former TSJC softball players braved the cold temperatures and slippery road conditions to return for the first annual scrimmage against the current 2009-2010 Lady Trojans. Last year, the Lady Trojans made it all the way to the Region IX championship but finished second. Look for team to contend for the championship and earn a spot at the national championships in Utah come May of 2010.

GOLF: The Trinidad State golf team has been one of the top teams in Region IX since its rebirth three seasons ago. For the second straight season the Trinidad State Golf team took top honors in Region IX. They have claimed the top honors in the Region for the last two seasons and have high hopes for 2010. The 2009 team finished eighth, one spot away from qualifying for the National Tournament for the second straight year.

VOLLEYBALL: New Head Coach Ellen Johnson took over the Trojan volleyball team for the 2009-10 season. While the team is rebuilding and with the net put away for the 2009 season, Coach Johnson is looking to the future for the Trojans. Coach Johnson comes to Trinidad State from Western Carolina University where she was an assistant coach. Prior to her time with Western Carolina, Johnson played for Virginia Intermont College (VIC). She still holds the school record for career blocks, blocks in a season, and blocks in a game. Coach Johnson received her B.S. in Sports Management with a minor in Business. In 2008, she received her Master's Degree in Sports Management from Western Carolina.

TSJC Educational Foundation

Hall of Fame Event

The annual Trinidad State Junior College Educational Foundation's fundraiser in jam-packed Scott Gymnasium was undeniably a "Blast from the Past". This year's Hall of Fame inductees, Don Anderson and Jack Bearden, have been an integral part of the College's and the Foundation's past and they continue to be terrific advocates for the College and the Foundation. Always there to lend a hand, to support College endeavors, and to promote the importance of the value of our College.

Rounding out the festivity was the retirement celebration for President Ruth Ann Woods. This group of TSJC enthusiasts has each brought the College and the Foundation forward through positive change, growth, and innovation. The tributes and accolades that flowed throughout the evening were well deserved!

Don's relationship with TSJC began as a student in 1951 before serving in the United States Navy. In 1957, he began a long career in the family business, the House of Glass and Paint. The House of Glass was founded in 1941 and the business was purchased by the Anderson family in 1944. He was also active in the family farm located east of Trinidad.

Don began his initial service to the College as a member of the TSJC Automotive Vocational Advisory Board. He was first appointed to the TSJC Advisory Council in 1986 when Dr. Sullivan was President. Having served two four-year terms, he was a seasoned member of the Advisory Council during the transition in 1991 from Dr. Sullivan to the new President, Dr. Harold Deselms. He was also very involved in 1997, Don was again appointed to the Advisory Council. He served until 2001, and once more, his experience helped guide the Council and the College through another presidency change when Dr. Deselms retired and Dr. Frank Armijo was named President. Most recently, Don became a member of the TSJC Educational Foundation in 2004. In 2006, he joined the Board of Directors and this year has started his second term as a Board member for the Foundation.

Besides his involvement with TSJC, Don's service to his community is extensive. He was a charter member of the Trinidad Toastmaster's Club; charter member of the Trinidad Optimist Club; charter member and past president of the Trinidad Jaycee's; past president of the Trinidad Chamber of Commerce; charter and past president of the Trinidad Industrial Institute; past member of the Hospital Board; and was past president of the Trinidad Round-up Association. He is a member of the Trinidad Elks Club – BPOE and the



Top photo: Toni DeAngelis, Jack Bearden, Don Anderson and Ruth Ann Woods. Lower left photo: Don Anderson. Lower right photo: Jack Bearden.

Trinidad Eagles. Don has served on the Board for Century Savings & Loan for many years. He and his wife Virginia have two sons, John and Tom, who both attended TSJC.

Jack Bearden was the second son of four children to "Century Family" Ed and Thelma (Turner) Bearden. Thelma's father came to Trinidad as a young man in 1882 from Springfield, MO – making Trinidad his home. Jack graduated from the University of Colorado. Except for his schooling and a short year in Kansas City, MO, Jack has spent his entire life in Trinidad. He has worked in the insurance business for most of his life, running the business on his own following his father's death.

Jack has been a member of the TSJC Educational Foundation since 1976. Over his 33 years, he has seen the Foundation grow from assets of \$67,000 to close to \$5 million, currently. He served on the Foundation Board and is a past president of the Board of Directors. During the Foundation's Challenge Grant Campaign, Jack and his family established the Bearden Family Faculty Award, an endowed fund which provides funding for faculty professional development. It is a competitive award based on the merit of the faculty proposal as it relates to enhancement of instruction in the faculty's given field.

His charitable way is unassuming... Jack's generous deeds go under the radar so as not to draw attention to himself, but rather to support his beliefs and passions in such a way that the organization can be successful. His modesty and humility make it difficult for Jack to accept praise and accolades – albeit deserving in every case!! Many can attest – Jack is undoubtedly one of Trinidad Greenhouses best customers for all the flowers he sends to his friends and customers – always with a personal handwritten note!

Jack's family has always been his top priority – giving them his utmost love and care. Jack and Cathy have been married almost 55 years and have two children, Julie and John. Their daughter Julie is married to Mike Dixon. Julie, Mike and their three children are the fourth and fifth generations to live in the Turner home on Willow St. Jack's son John lives in California and is married with two children.

Mix in great entertainment and love song renditions from three crooner "kings" of the past in "Elvis," "Frank Sinatra" and "Tony Bennett," and the usual silent auction that offered lots of sports and collectible memorabilia for attendees and high "bidders" and the words gala and celebration seemed like an understatement.



Keynote speaker Mike Kellogg

Keynote speaker, judge and publisher of the Huerfano County World, former Denver Bronco Mike Kellogg dished out lots of personal and spiritual anecdotes and tidbits that he attributed to his close walk with God and his life of gaining so many friendships. Notably his special relationship with former Broncos star receiver Lionel Taylor, who once caught more than 100

passes early in his Broncos career in the old American Football League, added to his life's many adventures.

Closing out the evening was a retirement celebration for TSJC President Ruth Ann Woods. After almost 5 years at the helm of TSJC's leadership team, Woods can look back at her many accomplishments and know she made a lasting impression on the College and the community at-large with her passion, guidance and can-do attitude.

Woods' many accomplishments were reiterated and repeated by everyone from Nancy McCallin, president of the

Colorado Community College System, to various community leaders, administrative support from Foundation Director Toni DeAngelis, Vice President of Student Academic Affairs Sandi Veltri faculty and staff, to her successor, Interim President, Felix Lopez.

In her retirement speech after 33 years as an educator, Woods aptly summed up how she feels about her "team approach" to avoiding roadblocks and finding positive solutions to difficult problems. Woods told her audience that the 41-year-old Educational Foundation could never have succeeded as well as it has without contributions from community leaders who have had the same vision of the college as she does.

While receiving lots of accolades of her own, Woods returned the kudos. "I am extremely thankful and appreciative of the dynamic administrative team, faculty and staff who have been committed and dedicated to building new programs, increasing FTE (full-time equivalent students) and moving Trinidad State forward," she said. "There is an old saying – Home is not where you live but where you work because you spend more time at work than you do with your family. TSJC has become family to me and with family comes memories – memories that I will cherish always."

We would like to extend a big THANKS to the 2008-09 Annual Fund Donors. Your support is the most powerful tool we have!

A special thanks to Norma Reed, '69, for her generosity, as her name was mistakenly left out of the last publication.

Abdolreza Ahrabli, '75
B. Harold & Joyce Anderson, '58
Donald & Virginia Anderson, '51
Jack & Betty Anderson, '55
William C. Anderson, '65
Michael & Olive Anton, Friend
Anne Aranda, '76
Lorraine Azar, '55
Martin & Betty Bania, '67
Joe & Joyce Beakley, '60
Jack & Cathy Bearden, Friend
Elizabeth Beardsley, '65
Mack Bell, '65
Alexander Duke Bell, '65
Charlotte Benich, '51
Randy Beverly, '64
James Bjerklie, '55
Nicholas Blanton, '76
James E. Bonato, '59
Jerrold & Shriley Booher, '57
Christopher Brewer, '89
Paul Briggs, '68
Philip Cain, '52
Lena M. Cimino, '36
Glenn Clauser, '74
Felix J. Coca, '48
Frank Jr. & Gloria Coke, '60 & '90
Kathleen Cole, '79
Paul Conell, '59
Daniel Conroy, '70
John Coszalter, '41
Daniel Cowen, '67
Bruce Daley, '68
Joe & Toni DeAngelis, '89
Ian & Jerene DeBono, '66
Michael DeFelice, '74
Frank & Betty Deluca, Friend
Pete Deluca, '49

Bruce Dewey, '66
Sam & Lucille Diele, '47
Kenneth & Nancy Dimick, '52
Eddie Dionisio, '86
Lou & Jackie DiPaolo, '68 & '73
John & Joan Doherty, '48
Mary Dona, '47
George Drayton, '70
Frances Eigenberg, Friend
Dennis Erhardt, '72
Frances M. Evans, '50
Jason Eyler, '86
Barney & Jeanne Falagrady, '49
James & Nancy Federico, '61
James Fletcher, '67
Donald E. Folks, '64
Alfred Freudenthal Memorial Foundation
Ronnie L. Freshour, Friend
Karl & Kerry Gabrielson, Friend
George & Betty Gahm, '47 & '48
Lucille Gallegos, '53
Philip Garcia, '69
Anthony & Gerri Gardunio, '86 & '85
Nino Giarrantano, Friend
Elida Gibbons, '50
Larrie Giuliano, '79
Phillip Glendye, '71
Veronica Goodrich, '56
Harold R. Gutierrez, '70
Chris & Nancy Hanks, Friend
Patrick & Janette Heminger, '60
Helen Hollingsworth, '59
Brooks D. Howard, '75
Roger Hoxie, '63
Elza Hyrick, '48
Domenic & Catherine Incitti, '52
Ricardo F. James, '72
Irving & Cathy Jaquez, Friend
George Kelloff, '49
Dr. Walter Krawiec, '66
Ted Langowski, '47
Gregory V. Leal, '86

Kathie Leighty, Friend
Walter E. Lempart, '65
Joseph "Lee" Leyba, '55
Ron Lopez, '65
John & Lucille Leyba, '56
John T. Luft, '60
Manuel & Lily Lujan, '71
Joseph Machetta, '53
Michael & Maura Mansour, '71
Julie Marlow, '56
Ramon Martinez, '81
Caroline Martini, '40
Emilio & Dorothy Mattorano, '71 & '67
John McBee, '71
Robert E. Meek, '54
Kevin Megyeri, '81
Paul Milosevich, '59
Richard & Juliana Mitchell, '79
Rex & Doris Monahan, Friend
Melvin Morris, '68
Floyd & Norma Murr, Friend
Anthony Nagy, '61
George & Mary Ann Newnam, '68
Virginia D. Newton, '76
Mary Nicol, '71
Dan & Kathy Nuschy, Friend
Marjorie Orth, '52
George M. & Delia Ortiz, '55
Bernard G. & Betty Perry, '64
Louis Petrizzi, '70
Charles & Margaret Pfallmer, '57 & '61
Jay Piccinati, '39
Dolores Plested, '26
Isabelle Plotts, '41
Joy L. Poole, '86
Clifford W. Porth, '69
Philip I. Qubain, '96
Carl Regan, '64
Christopher Rodas, '67
Robert M. Romero, '72
Joseph Rossi, '42
Leon & Kathryn Rubin, Friend
Wilma Ruiz, '53

Richard Salter, '64
Ed Samora, '72
Wayne & Anahid Savio, '41
Harry & Johan Sayre, '48
Dennis & Susan Scarbrough, '68
Robert Scavarda, '48
John Sebben, '52
Paul & Gloria Starkovich, '71
Walter & Paula Steige, '56
Shaun Sullivan, Friend
Dan Summers, '50
Billee Sumpter, Friend
Gladys Swazo, '78
Leslie Tapia, '68
Robert J. Tapia, '57
Charles M. Thomas, '65
Michael Thompson, '79
McLane & Adelle Tilton, '58
Rachael Torres-Harla, '62
Leo Townsend, '56
Bruce Trotter, '59
Steve Tucker, '59
George Turner, '71
Glenn & Lisa Vallejo, '67
David Vasquez, '58
Helen Veltri, '79
Ralph Veltri, '72
Gary Vezzani, '76
Francis L. Vigil, '89
Ivan Walcott, '83
William & Toni Wallace, '68 & '67
McSherry Weber, 81
Fred & Shirley Wehking, Friend
Frank Wenzel, '64
Shirley Werden, '60
F. Morton Wilson, '52
Louis Witwer, Friend
Ralph Woodworth, '49
Thomas Yarman, '64
Geraldine Cuzzetto Yoakum, '55
Robert J. Zamborelli, '59

Invest in a student's future – make your gift today for the 2009-10 Annual Fund. Mail your gift to the TSJC Educational Foundation, 600 Prospect St., Trinidad, CO 81082 or donate online at www.trinidadstate.edu and click on the Educational Foundation "Give Online" feature from the menu on the left.



GRADUATION 2009 HONORED ALUMS

Representing the class of 1939, Mr. Robert Fabec, Sr.

Before the Berg building and Scott Gym were built, Robert was attending TSJC classes in a church building. Following TSJC, he was a member of the Air Corps during WWII and made several bomber missions. He was captured and was a P.O.W. for 2 ½ years in Germany. Upon returning to Trinidad, Robert and his wife, Margaret, began a family. They had six children that are his greatest joy. At 92 years old, Robert enjoys taking care of his home, spending time with family, and playing cards.

Representing the class of 1949, Mr. Paul Cordova

Paul transferred to the University of Denver where he received a BS in Business Administration in 1951. He had a long career with Western Union Telegraph Company and after several relocations and promotions, elected early retirement in 1978 from the director of sales, planning, and development at the headquarters office in New Jersey. When Paul returned to Trinidad, he dedicated himself to serving the community. He is as an active member and advisor for the Kiwanis Club in Trinidad.

Representing the class of 1959, Mr. David Michael Hadad

After graduating from TSJC, Dave attended the University of Denver receiving a BS in Sales and Marketing. He also served in the US Armed Forces from 1961-1963. The day after his return from the military, Dave began to work at the family business, Hadad's Home Furnishings. The Hadad family has remained active in the business community for over 50 years. He has also been an active member of the community serving on many boards.

Representing the class of 1969, Mr. Mark Hellenschmidt

Mark graduated with his AAS in Gunsmithing and also took transferable coursework in physics and calculus. He believed that gunsmithing was a basis for his goal of receiving a BS in Mechanical Engineering. Eventually, Mark transferred returned to Colorado to attend the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. He completed his BS in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science in 1977. Mark also received his Master's in Business Administration from UCCS. Currently, Mark is a System Engineer with Science Applications International Corp.

Representing the class of 1979, Ms. Carrie DiIorio Hughes

Shortly after graduating from TSJC, Carrie met her husband, Richard, who was stationed at Ft. Carson, CO. In 1993, they moved to Tucson, AZ. There, Carrie began work in the chiropractic field and attended Pima Community College and the University of Arizona. However, before graduating from UA, her husband was hired by the FAA as an air traffic controller and relocated to Chico, CA. In 2005, they returned to Colorado when her husband was hired by Centennial Airport. Carrie plans to return to school to pursue a degree in elementary education.

Representing the Class of 1999, Mr. Jim Gagliardi,

Jim is a Trinidad native and received his AA in Business from TSJC. He went to the University of Northern Colorado where he earned a BS in Speech Pathology and Audiology in 2001. As he was preparing for his graduate studies, he did an about face and decided to pursue a Master's in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Colorado at Denver in 2003. Jim currently works as a planner for the City of Colorado Springs in the community development department.

IN MEMORIAM

Donors can memorialize a friend or loved one with a gift to TSJC through the TSJC Educational Foundation. The Foundation will acknowledge the gift and will notify the decedent's family of all memorial gifts. For more information, please contact Toni DeAngelis at 719-846-5520.

Dolores Plested, '26
Lauren H. Cahill, '38
Peggy (Weeden) Scott, '43
John A. Didero, '46
Pete Bacich, '47
Juan Abeyta, '49
Dr. Beverly (Konugres) Bain, '49

Charles "Chic" Sayre, '49
Dave Wojtylka, '50
Kathryn (Parker) Amari, '51
Pete Ruiz, Jr., '53,
Sam Falsetto, '55,
Frances Howard, '55
Krangy Shaddy, '55
Marlene A. (Dosen) Ricottone, '56
Gary Andrews, '57
Georgia C. Rino, '60
Louis DiMarco, '69
Patricia (Makloski) Farris, '69
John A. "Fino" Garcia, '70
Bernadette Ann (Terry) Popiel, '72
Robert M. Sawaya, '73
Joseph L. Gutierrez, '74

Ida Santistevan, '75
Louis Sanchez, '75
Michael Bueno, '75
Alfred Valdez, '75
James Iuppa, '76
Ramon E. Jiron, '81
Ken Prigmore, Jr., '88
Patrick E. Walker, '01

Friends of TSJC

Mary Grace Anselmo
Bronwen Davies
Alex & Margaret (Leone) Eccher
Rudy Gonzales
Rex Monahan
Martha Jane Workman

LEAVING A Legacy

MARTHA JANE WORKMAN, was a generous Friend of TSJC. Although she never attended TSJC, she gifted a sizeable amount to the Foundation in her will. Jane had a 30 year career working for TRW, a defense-related industry that also specialized in automotive and aerospace. She served as a quality control inspector on major satellites, most notably, Pioneer 10. She had stated, "It's one of the best things that ever happened to me, being part of something that's become part of eternity." Indeed it has – Jane is one of the few women to have her name on a gold plaque on the moon. Sadly, Jane was afflicted with Alzheimer's disease and died at the age of 81 on April 3, 2008. She was a hard worker and built up an enviable sum and shared that prosperity with many charities and organizations.

ALEX AND MARGARET (LEONE) ECCHER, also were generous supporters of TSJC. They both made arrangements to leave a legacy at Trinidad State Junior College to assist needy students and provide program level support. Because the Ecchers chose to remember TSJC in this way, they have helped to ensure a better tomorrow for those that come after them. Alex and Margaret both worked for Leone Construction for many years. They also developed and operated the Almar Mobile Home Park in Trinidad. Niece, Marie Scarberry, noted that Alex and Margaret were hard-working, generous people.

BRONWEN DAVIES, made arrangements in her will to leave a generous gift to TSJC. Bronwen lived in Trinidad all her life. She graduated from Lincoln High School in Sopris in 1928. Bronwen received her teaching certificate in 1930 from Colorado State Teachers' College in Greeley. In 1952, she completed her Master's degree. Her first teaching job was in Delagua, she then taught sixth grade at Rice School. In 1945, Bronwen became principal at Sante Fe School until it closed, then moved to East Street School where she retired in 1975. Bronwen was always active in the local community and received many awards for her faithful, persistent, and committed hard work. She was an amazing woman; loved, admired, and respected by everyone.

Leave your legacy by making a gift in your will.

A bequest is one of the simplest ways to remember those you care about most. When making a will, people consider those closest to them - family and loved ones, and they must always come first! Yet, it is also an ideal opportunity to leave a lasting gift to charity. As well as having the satisfaction of knowing that you have made provision for those you love, why not use the chance to bring lasting change to the lives of students at Trinidad State Junior College?

A bequest is a transfer of cash, securities, or other property through a will or a living trust. A bequest to TSJC can be made for a specific amount, for a percentage of your estate, or even for all or a portion of what is left after you have made specific bequests to your family and others. Giving by bequest costs nothing now, yet it may give you a great deal of satisfaction to know that your future gift will live on.

The following examples show how a bequest to benefit TSJC may be worded. In all cases, you should consult an attorney to draft your will.

Bequest Language

General Bequests

"I do hereby give to Trinidad State Junior College Educational Foundation, Trinidad, CO, a Colorado nonprofit corporation, [the sum of \$ _____] or [all my right, title and interest into the following described property: _____] or [_____ percent of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate], such bequest to be used in the manner as determined appropriate by the Board of said Trinidad State Junior College Educational Foundation as it, in its sole discretion, shall determine."

Specific Purpose Bequest

"I do hereby give to Trinidad State Junior College Educational Foundation, Trinidad, CO, a Colorado nonprofit corporation, [the sum of \$ _____] or [all my right, title and interest into the following described property: _____] or [_____ percent of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate], or [all the rest, residue and remainder of my estate]. Such property shall be held as the _____ Fund."

"The property comprising this Fund shall be administered as part of the assets of the Foundation, but shall be separately accounted for as the _____ Fund, as [the principal and income] or [the income only and not the principal] thereof shall be used for the following purposes _____. If at any time in the judgment of the Board of the TSJC Educational Foundation it is impossible or impracticable to carry out exactly the designated purpose, they shall determine an alternative purpose as near as possible to the designated purpose."

Continue the spirit of giving by remembering TSJC in your will.

The information provided here is not intended as legal advice. For legal advice, please consult an attorney.



NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
DENVER CO
PERMIT NO. 5377

Alumni/Foundation Office
600 Prospect
Trinidad, CO 81082
(719) 846-5520

Return Service Requested

UPCOMING 2010 EVENTS



Let's Cruise the Mexican Riviera!

Join us aboard Royal Caribbean's Mariner of the Seas June 13-20, 2010 for a fantastic trip!

Just south of the U.S. border lies a vibrant culture, world-class beaches, lush green rain forests, and vividly painted architecture that will dazzle your eyes. Whether your idea of adventure is exploring a colonial city or discovering the joys of a siesta on a white-sand beach, a Mexican cruise vacation is perfect for you! Prices start at \$752.54* per person!

Ports of Call: Los Angeles, CA; Cabo San Lucas, Mexico; Mazatlan, Mexico; Puerto Vallarta, Mexico; Los Angeles, CA

As before, a portion of the proceeds will benefit the TSJC Educational Foundation.

Details are available from our cruise specialists, Mike and Darlene Jordan of Cruises, Inc.

Call 1-800-267-7613, email: cruisesinc@gojade.org or go to membercruises.com/tsjc to make your reservations! Space is limited! Call **today!**

**prices are per person, double occupancy; port charges included. Govt. fees, taxes and airfare additional; limited availability. Prices shown are min. fares for select departure dates. Other dates higher. Not responsible for last minute changes of price or itinerary by cruise line, or any errors in the content of this notice. Some restrictions and cancellation penalties apply. Ship's registry: Bahamas*



TSJC will observe its 85th anniversary throughout 2010 with special activities, such as the cruise, and other happenings. Watch the website for more information.

TSJC MISSION STATEMENT

Trinidad State Junior College enriches the academic, technical, and cultural life of our diverse community. We are committed to offering traditional and alternative approaches to education, providing quality instruction and promoting life-long learning.