

# Alumni Notes



**1960s** **Nancy Rowley** '61 went on to receive a bachelor's degree in elementary education in 1963 followed by a master's in architecture from Illinois Institute of Technology. Currently, Rowley is semi-retired and occasionally helps her husband in his insurance office. She enjoys traveling to visit her grandchildren and making quilts. Rowley is happy to have established a firm foundation at JJC in all the skills she needed when transferring to IIT.

**1970s** **Bettie Komar (nee Gilbert)** '74 went on to receive a bachelor's degree in education from College of St. Francis (now University of St. Francis). A few years later, Komar completed a master's degree in reading at Northern Illinois University. After teaching for 35 years, Komar recently retired from Valley View Public Schools and is an adjunct instructor for the College of Education at Lewis University. "My classes at JJC got me off to a good start in my education program," says Komar.

**1980s** **Tim Reichert** '80 after earning an associate degree in culinary arts at JJC, worked for Hyatt Hotels and Marriott as a chef, moving from Chicago to Greenville, S.C. From Greenville, he moved to Long Beach, Calif. In December of 1987, Reichert changed career paths and was hired by Ecolab where he's been in sales since. He got married in May of 1986, has two daughters and has resided near Charlotte, N.C. since.

**Judy Minarich** '88 earned two associate degrees at JJC and went on to receive a bachelor's degree in education from Eastern Illinois University in 1990 followed by a master's in science education in 2000. After teaching in various schools for over 18 years, Minarich has recently started her own business; a gluten-free company, Real Appeal Inc. Her products can be found in local health and grocery stores. JJC gave her the basis she needed to continue her education. Minarich has been talking to her son about JJC since he is interested in the orthotics and prosthetics program along with engineering. "This is the best compliment you can give a school because he is my best accomplishment," says Minarich.

Send us  
your news  
and notes.

Send your e-mail address, news about your family, your career, and anything else you would like to share with the Alumni Association and JJC alumni. We will include your news in the next Alumni Notes.

Photos are also welcome; simply provide information about the content of the photos. Then, mail it along with the photos to:

**JJC Alumni Relations Office**  
**Room A-3023**  
**1215 Houbolt Road**  
**Joliet, IL 60431-8938**

Or forward your information and digital photos (.jpg format) via e-mail to [alumni@jjc.edu](mailto:alumni@jjc.edu).



## 2000s

**Jennifer Pankow '01** went on to complete a bachelor's degree in psychology at Aurora University, a master's degree in developmental psychology at Northern Illinois University, and another master's degree and Ph.D. in experimental psychology at Texas Christian University (TCU) in December of 2010. Pankow has accepted a position with the TCU Institute of Behavioral Research where she will have the opportunity to collaborate with many gifted researchers in the area of main interest to her – drug abuse and correctional settings. Her coursework at JJC and her work with the JJC Campus Police launched her into the academic track. Pankow shares experience at JJC with the criminal justice program. "It was the cornerstone of my on-going education!"

**Pamela Lewis '04** went on to receive a bachelor's degree in business administration from Robert Morris University where she graduated magna cum laude. Lewis was also inducted into the Sigma Beta Delta Honors Society. She continued at Robert Morris Graduate School of Management where she received a MBA in Leadership. She was the speaker for both the 2008 and 2010 fall commencement at Robert Morris and published a poem in the Robert Morris University's literary magazine "The Egg."