



HONORING JJC'S HISTORY

Relocating Historical Roots

by **Rachel Rose**





COMMEMORATIVE PAVER BRICKS

To purchase a commemorative paver brick, please contact the JJC Foundation at (815) 280-2353 or visit jjc.edu/info/foundation.

As the ongoing construction of new buildings and parking lots on Main Campus signifies an exciting time of growth and expansion at JJC, the college is honoring its historical roots with the relocation of the alumni bell to the front of the Campus Center.

Formerly tucked away in a wooded nook by the JJC Lake, the alumni bell and its inspiring story was relatively unknown at JJC until 2009 when it was incorporated in the redesign of the college logo. A detailed history of the bell, which came to the college in 1969 thanks to the tireless dedication of alumni and college administrator Bill Glasscock, was published in the fall 2009 edition of *Connections*.

"I can't tell you how delighted I am to learn that the bell and its tower was chosen for the college logo," said Robert Glasscock, son of Bill Glasscock. "The Glasscock family will always think of the bell as our father's memorial."

Recognizing the significance of the bell as a symbol of the dedication of JJC's alumni and a historical artifact for the local community (it had previously hung for decades in the old Will County Courthouse), college administration and the Board of Trustees made the decision to relocate the bell to a place of honor and prominence in front of the new Campus Center.

After being removed from its old location, the bell was sent away for refurbishing and a fresh coat of paint before it was installed in its new location in July 2011. It also tolls on the hour throughout the day.

In addition, the college's commemorative paver bricks, originally introduced in 2001 as part of JJC's centennial celebrations, have been relocated to the area surrounding the bell tower. The bricks can be purchased through the JJC Foundation and can be inscribed for a special memorial or to honor a significant achievement, such as graduation from JJC.

A rededication event for the alumni bell and the paver bricks was held on Sept. 15 as part of the grand opening celebrations for the Campus Center.

"The rededication of the alumni bell and the paver bricks marks an important milestone for JJC's future as we honor our past," said Kristi Mulvey, executive director of the JJC Foundation. "Our strongly supportive alumni and friends of the college enable us to meet the needs of students and prepare for future growth. We're pleased to know that our historic alumni bell will now be one of the first things our visitors and students see when they come to Main Campus."

