What about the toughest audience of all? “I think the landscape architect did a great job,” said Ina Brundrett. “I’m eager to see the new varieties in bloom. Most of the homes on the Azalea Trail have older plantings, and this will give people the chance to see some newer varieties.” As a member of the TJC Botanic Garden Advisory Committee, her work is far from over, though. She’s keen to raise enough funds to handle maintenance, the addition of new varieties as they become available, and care of any plantings that need replacement over time.

The official opening of the Brundrett Azalea Garden is timed to coincide with the annual Azalea Trail celebration in the spring of 2006. During the Azalea Trail, people come from all over Texas and beyond to enjoy the incredible profusion of azaleas that decorate every nook and cranny of Tyler and the surrounding communities. With its bouquet of new plants, the Brundrett Azalea Garden at TJC is going to attract a lot of attention and traffic.

“We’re so pleased by the community response to this project,” said Mitch Andrews, TJC Foundation director of principal gifts. “Our Master Plan for the College calls for each of the themed gardens to bring people to the campus, whether they be students, visitors looking for beauty, or area residents who wish to get involved in building Tyler through its community college. These gardens would not be possible without the enthusiastic support of the people of Tyler and the surrounding area. The educational value of the botanical gardens can’t be overestimated, and seeing Naud Burnett’s vision literally coming to life here on campus in the Brundrett Azalea Garden makes us all the more anxious to move ahead on the other gardens. It’s truly a living legacy that the community is building at TJC,” he said.

Encore™ azalea varieties added to the Brundrett Azalea Garden include Autumn Amethyst, Autumn Angel, Autumn Carnation, Autumn Carnival, Autumn Cheer, Autumn Chiffon, Autumn Coral, Autumn Debutante, Autumn Embers, Autumn Empress, Autumn Monarch, Autumn Princess, Autumn Rouge, Autumn Royalty, Autumn Sangria, Autumn Starlight, Autumn Sunset, Autumn Sweetheart, and Autumn Twist.
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"Hybrid Native Azaleas on 'Pace Bald'.” Doley S. Bell, Jr. and Leon Pace. 80-81.

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"North Carolina Arboretum's Bonsai Collection in Asheville Features Azaleas Among Other Appalachian Species." Nan Chase. 41.

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