

November 11, 2013

Special Edition



DCCCD Celebrates the Life of Jan LeCroy



Members of the Dallas County Community College District family - students, faculty, staff, administrators and friends, as well the Dallas-area community - are invited to celebrate the life and memory of Dr. R. Jan LeCroy during a public memorial service on Thursday, Nov. 14, at 2 p.m. in the sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church of Dallas, located at 1835 Young St. LeCroy, DCCCD's second chancellor, died on Thursday, Oct. 10, at the age of 82.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the [LeCroy Scholars Fund](#) of the Dallas County Community College District Foundation.

A recording of the former DCCCD chancellor and other members of the West Point Glee Club from his days as a cadet will mark the beginning of the service; the remembrance will conclude with a reading of the West Point Cadet Prayer, recited by Dr. Wright Lassiter Jr., the district's current chancellor.

"I was saddened to share with members of the district's family the news that Dr. Jan LeCroy, who served as DCCCD's second chancellor from 1981 to 1987, passed away at his home last month," said Lassiter. "Our hearts and prayers continue to be with his family. We will celebrate his life together during the program, which is open to community members, colleagues and DCCCD employees, students and retirees."

A private ceremony was held earlier for family members.

[\[READ THE FULL STORY\]](#)

In This Issue

[DCCCD Celebrates the Life of Jan LeCroy](#)

[A Message from Nancy LeCroy](#)

[Colleagues Share Remembrances of Dr. Jan LeCroy](#)

[Dr. R. Jan LeCroy – Biographical Timeline](#)

Links

[Departmental Web Sites](#)

[Tools and Resources](#)

[Employee Intranet](#)

[eConnect](#)

Archives

[See archives of this eNewsletter](#)

A Message from Nancy LeCroy



Nancy and Dr. Jan LeCroy

This "Favorite Memory" shared by Jan's wife, Nancy LeCroy, reminds members of the DCCCD family how much students and staff meant to Dr. Jan LeCroy. She sends her thanks to everyone for their support and kind words during this time of loss - and she also shared this special story:

"Each Christmas season, we have a LeCroy Scholars reunion at the home of Mike and Sammye Myers. Ever since Mike endowed the program, many of the 200 scholars selected over more than two decades join us for the festivities. Since the scholars can bring a guest, they often choose to bring a spouse, sibling, parent or child. The friendships that have evolved over time are genuine, as is the sense that we are building a close-knit LeCroy Scholars family.

"Last December for Jan's last reunion, as it turns out, the Myers' home was filled with a large and festive group. After dinner, we followed our tradition of going around the large circle so that our scholars, one by one, could update us on their lives and their plans for the future. As sometimes happens, the evening took on a rosy glow - everything about it seemed special.

[[READ THE FULL STORY](#)]

Colleagues Share Remembrances of Dr. Jan LeCroy



L to R Dr. Jan LeCroy, Dr. Bill Priest and Dr. Wright Lassiter

As chancellor of the Dallas County Community College District, mentor for the LeCroy Scholars program, former president of Eastfield College and community leader, Dr. R. Jan LeCroy left a legacy of learning and service for others to follow. Several colleagues, friends and students shared their memories of Dr. LeCroy, describing how he touched their lives - from lighthearted moments to more serious matters.

"Dr. Jan LeCroy's leadership on the board (of the American Association of Community Colleges) was at a time when AACC launched its 1988 Futures Commission, a precursor to our current 21st-Century initiative. Dr. LeCroy's presence will be missed not only by us in higher education, but by the entire Dallas community. The [naming](#) of the LeCroy Center for Telecommunications and the LeCroy Scholars to recognize outstanding students in Dallas is a testament to his contributions to his community and to the nation." - *Dr. Walter Bumphus, President, AACC (from Community College Times, Oct. 17, 2013).*

*** **

"Dr. LeCroy and I had a common association, and that was the military. He was a West Pointer, and I came up via the enlisted personnel and, finally, the commissioned officers corps in the Army Reserve. We would talk on occasion about my experiences as an

[[READ MORE REMEMBRANCES](#)]

Dr. R. Jan LeCroy - Biographical Timeline

- 1930 - Born in Fort Worth, Texas; graduated from high school in Hot Springs, Arkansas
 - 1954 - Graduated from the U.S. Military Academy with a bachelor's degree
 - 1954-1959 - Served as an infantry officer in Central and South America
 - 1959-1963 - Worked for Reynolds Aluminum
 - 1966 - Received his doctorate in community college administration from the University of Texas at Austin
 - 1966-1969 - Worked for the Tarrant County Junior College District as assistant to the chancellor
 - 1969 - Joined the Dallas County Community College District as the first president of Eastfield College
 - 1971 - Appointed to serve as a vice chancellor of academic affairs for DCCCD
 - 1972 - R. Jan LeCroy Center for Educational Telecommunications was founded
 - 1981-1987 - Served as DCCCD's second chancellor
 - 1982 - Selected by the University of Texas at Austin as an Outstanding Administrator
 - 1984 - Served as general chairman of the Dallas United Way Campaign
 - 1984-1985 - Served as president of the Association of Texas Colleges and Universities and later became a member of the Education Commission of the United States
 - 1984-1985 - Served as president of the Dallas Rotary Club
 - 1985 - Recognized for his outstanding support of women in education by the American Association of Women in Community Colleges
 - 1986 - Served as chairman of the board for the 1986 Goals for Dallas Commission
 - 1986-1987 - Chaired the board of directors for the American Association of Community Colleges
 - 1987-1999 - Served as president of the Dallas Citizens Council
 - 1988 - Recognized by the University of Texas at Austin as one of the country's transformational leaders in the field of community colleges
 - 1989 - LeCroy Scholars program established by Mike Myers
 - 1999 - Retired from the Dallas Citizens Council and managed the Armes Family Ranch
 - 2003 - Received the National Leadership Award from AACC
 - 2013 - Died in Dallas, Texas, surrounded by his family
-

All DCCCD employees — including part-time staff and adjunct faculty — are sent this newsletter as a means of sharing important information about the district, employee rights and responsibilities, and the wide range of benefits available to DCCCD administrators, faculty and

staff. We hope you'll find it informative and invite you to [give us feedback](#).

If you believe you are receiving this publication in error, please send an e-mail to internetpublishing@dccd.edu.

Copyright © 2013 DCCCD. All rights reserved.

[Forward this to a friend!](#)

Created with [eNewsBuilder](#)

October 18, 2013

Volume 1 Issue 1



Board Nominates Dr. Joe May as DCCCD Chancellor



Members of Dallas County Community College District's board of trustees have nominated Dr. Joe May as the sole finalist for the position of DCCCD's seventh chancellor. The nomination must be approved by a formal vote of the trustees, following a 21-day waiting period.

[Read more about Dr. May.](#)

In This Issue

[Board Nominates Dr. Joe May as DCCCD Chancellor](#)

[Former Chancellor Dr. R. Jan LeCroy Dies](#)

[Learn to 'Harvest the Rain' at Clean Economy Series](#)

[Be a Trailblazer: Get myPortal Training](#)

[Better Customer Service: Read How You Can Do It](#)

[Keeping Up With the District Style Guide](#)

[Be Covered Texas Care Fair Explains Health Insurance Options](#)

[Change Lives Through Charitable Giving](#)

[Scenes From Commit to Complete Week](#)

[Don't Miss Out — Get Discount Mavs Tickets](#)

[Cyber Security Is Our Shared Responsibility](#)

[Webinars Offer Knowledge, Staff Enrichment Units](#)

[Upcoming Professional Development Opportunities](#)

Links

[Departmental Web Sites](#)

[Tools and Resources](#)

[Employee Intranet](#)

[eConnect](#)

Archives

[See archives of this eNewsletter](#)

Former Chancellor Dr. R. Jan LeCroy Dies

The entire DCCCD family is mourning the passing of Dr. R. Jan LeCroy, chancellor of the district from 1981-1987. We are preparing a special edition of the Employee eNews honoring the man and his legacy. Look for it soon.



Learn to 'Harvest the Rain' at Clean Economy Series

By Rick Rosen



Is the great American lawn doomed? If so, what will replace it? Find out these answers and more from author and permaculture expert Nate Downey at the [Clean Economy Series](#), Oct. 25 and 26 at [Brookhaven College](#).

Downey is author of "Harvest the Rain: How to Enrich Your Life by Seeing Every Storm as a Resource." He is an expert in passive and active water harvesting systems as well as wastewater harvesting and community water harvesting techniques.

[READ THE FULL STORY]

Be a Trailblazer: Get myPortal Training

By Rick Rosen

The myPortal website is getting better every day. Your fellow employees are adding information, sharing expertise and having conversations after they log in at the website, myportal.dcccd.edu. Shouldn't you get in

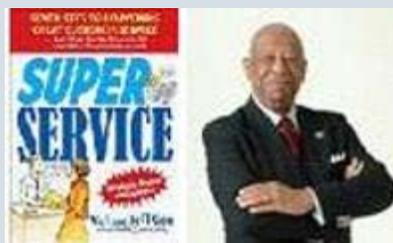


on the action?

You should, and it's easy: Take one of the "myPortal Intro" training sessions scheduled at locations districtwide. View the [myPortal training schedule](#), and sign up today!

[READ THE FULL STORY]

Better Customer Service: Read How You Can Do It By Chancellor Wright Lassiter, Jr.



Several of the colleges have adopted the practice of selecting and reading a common book during the course of a semester or an academic year. The District Customer Service Leadership Team considers this a good concept and has selected a common customer service book for 2013.

The book is a revision of the first edition by authors Val and Jeff Gee. The title is "Super Service: Seven Keys to Delivering Great Customer Service ... Even When You Don't Feel Like It!... Even When They Don't Deserve It!"

[READ THE FULL STORY]

Keeping Up With the District Style Guide By April Ellis



If you've worked for the district for a while, you may be familiar with the [DCCCD Style Guide and Graphic Standards](#). You can view the guide quickly and easily using the shortcut URL www.dccd.edu/StyleAndGraphics.

Launched in 2004, this reference guide helps the college, service location and district marketing offices - and other departments responsible for external publications - maintain a consistent brand image for the district.

[READ THE FULL STORY]

Be Covered Texas Care Fair Explains Health Insurance Options!



Do you have relatives or friends who lack health insurance? Tell them to attend the free Be Covered Texas Care Fair on Saturday, Oct. 26, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Dallas Convention Center Arena in downtown Dallas. They'll learn how they can shop for health insurance through the Affordable Care Act.

[\[READ THE FULL STORY\]](#)

Change Lives Through Charitable Giving

By Don Baynham



Remember to make a difference this year by giving through the State Employee Charitable Campaign (SECC). The districtwide goal is \$400,000. Each location has set a goal that should be attainable if every employee contributes to the charity of his/her choice.

[\[READ THE FULL STORY\]](#)

Scenes From Commit to Complete Week

Each of our colleges, and many other locations, celebrated Commit to Complete Week, Sept. 23-27. Students were encouraged to sign a commitment to complete their education. Many employees who are students of DCCCD colleges or other institutions also were recognized.



Mountain View Community College Completion Corps (C4) created an encouragement board for students.

Eastfield students gather in The Pit for information about Texas Completes.



North Lake students used a huge banner to



display their commitment to completion.

Richland College students turned out in force for their "I Commit" Completion Rally.



Students who signed pledges to complete their community college goals received Texas Completes T-shirts and wrist bands, among other promotional items.

Don't Miss Out — Get Discount Mavs Tickets

DCCCD has once again teamed up with the Dallas Mavericks to offer discounts to Mavs home games. Go to the [DCCCD Dallas Mavs Web page](#) to find out how to buy tickets. You also can get discounts on other sporting events and entertainment around town.



How Do I Find Out About Discounts?

Visit our [Employee Discounts page](#). You'll find links to obtaining tickets to Mavericks games and other entertainment. We update the page whenever we arrange new discounts, so be sure to check back frequently.

Cyber Security Is Our Shared Responsibility

By David Williams



Since its inception a decade ago under leadership from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the National Cyber Security Alliance, National Cyber Security Awareness Month (NCSAM) has grown exponentially, reaching consumers, small and medium-size businesses, corporations, educational institutions and young people.

This year, we are celebrating the 10th anniversary of National Cyber Security Awareness

Month.

[READ THE FULL STORY]

Webinars Offer Knowledge, Staff Enrichment Units



Looking for ideas for productivity, technology, classroom management and more? Check out these webinars offered by the LeCroy Center. To register, email [Liz Gonzalez](mailto:Liz.Gonzalez@dcccd.edu) for either the live webinar at LCET or to request CD check-out information. Staff enrichment units may be earned from attending these sessions:

- **Online Orientation: Focusing on Student Learning** Nov. 8, 12-1:30 p.m. (Live at LeCroy or through archive later)



Remember to take advantage of the STARLINK [Professional Development](#) webinars. For more information, contact Nichole Vance at 972-669-6506 or Kathy McFatter at 972-669-6502.

- **"What the Best Teachers Do"** Oct. 21-Nov. 4, online 24/7

[Upcoming Professional Development Opportunities](#)

Event	Date	Time
Emergency Operations Procedures (EOP) & Respond, Access, Isolate, Notify (RAIN)	Thursday, Oct. 24	9-11 a.m.
Project Management Fundamentals	Friday, Oct. 25	1-3:30 p.m.
Neuro-Linguistic Programming: Manage Your Brain, Manage Your Life	Wednesday, Nov. 6	9-11 a.m.
Managing Pressure & Maintaining Balance	Thursday, Nov. 6	1-4 p.m.
Customer Service Basics	Thursday, Nov. 14	9 a.m.-12 p.m.
Ethics	Thursday, Nov. 14	1:30-4:30 p.m.
Women's Safety in Everyday Life	Thursday, Nov. 21	1:30-3:30 p.m.

Courses are posted and available on eConnect for registration one month prior to the delivery date.

For location and registration information for the above courses, log on to [eConnect](#) as an employee:

- Choose "Register for Staff Enrichment" on the Employee menu
- Select from the drop down menus: Term and Location. (For example: Term – **2013FA** and Location - **010-District Office**). Then go to bottom of page and click "Submit". (Note: You will always choose 010-District Office for programs sponsored by District Organizational Development.)
- Select course(s) you want to enroll in by checking the course box and click "Submit" *
- You will then receive a "Registration Confirmation" page that confirms your registration

Please print the confirmation page and bring it to the session with you

* Classes not visible on eConnect have already reached capacity enrollment. For course questions, please contact orgdev@dccd.edu.

Participants must sign-in on the District Organizational Development sign-in sheet and participate in the entire session to receive SEU credit. Programs close 15 minutes after the session start time. Participants arriving more than 15 minutes late will be asked to reschedule. .

All DCCCD employees — including part-time staff and adjunct faculty — are sent this newsletter as a means of sharing important information about the district, employee rights and responsibilities, and the wide range of benefits available to DCCCD administrators, faculty and staff. We hope you'll find it informative and invite you to [give us feedback](#).

If you believe you are receiving this publication in error, please send an e-mail to internetpublishing@dccd.edu.

November 11, 2013

Special Edition



DCCCD Celebrates the Life of Jan LeCroy



Members of the Dallas County Community College District family - students, faculty, staff, administrators and friends, as well the Dallas-area community - are invited to celebrate the life and memory of Dr. R. Jan LeCroy during a public memorial service on Thursday, Nov. 14, at 2 p.m. in the sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church of Dallas, located at 1835 Young St. LeCroy, DCCCD's second chancellor, died on Thursday, Oct. 10, at the age of 82.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the [LeCroy Scholars Fund](#) of the Dallas County Community College District Foundation.

Home

Return to the main newsletter page

In This Issue

[DCCCD Celebrates the Life of Jan LeCroy](#)
[A Message from Nancy LeCroy](#)
[Remembering Dr. Jan LeCroy](#)
[Dr. R. Jan LeCroy – Biographical Timeline](#)

A recording of the former DCCCD chancellor and other members of the West Point Glee Club from his days as a cadet will mark the beginning of the service; the remembrance will conclude with a reading of the West Point Cadet Prayer, recited by Dr. Wright Lassiter Jr., the district's current chancellor.

"I was saddened to share with members of the district's family the news that Dr. Jan LeCroy, who served as DCCCD's second chancellor from 1981 to 1987, passed away at his home last month," said Lassiter. "Our hearts and prayers continue to be with his family. We will celebrate his life together during the program, which is open to community members, colleagues and DCCCD employees, students and retirees."

A private ceremony was held earlier for family members.

West Point, DCCCD and students - particularly the district's [LeCroy Scholars](#) - held a special place in Jan LeCroy's heart. His education at West Point, military service, dedication to education and commitment to students eventually brought him to Texas and the state's then-largest community college district.

The district's second chancellor remained involved with DCCCD employees and students at all seven colleges in the system after he retired, especially through the [LeCroy Scholars](#) program, started in his honor by Dallas businessman and longtime friend Mike A. Myers. The scholarship fund is administered by the DCCCD Foundation, which named him director emeritus in 2012 for his past service on the DCCCD Foundation board from 1998 to 2012. LeCroy and Myers have served as mentors for more than 200 students who are LeCroy Scholars, inviting them to their homes to network and share their experiences.

LeCroy was past president of the Dallas Citizens Council, a nonprofit organization comprising CEOs of the 250 largest corporations in the Dallas metropolitan area; its mission is to improve the quality of life and the economic viability of the community.

During his professional career, he served as an officer in Central and South America after he graduated from the U.S. Military Academy; he also worked as a front-line manager for Reynolds Aluminum. He earned his doctorate in community college education in 1981 and served community colleges in various leadership assignments for more than 20 years, including his first position in the district as president of Eastfield College and eventually his seven-year tenure as DCCCD chancellor.

The R. Jan LeCroy Center for Educational Telecommunications, located at Richland College and created in 1972, is widely credited for its early role in promoting online learning. The facility, named in LeCroy's honor based on his leadership in the use of distance learning in education, has enrolled more than 230,000 students since its inception. Dallas Colleges Online, the district's virtual campus housed at the LeCroy

Center, is one of the country's largest producers of college-credit online classes.

In addition to his participation in the West Point Glee Club, LeCroy was a trustee of the U.S. Military Academy Association of Graduates for a period that spanned three decades. A mule rider during his college years, he became a model for the mule rider statue in the town of Highland Falls near the academy.

After his busy years in education and business, LeCroy retired and managed the Armes Family Ranch near Stephenville, Texas, and also served on the board of directors for Southwest Securities and Conesco funds. He and his wife, Nancy, who were married in 1990, traveled extensively during LeCroy's later years, and they both remained active members of First Presbyterian Church.

LeCroy's past awards and leadership service include: the National Leadership Award from the American Association of Community Colleges, Distinguished Graduate of the Community College Leadership Program at the University of Texas, president of the Association of Texas Colleges and Universities, and chairman of the board of directors for the American Association of Community Colleges. He is a lifetime member of the board of directors for the Alumni Association at West Point.

LeCroy chaired the committee that developed the Texas Academic Skills Programs for the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. In 1995, he was appointed by then-Gov. George W. Bush to the Education Commission of the States, which establishes education policy for kindergarten through graduate school throughout the country.

November 11, 2013

Special Edition



Home

Return to the main newsletter page

In This Issue

DCCCD Celebrates the Life of Jan LeCroy

A Message from Nancy LeCroy

Colleagues Share Remembrances of Dr. Jan LeCroy

Dr. R. Jan LeCroy – Biographical Timeline

A Message from Nancy LeCroy



Nancy and Dr. Jan LeCroy

This "Favorite Memory" shared by Jan's wife, Nancy LeCroy, reminds members of the DCCCD family how much students and staff meant to Dr. Jan LeCroy. She sends her thanks to everyone for their support and kind words during this time of loss - and she also shared this special story:

"Each Christmas season, we have a LeCroy Scholars reunion at the home of Mike and Sammye Myers. Ever since Mike endowed the program, many of the 200 scholars selected over more than two decades join us for the festivities. Since the scholars can bring a guest, they often choose to bring a spouse, sibling, parent or child. The friendships that have evolved over time are genuine, as is the sense that we are building a close-knit LeCroy Scholars family.

"Last December for Jan's last reunion, as it turns out, the Myers' home was filled with a large and festive group. After dinner, we followed our tradition of going around the large circle so that our scholars, one by one, could update us on their lives and their plans for the future. As sometimes happens, the evening took on a rosy glow - everything about it seemed special.

"When we got home, Jan was higher than a kite. We sat for a long while and talked about all the threads woven into the tapestry - current scholars impressed and excited about the group they were joining; young graduates beginning to make their way; mature professionals who are now leaders; siblings who inspire each other; scholars who are role models for their children and families; friendships that have formed across generations - all playing out against a backdrop of genuine affection for the DCCCD college experience. In particular that evening, we noticed the scholars' deep-seated, often-referenced desire to help others - to serve as mentors, to give back to their communities, to be generous of spirit. The LeCroy Scholars Program is creating a legacy, we thought.

"Jan took great pride in the DCCCD, and no group inspired him more than our students, unless it was the professionals who serve these students - who make programs like the LeCroy Scholars possible. Perhaps the truth is that students and staff inspired him in equal portion, and that is why he so enjoyed his years in the DCCCD."

November 11, 2013

Special Edition



Home

Return to the main newsletter page

In This Issue

DCCCD Celebrates the Life of Jan LeCroy

A Message from Nancy LeCroy

Colleagues Share Remembrances of Dr. Jan LeCroy

Dr. R. Jan LeCroy – Biographical Timeline

Colleagues Share Remembrances of Dr. Jan LeCroy



L to R Dr. Jan LeCroy, Dr. Bill Priest and Dr. Wright Lassiter

As chancellor of the Dallas County Community College District, mentor for the LeCroy Scholars program, former president of Eastfield College and community leader, Dr. R. Jan LeCroy left a legacy of learning and service for others to follow. Several colleagues, friends and students shared their memories of Dr. LeCroy, describing how he touched their lives - from lighthearted moments to more serious matters.

"Dr. Jan LeCroy's leadership on the board (of the American Association of Community Colleges) was at a time when AACC launched its 1988 Futures Commission, a precursor to our current 21st-Century initiative. Dr. LeCroy's presence will be missed not only by us in higher education, but by the entire Dallas community. The [naming](#) of the LeCroy Center for Telecommunications and the LeCroy Scholars to recognize outstanding students in Dallas is a testament to his contributions to his community and to the nation." - *Dr. Walter Bumphus, President, AACC (from Community College Times, Oct. 17, 2013).*

*** **

"Dr. LeCroy and I had a common association, and that was the military. He was a West Pointer, and I came up via the enlisted personnel and, finally, the commissioned officers corps in the Army Reserve. We would talk on occasion about my experiences as an instructor in the Army Command and Generals Staff College, and he would share stories about his time at West Point." - *Dr. Wright Lassiter Jr., DCCCD Chancellor*

*** **

"More than 25 years ago, I partnered with Jan LeCroy to award scholarships to DCCCD students through a scholarship program that I established in Jan's honor. Over the years, we interviewed and mentored hundreds of young people from all walks of life. What consistently impressed me about Jan was his honesty, integrity and genuine interest in people. He had an amazing way of interacting with someone, making them feel comfortable and developing a rapport that, more often than not, led to a lifelong relationship of mutual respect and admiration. Jan LeCroy's legacy will be carried on by all who knew this humble, caring and giving man and who will strive to follow his example as a servant leader." - *Mike Myers, President and CEO, Myers Financial Corp.*

*** **



L to R, Dr. Jan LeCroy, Pamela, Liz and Ana Juarez, and Mike Myers

"My sisters and I feel privileged and extremely blessed to have had the opportunity to know Dr. Jan LeCroy. The LeCroy scholarship allowed us to accomplish one of our dreams, which was to get a higher education in a country that was not ours and at a time when the circumstances were the hardest. Dr. LeCroy not only became our mentor, but he also became family."

"His life displayed not only his high achievements in the education arena and his many contributions to the community, but also was the highlight of a life and heart through which God's gifts were poured out. Although he is no longer with us, his legacy will continue. He will forever be an example of a successful and generous man who used his talents to give back to the community and change the lives he touched along the way. We feel highly honored to be part of the LeCroy Scholars, and we also hope to be an example to and an influence in our community, just like our mentor." - *Liz, Pamela and Ana Juarez, LeCroy Scholars*

Pamela adds, "With all honesty, I wish I had known him longer. He did so much for me and my sisters, yet the times I had the opportunity to meet with him, he devoted his entire attention to me. Recently, I was looking at his biography, and I am thankful to have been honored to be within the reach of someone so inspiring. He was modest, exemplary and approachable. I am blessed that he was able to invest in my education as well as in the lives of the rest of the LeCroy Scholars. His legacy will continue with his family and the DCCCD students he mentored. I thank his family - especially his wife, Nancy - for supporting his vision of advocating for higher education. He will not be forgotten; he simply will be remembered as a true leader.

*** **

"I have been extremely blessed to have Dr. LeCroy as a mentor and friend through the LeCroy Scholarship program. He has been such a large part of my life and career success. I am forever indebted to Dr. LeCroy for what he has done for my life." - *Kevin Cross, LeCroy Scholar (excerpted from comments in a memory book commemorating Dr. LeCroy's appointment as director emeritus of the DCCCD Foundation board in 2012)*

*** **

"The LeCroy Scholarship is a living scholarship, and I am honored to be a part of this legacy to Dr. Jan LeCroy. I became a scholar in 1997; Dr. LeCroy was involved in choosing the scholars and was there when I was interviewed. I was impressed with his demeanor. He sat quietly, observing, and his presence put me at ease. As a LeCroy Scholar, I was exposed to life-changing experiences, from etiquette lessons to board meetings. He has remained involved in my life throughout the years. I know that he and Nancy, Mike and Sammye (Myers), and those who administer the scholarship are only a phone call away.

"Without fail, the scholars meet at Christmas time at the Myers' home. Dr. LeCroy was always a huge presence there. He was always smiling and graciously welcoming. On many occasions throughout the years, these meetings have sustained me. It is hard to be in Dr. LeCroy's presence and not be better as a result. I remember one of our Christmas meetings in particular where Dr. LeCroy gave me encouraging words after I

shared with him that I had not had such a great year. He told me that they were all proud of my accomplishments thus far, especially my musical ones, and that I could rise above any circumstance and handle any obstacles. Then he said something that I will never forget: 'You are beautiful, black and you're a woman; use this to your advantage.'

"I have since achieved many of my goals, both educational and personal. I am a professional singer and a Professor of English, Humanities and Voice. Thank you, Dr. LeCroy, and the rest of the team for helping me to see my other good qualities." - *Sherna Armstrong, LeCroy Scholar*

*** **

"I was playing golf with Jan, Jerry Gilmore (a former DCCCD trustee) and one of Jerry's associates in his law firm. The associate and I were very intense about our golf game, but on one hole, Jan and Jerry decided that finding golf balls was much more fun than playing golf. They found quite a few, and Jan was so happy every time he found one! I can still remember that big smile on his face." - *Robert Young, DCCCD General Counsel*

*** **

All the world's a stage,
And all the men and women merely players;
They have their exits and their entrances,
And one man in his time plays many parts ...

As You Like It, Act II, Scene VII
by William Shakespeare

Dr. R. Jan LeCroy entered the Dallas County Community College stage promoting a student-centered approach to education. He selected the staff at Eastfield College in 1970 with student learning as his first priority. Dr. LeCroy promoted innovative ideas in teaching and never criticized anyone if their new ideas did not work.

Many of the initial staff members hired at Eastfield College moved to other locations as additional colleges were opened in the DCCCD. Dr. LeCroy's leadership and innovative ideas reached other campuses without his direct presence.

Later, when Dr. LeCroy became the chancellor of Dallas County Community College District, he demonstrated his leadership talents in many, many ways. DCCCD was known throughout the nation for excellent education. Students enrolled in DCCCD have excelled in their chosen fields: medical, legal, technology, teaching, sales -- the list is endless. Many of those students succeeded with the assistance of the R. Jan LeCroy scholarships.

Dr. LeCroy was an outstanding person, and his presence on the world's stage of education will have lasting worth. He played many roles during his years in the field of education, always with dignity and pride.

Dr. LeCroy, we thank you for all of your hard work and for making lasting impressions on so many of us. - *Vivian Dennis-Monzingo, President DCCCD Retirees Association*

*** **

"It was 11 a.m., and I was in the laboratory working on my research. We had 'Doctoral Week' at Michigan State University, when colleges and businesses would interview potential candidates who were about to graduate with a Ph.D. Earlier in the week, I had signed up for any institution that would interview me. It was just before lunch, and I had research to do, so I hesitated about going to interview for a position in the Southwest (I am from Boston) at a community college (I had three degrees from MSU) for a position not in my major, poultry science-avian anatomy.

"Because I had made an appointment, I felt obligated to keep it - after all, Jan LeCroy had come all the way from Texas. So I went over to the placement center, and there I met a tall Texan with a military flattop, sort of a redneck type with a warm, caring

personality. (Note: I was used to long hair!) After the interview, he asked, 'Why did you sign up to see me?' I replied that I was practicing my interview skills for my 'real job interview,' and I wanted to get as much practice as I could...so would you please tell me what I could do to be better prepared? Being kind, he laughed.

"During the interview, he presented a list of personal characteristics he was looking for in individuals whom he wanted to fill faculty positions at Eastfield College. He knew we were academically prepared, based on our degrees, but he was looking for faculty who wanted to make a difference in the lives of students—someone who loved hard work and was passionate about teaching. I was a Kennedy/Martin Luther King product - you know...don't ask what your country can do for you, but what can you do for your country; some people see things as they are and ask why, but I dream of things that never were and ask why not; let every child reach their potential. We were the generation who was going to make a difference and make the world a better place.

"MSU had 28,000 students; of those, 7,800 were accepted and 3,800 graduated on schedule. The classes were large and it was 'sink or swim.' Jan said 'We are going to have a college where we are going to really help students by having small classes; the best facilities money can buy; and the best faculty who deeply care for their students, want them to succeed and will work with students who have not had the opportunity to receive a quality education.' He said that we would be dedicated to bringing them up to a high academic standard so they could meet the challenges of academia. He wanted individuals who truly would make a difference in the lives of their students.

Wow!!! What a wonderful, idealistic idea! I was impressed. If I made the choice to accept the position, it meant giving up a career I had worked hard for, moving my family to the Southwest and becoming a teacher - none of which were on my agenda, ever. How powerful a man is Jan LeCroy. He was the rare individual who made you believe you could do anything and that you could succeed if you were given the opportunity. He was a gifted leader. I have never looked back; my decision to follow his leadership has been rewarding in so many ways. All of us who knew him respect, love and honor him, sort of a LeCroy support group.

Because of Jan LeCroy, Eastfield College and the DCCCD continue to pursue their goal to make a positive difference in the lives of others. Everything he promised came true. His caring, thoughtfulness and true desire to be the best continue to provide a basis for changing the lives of our students. Jan Leroy has been a pleasure to serve under and know for more than 45 years. Thanks, Jan. You made an impact on all of our lives and I, for one, among so many am deeply in your debt. You certainly made the world a better place." - *Dr. Carl Knight, Professor of Biology, Eastfield College*

*** **

"Jan LeCroy was an impressive figure to all of us who showed up for the opening day at Eastfield College in 1970. We were the charter faculty and staff, most of us young and anxious to set about building a great college. The excitement was palpable. He gave us a warm welcome with his charming demeanor and wry humor - that, and the fact the air conditioning was not working.

"What I remember most about that day was the imagination and inspiration created as he spoke of his "person-centered" philosophy of education and leadership; it emphasized honoring the dignity, importance and possibility of every person, regardless of status in the organization. In the context of those heady first days, it sounded almost Jeffersonian. He imbued us with the notion that although our roles in the learning process were different - whether we were students, staff, faculty or administrators - we were equal as human beings and entitled to equal respect and opportunity.

"When the history of Eastfield was written for the 30th anniversary, the title for it came easily. Eastfield was The Person-Centered College. This almost-Jeffersonian idea was a value and philosophy Jan LeCroy articulated in both word and deed. I and many others will always be grateful for that." - *Jerry Henson, Professor of History, Eastfield College*

*** **

"Jan LeCroy had a wonderful sense of humor! He and Nancy once attended a gathering at my then newly-built home to see its energy-efficient "green" features. When they arrived, rain was coming down in sheets. Jan, who recently had undergone a liver transplant, ran from the car into the house with a blue recycle bag over his head. On it, he had written, 'I'm a recycled 'liver.' - *Georgeann Moss, DCCCD Director of Internet Publishing*

*** **

"Many (people) touch our lives as we travel life's highway. However, a few help shape the direction our lives take in substantial ways. Jan LeCroy was one of those who had an important impact on my life's direction, and I am mindful of my indebtedness to him.

"...As I reflect on my association with Jan, the quality that stands out most prominently was his 'bearing.' Perhaps this is because of the military background and experience which he and I shared. It is especially important for a military officer to have a good 'bearing.' 'Bearing' is difficult to explain, but you know it when you see it, and in but few was it more evident than in Jan. It has to do not only with the way one appears. It also has to do with the way one is. His calm demeanor had a calming effect on others.

"I will always be grateful that my life's path intersected with Jan LeCroy's and that I had the opportunity to walk it for so many years in Jan's good company.

"In the first few months following the death of FDR, Eleanor Roosevelt found comfort in a little verse that had been sent to her by a friend. It read: 'They are not dead who live in lives they leave behind. In those whom they have blessed, they live a life again.' Jan LeCroy touched many lives throughout his life. That he will continue to live through the many lives he has touched, I have no doubt." - *Dr. Rodger Pool, Retired President, Eastfield College* (excerpt from a letter by Dr. Pool; read the entire letter [HERE](#))