



# Plugged

FACULTY & STAFF NEWSLETTER



BOND EXHAUSTED & SO  
IS PHYSICAL PLANT STAFF

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COMMITTEE UNDERTAKES  
PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH

.....  
PAT KNIGHT IS NAMED  
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## SPRING 2014

VOLUME VI

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



# WONDERFUL AC JOURNEY A Dream Come True

By Dr. Paul Matney  
Amarillo College President

It was Aug. 1, 1979. I awoke that summer morning with eager anticipation. That day I was beginning a new job — a job I was excited about and fortunate to get. Still a “wet behind the ears” 29-year-old, I had been hired as a new instructor of radio-television at Amarillo College.

As I walked across campus that morning going to my new job, I recalled memories of my days spent as an AC freshman in 1967 — good memories of friends, classes, faculty, and activities such as serving as a student TV camera operator on “Sunrise Semester” tapings in the old TV studio in Parcels Hall where the CUB now sits. With about 3,300 students back then, AC had a “warm, cozy” feel. It was comfortable, and most of my high school friends were also attending AC.

To be able to return to my alma mater 12 years later as a teacher was both rewarding and daunting.

The thought of teaching at a college which boasted a student-operated 30,000-watt FM radio station, produced television programming for its own Cable Channel 2, and which employed three full-time broadcast engineers to take care of equipment was overwhelming — surely I must be dreaming! The new job I so coveted turned out to be a dream come true for me.

I began my love affair with AC as a 17-year-old in the summer of 1967 when I walked into Mr. McDonough’s office in the old Parcels Hall to be advised. It didn’t take me long to fall in love with AC, our students, and the department. Each new day brought opportunities and challenges.

I fondly recall so many good memories of my 35 years at AC. In the early years (1979 – 1985) we televised “live” both the men’s and women’s basketball games on Cable Channel 2 — a terrific experience for our radio-TV students. There was a Saturday morning I remember shoveling six

inches of fresh snow so we could roll the camera control units to the gymnasium for a game that night. Then, there was the time I convinced my boss that we really should televise the basketball tournament AC was hosting which just happened to be during the Thanksgiving holidays. We did, and she never forgave me.

Our biggest production was taping the WT-Texas Tech basketball game on Dec. 1, 1980 from the Civic Center Coliseum — a four-camera show with a combined AC-WT student crew. WT upset the Red Raiders that night, and I remember racing the tape to the cable company for broadcast at 10:30 p.m.

We also televised live rock concerts from Memorial Park, and we taped television programs such as Sports Extra, AC Insight, AISD Today, Amarillo Symphony concerts, and an aerobics program.

More recent memories of this great institution include the successful bond issues of 1994 (\$26.3 million) and 2007 (\$68.3 million), both of which transformed the College with new buildings and renovations. We actually lost a bond issue in 1983. Trust me; it’s much more fun to win those elections than to lose them.

I’ve had the privilege of working under six AC Presidents — each one with unique strengths and contributions. I consider it a distinct privilege and honor to have served as AC’s President. What a joy it has been to tell our AC story in this community and beyond.

Today we can all be proud of the AC Moore County Campus which opened in 2000, our new Technical Training Center in Dumas, and Hereford’s marvelous new Hinkson Memorial Campus which opened in January.

*Continued on next page*

The growth of our continuing education offerings, career and technical programs on the East Campus which lead to immediate employment with good-paying jobs, along with our traditional freshman and sophomore academic transfer curriculum make Amarillo College one of the most outstanding community colleges in Texas. Our nursing and health science programs on the West Campus provide much needed personnel for our hospitals, doctors and dentists offices. Our graduates are heralded by local physicians and other community healthcare professionals.

I believe AC's two greatest strengths are our people—dedicated, loyal, and passionate about student success—and the genuine and unfailing support of our community.

As my 35-year career at AC draws to a close, I am grateful to each of you for all you have contributed to making AC such a remarkable place. I believe AC's best years are still ahead

as it continues to provide our students with quality affordable educational opportunities.

AC is positioned well for the future with a strong senior leadership team and talented, loyal, and dedicated faculty, staff, and administrators. Our data indicate we ARE “moving the needle” on student success, which currently is and should remain AC's critical No. 1 priority. That's what our community needs and expects.

In closing my wonderful journey at Amarillo College, let me share that I will miss AC, its employees, and its students every day for the rest of my life, but I will watch its bright future with a keen interest, with passionate support, and with gratitude for my time here.

For each of you, I wish only the best . . .

## Committee Charged with Finding Presidential Candidates

By Lynn Thornton  
Director of Human Resources

**W**ith the announcement by Dr. Paul Matney that he would step down as president of Amarillo College this summer, the Board of Regents began the process of selecting a replacement.

Don Nicholson, chair of the Board, started the process by appointing a search advisory committee as outlined in the Board of Regents Policy Manual, Section BF.

The advisory committee named by Nicholson is composed of Dr. Paul Proffer, Michele Fortunato and Dr. David Woodburn of the Board of Regents; classified employees Cherie Haney and Brenda Sadler; administrator Jerry Moller; Bruce Moseley, chair of Faculty Senate; and student representative Seth Brogdon. Dr. Proffer was appointed to chair the committee.

In keeping with AC policy the position was posted to internal candidates only for five working days, beginning on Monday, April 14. On Tuesday, April 22, the position was opened to all interested candidates who meet the minimum requirements. At that time, Human Resources emailed notice of the opening to the usual list of colleges and universities.

The position is being advertised widely, on numerous websites and in various publications, including The Chronicle of Higher Education, to attract candidates from across the nation. As of this writing the tentative deadline for applications is June 16.



The timeline for naming a replacement is tentative due to the nature of finding and selecting the best qualified candidates.

To view a brochure advertising the position on the AC website, visit [www.actx.edu/presidentsearch](http://www.actx.edu/presidentsearch).



# Last of the Bond Projects on Verge of Completion

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*A glimpse of the new Badger Den in the CUB.*

Passage in 2007 of the capital-improvements bond issue evoked a pulsating sigh of relief from Amarillo College and its abundant friends and beneficiaries who championed deployment of the \$68-million lifeline.

Now, with implementation of the rejuvenating referendum all but complete, a reciprocal sort of relief is raring to make the rounds.

"We'll be greatly relieved when it's finally over so we can go back to our regular jobs," Bruce Cotgreave, director of the Physical Plant, said. "I'm tired. Our whole staff is tired. A lot of what we normally do has been set aside for a long time.

"We've seen some miraculous transformations, though, and we've done much more with the money than we thought we'd be able to do. We desperately needed this bond, so it's not by any means that we're sick and tired — just tired."

The last two bond-funded projects are nearly finished, they being renovations

to Dutton Hall and the College Union Building, both at Washington Street. Each should be wrapped up and the buildings in use this summer.

Dutton Hall will be home to the Education Department (first floor) and Social and Behavioral Sciences (second floor), with pristine offices and classrooms throughout. By moving those programs out of congested Durrett Hall, space allocated to the Mathematics and Engineering Department will multiply. FYI: Renovations are on tap for the Engineering Building, but they will be funded by a grant.

The CUB boasts a spacious new student lounge area to be known as the new Badger Den, fireplace included, and it is now home to the relocated mailroom. And the Bookstore in the CUB has been granted much-needed expansion.

"More space means we can better serve students," Dennis Leslie, Bookstore manager, said. "We'll have wider aisles, additional cash registers to better handle peak times, and by next fall we'll be

offering in-store pickup. We used to ship the books to people who pre-ordered and pre-paid; now, thanks to this expansion, they'll be able to pick them up right here."

It took AC almost seven years to optimally expend the hefty bond, with Cotgreave and his workforce constantly serving as the primary liaisons to ensure the precise needs of affected AC departments showed up in blueprints devised by the architects and in the results achieved by the contractors.

When unexpected and prodigious new construction projects popped up in Moore County and Hereford, projects unrelated to the bond, the over-extended Physical Plant workforce was compelled to simultaneously perform oversight there, too.

And when massive departmental relocations were necessitated by renovations to one building or another, Physical Plant employees coordinated those moves to, and then from, the temporary quarters so that AC could enjoy business as usual — as best it could.

A combination of purposeful stewardship and a fluctuating economy made it possible for every bond project to be completed on or ahead of schedule, at or even well under budget. Sizable savings enabled the College to undertake additional projects along the way, like the first-floor enclosure of Byrd and Parcels halls and the CUB renovation.

From the construction of new buildings — Jones Hall and the Science Lab Building — to major renovations of a host of buildings, to installation of new parking and a new chiller plant, the bond changed the face of AC.

However, if you were ever privy to the antiquated Dutton Hall privy, or subjected to the sardine-like environs of the Allied Health Building or, transported back in time at the Transportation Career Center, you know the bond gave AC more than a \$68-million facelift; this was surgery that provided a whole new set of organs.

# AC Introduces Data-Driven, Career-Evaluation Website

Choosing the right career is a complicated process, one that Amarillo College just utterly streamlined with the introduction of StartHereCareers.com.

The free AC website is designed as a community resource; anyone is welcome to use it. The site contains the most accurate, up-to-date information about specific careers in the Texas Panhandle — wage data, the estimated number of annual job openings, even the number of workers nearing retirement age.

Students or anyone else interested in finding potential careers can use the website to research and evaluate more than 800 occupations, build a résumé, or view job postings through the indeed.com search engine — all for free.

“Picking the right career is a challenge, especially if you have unanswered questions about the frequency of job openings or earning potential,” Ellen Green, AC’s chief of marketing and communication, said.

“Start Here Careers answers those questions and many more. Local data you can trust is provided by 90 sources, vetted by degreed economists and updated quarterly. People deserve to seek a career based on realistic goals and expectations, and this website helps them do exactly that.”

Visit [StartHereCareers.com](http://StartHereCareers.com) and help spread the word.

STARTHERECAREERS.COM



## AC Common Reader to be ‘Blue Hole Back Home’

A novel about consequences of racial prejudice in post-civil rights Appalachia has been selected to serve as the next Common Reader at AC.

*Blue Hole Back Home* by Joy Jordan-Lake will be distributed this summer to students who will be freshmen next fall. Jordan-Lake, who in 2009 won a Christy Award for the book — best first novel — has agreed to speak at the College sometime next fall.

The introduction of Jordan-Lake’s novel at AC will help to both launch and underscore the College’s Institutional Theme for 2014-2015 — “Moral Courage.”

In 1979, when the first “family of color” moves into their mountain village, some local teenagers invite newcomer Sanna to visit their favorite swimming hole. They swiftly learn that this extension of friendship is not to everyone’s liking; all are not ready for an integrated town, much less an integrated swimming hole.

*Blue Hole Back Home* is a story of hate, tragedy, hope and survival, all born of one Sri Lankan girl’s acceptance of a ride one hot summer day to the local swimming hole.

“We’re so excited to host this incredible author and see where *Blue Hole Back Home* and “Moral Courage” take our students during the next year,” said Courtney Milleson, chair of the Common Reader Team.



Courtney Milleson displays the next Common Reader



# Paint Simulator Presents Golden Opportunity for Automotive Students

**V**irtual though it may be, the rainbow of colors suddenly available to students in the Automotive Technology Program at Amarillo College has at its end a bona fide pot of gold.

It's in the form of a newly acquired paint-booth simulator valued at \$26,000 — a high-tech tool on which students can practice the colorful application process on any number of virtual vehicles without dispensing a single drop of actual paint.

The device arrived midway through the spring semester courtesy of a Perkins Basic Grant and swiftly made a curricular impact.

"This is the best simulator of its kind on the market," Brian Jacob, coordinator of the Automotive Technology Program, said. "Our students love it. They'd be on it all day long if we let them."

Whomever has the good fortune to operate the simulator wears a head-mounted three-dimensional-display unit and wields a hand-held "sprayer" with an adjustable nozzle that virtually dispatches any color under the sun.

Whichever vehicle or portion of a vehicle the operator sees through the head display — it might be located in a painting booth or in a windy outdoor setting, whatever the unit has been programmed to simulate — can also be viewed on a screen by instructors and fellow students.

The computer logs the effort and evaluates it, even tabulating the amount of paint wasted by overspray.

"It is utterly realistic," Eddie Casias, instructor of automotive collision technology, said. "In fact, it is probably a little more difficult to master than being in an actual painting booth. If you can learn to do a good paint job on the simulator, you'll be able to do a very good job for real."

Meanwhile, if practice makes perfect, students can practice all they want on the simulator without going through gallons of pricy auto-body paint and do so in a clean, environmentally friendly environment.

Word of the Program's new acquisition was swift to get around; representatives of local industry have already made contact with AC in hopes of getting a demonstration.

Because AC's Career and Technical Education Program is all about putting people to work through industry partnerships, those requests are being granted.



*Brian Jacob, left, and Eddie Casias demonstrate the new Perkins-funded paint-booth simulator*



## Pat Knight Named Amarillo College Professor Emeritus

**P**at Knight, a professor of English for 40 years, has been named Professor Emeritus.

The Faculty Senate submitted her nomination at the March meeting of the Board of Regents and it was unanimously approved.

The Senate will sponsor a reception in Knight's honor from 3:30-5 p.m. Wednesday, May 7th in the College Union Building. President Paul Matney will share his thoughts about the honoree at 3:45 p.m.

"In the view of a great many, myself included, Pat Knight was Amarillo College for about 40 years," Matney told the Regents.

Knight was a mainstay in the AC English Department from 1967 until her retirement in 2007. Her connection with students, faculty and staff was strong and heartfelt.

"I'm absolutely humbled to be honored like this, but it seems to me it is I who should be thanking the College and not the other way around," Knight said.

"I spent 40 wonderful years at AC, and I think of myself as being extremely fortunate to have served at such a fine institution for that length of time."

Knight not only received the highest faculty accolade during her remarkable tenure at AC, she became the inaugural recipient of it—the John F. Mead Award. She also is a past recipient of the Student Government Teacher of the Year Award and the Trio Teacher of the Year Award, another honor for which she was the first such recipient.

Since her retirement from AC, Knight has been ordained in the Episcopal Church and today serves at St. Andrews in Amarillo.

# Perkins Funds Bolster Emergency Services Program

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**A**n AC program that is the definitive picture of good health nevertheless summoned an ambulance this spring.

Fortunately it came not to rescue but to reinforce.

AC's Emergency Medical Services Professions (EMSP) Program, on the strength of a pair of federally funded Perkins Grants totaling \$100,000, actually acquired two vital new resources early in 2014—a fully functional ambulance valued at \$75,000, and an ambulance simulator designed for classroom observation.

It is the first new ambulance ever acquired by the program, which until now had relied on a 1987 model that was well-used even before it was graciously donated to the College by Northwest Texas Hospital in the early 1990s.

"We've been using a hand-me-down with increasing limitations for 20-plus years, so this is a dream come true," said Doug Adcock, program director. "This is a reliable street-emergency vehicle we can utilize in a laboratory setting for emergency vehicle operators courses that until now we could not offer."



*Doug Adcock, right, works with students in the new simulator.*

The high-tech simulator, which was strategically installed in a classroom within the Allied Health Building at a cost of \$25,000, gives EMT and paramedic students a unique opportunity to test their skills in a controlled yet realistic environment. Four video cameras make it possible for instructors and students to view and critique the training sessions from various angles, live or later.

The simulator also contains a programmable, interactive mannequin (the patient), a monitor defibrillator, a simulated oxygen supply, and all the apparatus with which an ambulance normally would be equipped.

"Simulation training is becoming the industry standard," Adcock said. "This is a definite step up from the old-school educational mindset, and the students appreciate the newer technology. It brings our Program up to date and makes it that much better."

## Music Library Honors Helen Gerald

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**H**elen Gerald's enduring legacy as co-founder of the Suzuki Program is rooted deeper than ever at AC following the Feb. 28th establishment of the Helen Gerald Memorial Suzuki Library.

The AC Music Department and its progeny, the Suzuki Program, jointly and officially dedicated the memorial library during a special ceremony in the Music Building on the Washington Street Campus.

Many turned out to honor the late musician, whose extraordinary career as a violinist, violist and concertmaster spanned 63 years.

The Helen Gerald Memorial Suzuki Library is housed in the north portion of AC's Music Library, Room 201A of the Music Building. It contains for both posterity and usability a quantity of Gerald's sheet music, periodicals, recordings, teaching materials and more.

"Helen helped found the Suzuki Program in 1977 and we simply would not be here now if not for her efforts," said Camille Day Nies, Suzuki Program coordinator.



*Camille Day Nies helps dedicate the Gerald Library.*





## FACULTY & STAFF

# Accolades



### President Honors Carter, Cotgreave

Dr. Matney bestowed President's Special Achievement Awards on both Judy Carter and Bruce Cotgreave at the April meeting of the Board of Regents. Carter was singled out for her superlative work as coordinator of the Honors Program. Matney said she is "part of the heart of the institution."

Said Carter: "We do dream big at AC, and we do some big things." Carter will be at the forefront of the Presidential Scholars' trip this spring to Cambodia.

Cotgreave, director of the physical plant, was lauded for his outstanding service during the expenditure of the \$68 million bond issue these past seven years. "I believe this gentleman is the best physical plant director in the state of Texas," Matney proclaimed.

Cotgreave credited his "small but efficient staff" for having been troopers throughout the process.

### Mayor Lauds Mary Clare Munger

Year after year, Mary Clare Munger has been instrumental in organizing the breakfast at which the mayor of Amarillo does out the annual Friend of the Young Child Award.

The only difference this year was that Munger, who chairs AC's Education Department, was the recipient of the red-letter award.

The breakfast and award presentation by Amarillo Mayor Paul Harpole were conducted, as usual, at AC's College Union Building. In listing her many attributes and qualifications for the honor, Harpole at one point opined glowingly that Munger has Friend of the Young Child written all over her, or words to that effect.



Munger joins a long list of worthy recipients of the award that is intended to honor someone each year who goes above and beyond to advocate for young children.

Munger comes from a family of educators. She joined the AC faculty full time in 1999 and immediately established an open-door philosophy for anyone interested in education. She is active in the Panhandle Association for the Education of Young Children, the Texas Early Childhood Education Collaboration, Panhandle Twenty/20, Texas Community College Teachers Association and the Child Development Educators Association.

### College Relations Lands Paragon Award

AC's College Relations Department claimed a prestigious keepsake at the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations annual conference March 19-21 in New Orleans.



The Department was presented with a first-place Gold Paragon Award for its Badger Beginnings brochure, which was designed by Stefanie Carruth, graphic design specialist.

Paragon Awards recognize excellence in communications exclusively among two-year colleges, and more than 80 judges from around the country reviewed nearly 1,900 entries before AC's brochure was singled out for the Gold.

Carruth's winning entry was on display at the convention, and she was on hand to accept the award.

### Clunis Selected for Program at Harvard



Dr. Tamara Clunis, dean of academic success, has been chosen to attend the two-week Management Development

Program administered by the Harvard Institutes for Higher Education. The program is June 1-13 at Harvard University and is designed to enhance management strategies for use both "up" and "down" the organizational hierarchy.

Through real-world case studies, small group discussions and interactive presentations, participants will be encouraged to think beyond their own disciplines and learn to lead in ways that support much larger institutional objectives.



# Sam Lovelady Named AC's Distinguished Alumnus of 2014

Sam Lovelady, having been decidedly indecisive in booking passage to Higher Education, was easily tempted to abandon ship at inauspicious ports of call along the way, first at Unremarkable, later near Oblivion.

He credits the unceasing provocation of ardent Amarillo College faculty for scuttling such notions, buoying his hopes, inspiring him to stay the course.

"Amarillo College was like a rescue," said Lovelady, a CPA and partner in the accounting firm of Lovelady, Christy & Associates. "I shudder to think what might have happened had AC and its dedicated faculty not been there for me."

What did happen is this: Lovelady, a product of Tascosa High School, remained a student at AC from 1973 to 1975, laying the groundwork for a subsequent bachelor's degree and an exceptional career as a certified public accountant, a calling that has taken him to the pinnacle of public service in his hometown.

For his many contributions to the betterment of the community from which he sprang, AC has named Lovelady its Distinguished Alumnus for 2014.

Lovelady, whose stellar leadership was on display when he presided over such august bodies as the Amarillo Area Foundation and the Board of Amarillo ISD, will be feted by the College at a special luncheon in his honor later this year.

"Sam Lovelady represents what Amarillo College has been for so many—a place to get a great start where dedicated and caring faculty have the privilege of molding and shaping lives," AC President Paul Matney said.

"AC had an opportunity to help Sam find his way, and how inspiring it has been to see him develop into a tremendously



successful business leader and to set such a high standard for community service. Our community is much better off because of Sam Lovelady, and we're so proud to honor him as our 2014 AC Distinguished Alumnus," Matney said.

Lovelady had no intention of attending AC. He enrolled on the cusp of the fall semester in 1973 and was surprised the College found last-minute space for him.

"Due to my lack of planning, I was blessed they took me in," he said. "Even then, I was not as responsible a student as I could have been, far from it, in fact."

At one point a science teacher gave him a rather stern warning.

"Acting sort of like a Dutch uncle, he pulled me out in the hall and told me very frankly that I was on my way to being a bum," Lovelady said. "That got my attention. So many members of the faculty took an interest in the students, cared about us.

"Their personal interest in me made a difference," he said. "Otherwise, I'm not sure I'd have ended up on the right side of the road."

Lovelady's path clearly has been straight and true since his days at AC. He has served on boards for the Harington Foundation, the AC Foundation, and the Amarillo Symphony. A former president of the Opportunity School Board of Directors, Lovelady recently rejoined that assembly, and he presently serves as vice chairman on the board of Downtown Amarillo, Inc.

"AC gave me the foundation I needed at a critical time in my life," Lovelady said. "I'll be forever grateful for my experiences at AC and for the opportunities that came as a result of them. AC is a marvelous asset of which Amarillo can be proud."



## Second Chance Prom

The generosity of President Matney paid off in a couple of ways in March. First, he decided the President's Office should support Martha's Home by way of purchasing a table for eight at the Second Chance Prom. Next, he decided to donate those prom tickets to the Classified Employee Council which democratically selected four of its membership to find a date and attend the gala event. The four who got to go from AC are pictured (from left): Karen Logan, Carol Bevel, Rebecca Archer and Connie Ponder. Can you tell they had fun?

# Coaches Tout the College Mentoring Program

**T**rena Rider has been “calling all coaches” since the inception of the Mentoring Program, she being its coordinator and, therefore, the funder of the Coaches and Champions initiative.

To her credit, Rider assembled 80 dedicated coaches this year to help 127 champions find their way; however, almost 200 champions will head to AC next fall. Four score of us, dedicated to the proposition though we are, simply will not fill the bill.

Perhaps it's time we heard from some other adherents of the program.

**Amanda Wallick**, accountant, business office:

“I was nervous at first because I didn't know what, if anything, I could offer. It's been very rewarding, though. It's neat to see the College world through their eyes. When they graduate it's like seeing your kids grow up. It's given me a hunger to get more involved with students because in my job we don't see students all that much.

“I have a student in the fire academy. I'm so excited to attend his pinning this spring. I just know I'm going to cry.”

Wallick strives monthly to meet her champions for coffee or lunch.

“When they are away from the College environment they tend to get more comfortable and open up.”

Wallick recalls when a champion had his car broken into, the windows smashed and textbooks stolen.

“He was completely bamboozled, didn't know what to do,” she said. “I sent him

over to social services and they helped him get his car fixed and the books replaced. They even helped him get new tires to pass inspection. It makes you feel good to help, to be someone they can turn to, even if it's just to point them in the right direction.”

**Sam Schwarzlose**, associate professor of biology:

“I think it's a very rewarding program that everyone should be encouraged to try. It helps you to feel more personally involved in the College, and it definitely makes a difference.”

Schwarzlose has two champions this year, both of whom he helped guide into active participation in the Biology Club. He especially enjoys having one of those young men in his class. “I wish I had both of them in my class,” he says. “The one I've had in class, the relationship has become almost casual but strong, like I'm a big brother.”

When one champion told Schwarzlose he planned to drop the FYS class due to a failing grade, the mentor had this for an answer: No!

“I was able to light a fire under him,” he said. “I'm sure that helped because he stayed in the class and found a way to pass. What would have happened in that situation if the young man had no one to turn to?

“It is nice to be able to intervene and give constructive feedback that you see makes a difference.”

**Jodi Lindseth**, director of Gear Up:

“Students who have no experience with going to college, who have no one in



*Trena Rider has been promoting Coaches and Champions since its inception, even here in March on KGNC with radio personality and AC alum Tim Butler.*

their life with that experience, they just need someone to be there for them, to back them up, to be a listening ear.

“Most of us have had more than one mentor in our lives. Maybe they just need input from another adult. Maybe they need to have someone they can ask what a syllabus is — our jargon often is confusing.

“You don't have to know a whole lot or be an expert on higher education to be a good coach, either,” she says. “Just giving our students a sounding board can be very beneficial because the least little bit of support for a student who has job issues and possibly children at home can go a very long way toward their scholarly success.

“It's a rewarding program for the mentors, too,” Lindseth says. “Just knowing you helped someone through their day sometimes is priceless.”

## June Jazz Concerts Set

June Jazz, a summertime tradition, is entering its 19th season at AC and four performances already dot the musical calendar.

The free outdoor concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. each Tuesday in June on the Washington Street Campus, in the amphitheater east of the Clock Tower.

### Performers this season will be:

June 3: Pat Swindel  
June 10: Polk Street Jazz  
June 17: The Martinis  
June 24: Mark Little

*Attendees are encouraged to bring chairs or blankets.*



# LVN Pilot Program Uses Loaner iPads

While the demand for licensed vocational nurses (LVNs) continues to rise, so too does the need for those entering the field to receive classroom instruction that prepares them to succeed in the increasingly high-tech healthcare facilities of the 21st century.

That means adding technology to the classroom, and that is just what the LVN Program plans to do—through a pilot program given traction by a \$40,000 grant from High Plains Christian Ministries Foundation.

The LVN Program proactively sought the grant specifically for the purchase of 50 iPad Air tablets which will be loaned to students in 2014-2015.

Faculty are already focusing on how best to utilize the iPads for the enhancement of the LVN classroom experience, from determining which apps will best



*Instructor Kim Smith, left, shows one of the new iPads to a student in the LVN Program.*

serve their students to the creation of simulated electronic medical records, which are fast replacing traditional documentation systems in the real world.

“Our students will use this technology to access

the College’s learning management system (Blackboard), which is a huge advantage in the classroom,” said LaVon Barrett, LVN Program director. “They can also view all sorts of demonstration videos, access skill-mastery tutorials, and utilize cutting-edge apps. We’re very excited about the possibilities.”

The pilot program has been dubbed “Smart Teaching Through iPads” and will be assessed upon completion to determine if LVN students in future years should be required to provide their own iPad technology.

## Massive Makeover

Jill Gibson, assistant professor of speech and mass media, revealed sweeping curricular changes to what henceforth will be known as the Mass Media Program during a landmark briefing April 24 at Gilvin Broadcast Center. The transformation emphasizes new initiatives in social media, digital and online training and stackable credentials with multiple exit points. Also at the event, Don Ford, retired director of engineering, became the newest honoree to be enshrined upon AC’s Mass Media Wall of Fame.



## Distracted Driver

With a TxDOT official looking on, Charlotte Modersitzki, coordinator of personal enrichment, gave distracted driving the old college try April 23 at the West Campus. The opportunity arose when TxDOT and the AC Police Department teamed up to present a high-tech distracted driving simulation in Building B, letting drivers know what can happen when they take their eyes off the road.



## Teresa Clemons Immersed in Leadership Texas

Teresa Clemons is new to the longest-running women’s leadership development program in the U.S., yet she is already gleaning insight she hopes will one day benefit the AC community.



Clemons, assistant chief of advancement, is one of 84 women competitively selected from across the state to participate in the Leadership Texas Class of 2014. The theme this year is “The Power of Community: Exploring Our Uniqueness; Sharing Common Ground,” and the 2014 cohort already has met in Dallas and Laredo; they will meet later this year in Abilene and Austin.

“It’s a great and very diverse group of women,” Clemons said. “I enjoy the access it gives you to a lot of really smart people. Not only are others in the group from higher education and education in general, but we also have people from the business world and many in professions dedicated to improving quality of life.

“It’s a full spectrum of the kind of people it takes to effect change, and I’m trying to soak up as much knowledge as I possibly can.”

Leadership Texas was established in 1983 and provides up-to-date information on leadership and issues affecting Texas. The program seeks to advance the power of leadership through programs that connect, inspire, empower and honor women.