The Magazine of the Pueblo Community College Alumni \& Foundation

## Tony Fortino ...a living legend



The newly formed Alumni Association for Pueblo Community College (PCC) has appointed our officers. The group has expressed a strong desire to offer support to PCC students and help staff Alumni Booths at PCC events. As one member stated "they want to be a part of the College again; to give back to the College where they got their start and felt so welcomed." Our group meets monthly and invites any current or previous PCC student to join us. You don't have to be a graduate to be a member of the PCC Alumni Association.

> PCC Alumni individual's association with
Pueblo Community College individual's association with
Pueblo Community College and assist with the educational attainment of future generations. ( $\begin{aligned} & \text { Mission Statement } \\ & \text { To celebrate the }\end{aligned}$ ( Mission Statem $\begin{aligned} & \text { To celebrate the }\end{aligned}$


Yvonne Petrie '03 Association Co-chair John Trujillo '04 Association Co-chair (not pictured) Jenice Lugert '06
Janet Buck '97 \& '06
Crystal Santistevan '05
Newsletter Committee Chair
Isabel Powell '04
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Carriann Rael '99
Butch Batchfelder '02

Welcome to the inaugural issue of LEGACY.

As the masthead says, this magazine is intended to honor the past and ensure the future of Pueblo Community College.


These actions will
happen because this institution is fortunate to have a dedicated, driven Foundation.

With a focus on student success, the Foundation Board and its staff have accepted the charge of providing financial assistance to not only them hundreds of thousands of dollars in scholarships and emergency funds - but to the infrastructure of PCC.
From supporting a grant writer position to undertaking renovations to the Gorsich Advanced Technology Center, the Foundation has gone above and beyond to help the college meet needs or take advantage of opportunities.

The Foundation actively supports, through events such as the Pueblo Hall of Fame Induction Banquet, the remembrance and celebration of this community's past. The portraits hanging in our Fortino Ballroom recognize 50 individuals who have contributed to the betterment of Pueblo.

It has also embarked on a mission to revitalize the relationship we have with our graduates spanning over 70 years. The Foundation has enhanced our Commencement ceremonies by providing gifts to our graduates. It's an opportunity to encourage them to appreciate their new "alumni" status and to continue their relationship with Pueblo Community College.

In a cooperative effort with Colorado State University - Pueblo, PCC has been part of the established Denver Reunion. The Foundation also played host to the Class of 1955 as it celebrated a golden anniversary last year.

It is these efforts and more that will fill the pages of this new publication. As alumni and supporters of Pueblo Community College, we know you will find it an interesting read as it covers past, present and future. Enjoy!


President

Dear Foundation Board Members, Students, and Friends of Pueblo Community College, this year has brought on some changes and challenges to the PCC
Foundation. As you know by now, Tony


Fortino has stepped down as President of the Foundation after 25 years at the helm. Tony's contributions to the Foundation and to the College are legion and serve as an inspiration to us all. For that reason I agreed to step into his position as Interim President to fill out his term until the next election in September.

I am excited, as well as somewhat intimidated, by the challenges ahead, but that excitement translates into energy to try new approaches, processes and systems. These challenges and excitement need to filter out to all our Board members, however, to create lasting change. In other words one or a few people cannot do it alone. The staff is highly motivated and will give their wholehearted efforts to any changes, but the heart of the Foundation, as always, is with its Board. We, as Board members, need to initiate change and give the staff the direction it needs to function.

Already, we are looking at several knew initiatives to recharge our circuits and let the community know our message. The Board retreat that is scheduled for Saturday, May 12, 2006 at

## EGACY

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PCC is just the start, and I hope that we will get great attendance and participation for our very first retreat. Hopefully, the retreat will help us accomplish these things. The Foundation's first newsletter, thanks to the efforts of Diane Porter and her staff, is to be distributed by May. In the months ahead we need to develop a focus, strategy and goals that are attainable for the balance of the year.

During the three years or so that I have been on the board, I have made great friends and learned a great deal about dedication and community service from all of you. Any foundation which is dedicated to charitableleducational endeavors is only as good as its board members. We have a great nucleus to work with, and I'm positive that with a renewed focus and strong commitment, we will reach our goals. We exist primarily to support Pueblo Community College, its students and programs. As an alumnus of this institution (Pueblo Junior College, AA 1963), I first realized the value of a college education at a community college; now, I'm hoping to give something back to the institution. You, too, feel that dedication, I'm sure, because you agreed to give of your time and efforts to serve on the Foundation Board. Together, we can do it. Si se puede!


Interim President
Pueblo Community College Foundation

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## Pueblo

Business
and
Community Leader
Supports Higher Education
by Betsy Morgan


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Tony Fortino received his practical education at the butcher block in his father's 4th Street grocery, on the deck of a U.S. Coast Guard patrol boat, at a Pueblo car dealership, and in his early experiences of discrimination. These encounters honed his innate personal capabilities, producing a successful business man and an impassioned community leader. Although from a generation in which getting a high school diploma and going into the family business was the norm, Fortino early recognized the value of a formal education.

His generous support and leadership of the Pueblo Community College Foundation was sparked not only by his recognition that Pueblo thrives on a well-educated and energized work force but also on his understanding that "kids want and need opportunities that make their goals realities." As past vice president of the Board of Trustees of Pueblo Vocational Community College (now PCC), one of the founding members of the Foundation, and president since its inception, Fortino saw to it that the PCC Foundation not only offers scholarships to first-generation college students and minorities, but also mini-awards to keep
students in school when the unexpected happens. Fortino tells of one student's request for funds to buy a used tire, after an untimely blow-out, since the student lived out of town and needed to commute to his PCC classes. Getting the students enrolled and keeping them enrolled have been major priorities for Fortino.

His intimate knowledge of ethnic discrimination has made him a supporter of PCC's efforts to diversify not only its student body but its faculty and staff, as well. As a first generation Italian-American in Pueblo in the 30s and 40 s, Fortino knows the cruel attitudes and restrictions that all waves of immigrants face

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## NewsBite

PCC has been awarded a \$150,000 grant to partner with Trinidad State Junior College and develop a new program of study that will produce
graduates with the skills needed to work in the region's energy industry, especially those addressing alternative sources of energy.

when seeking the "American Dream." Even though successfully established in business and actively engaged in community leadership, he was twice blackballed by the Pueblo Elks Lodge when his name was put up for membership. A man can be driven by such attitudes to demonstrate his value. This prod plus the work ethic Fortino learned from his father and his willingness to take risks have brought great benefits to the people of Pueblo County, his family, and himself.

This Pueblo native, World War II veteran, and forty-year partner in Fortino-Jackson Chevrolet has served as president of both the Pueblo New Car Dealers Association and the Colorado Automobile Dealers Association. He received the Northwood Institute Award and the Time Magazine Quality Dealer Award for the State of Colorado. Serving as a trustee of National Jewish Hospital brought him the

National Jewish Hospital Humanitarian Award. Fortino served twelve years on the Pueblo Planning and Zoning Commission, ten years as its chairman. As an active member of Pueblo Economic Development Corporation, Pueblo Chamber of Commerce, Pueblo Urban Renewal Authority (and its Pueblo Downtown Hotel Committee), Fortino's efforts in behalf of Pueblo are most obvious it its convention center and river walk. As president of the Pueblo Development Foundation, he was instrumental in the building of business complexes located at Pueblo's industrial park. His positions as president of the Pueblo County Construction Commission, board member of US Banks, chairman of both the Airport Advisory Board and Pueblo Crime Stoppers demonstrate further his broad interests and leadership capabilities.

At the state level, Fortino represented Southern Colorado and Pueblo as he served on the Colorado Supreme Court Nominating Committee for six years and on the Colorado Transportation Commission for twenty years.

Fortino's continuing interest in Pueblo and its citizens is very evident in his support of Pueblo Community College, and for his efforts he was inducted into the Pueblo Hall of Fame in 2002. His wife Barbara, also an ardent supporter of PCC, chose education as her career, teaching liberal arts courses at Pueblo's Central High School for a number of years. His daughter, Carol Fortino, spent her professional career in teaching. During a recent visit to PCC's campus Tony was asked, "From your experiences, what advice do you have for our students?" His reply: Have a plan. Work hard. Get an education. Learn skills. Work hard. Grab opportunities. Take risks. Give back. Support your values and principles. Find a good life partner and work at relationships. Respect others and yourself. Work hard.

In May of 2006, Dr. Mike Davis, PCC President, conferred upon Tony Fortino an Honorary Degree in Associate of Arts. Dr. Davis clarified this honor by saying:

Your tireless dedication to starting the PCC Foundation, raising funds, and sustaining the organization and college through good time and bad is a remarkable and true testament to your belief in the College and the value of higher education for the communities PCC serves.

Probably the most significant aspect of your work for the Foundation has been your unwavering focus on our students. You have truly been a voice and advocate for the underserved students who need substantial financial assistance with completing their education. Thousands of students have benefited

from your efforts to raise dollars and structure the scholarship program for the Foundation. On behalf of all of them, I salute you and express my appreciation to you for your leadership and hard work.

You have also been a strong advocate for the physical condition of the Pueblo campus and the Fremont Campus. Your fundraising efforts and own financial contributions to the College have enabled us to have one of the most beautiful campuses in the state, if not in this part of the country. Through your political connections and leadership, the College has been able to grow and provide a state of the art institution of higher education. On behalf of the faculty and staff of the College, I again salute you and thank you for your leadership, vision, and assistance in obtaining funding for the many buildings and facilities that we use everyday.

## NewsBite

Dave Edwards, chair and faculty in the Fine Arts and Humanities Department, has been selected to appear in the 2006 edition of "Who's Who Among American Teachers." The "Who's Who" designation is given to instructors who have made a difference in the education of their students. Nominated by one of his students, Edwards is among an elite group of multiple "Who's Who" award recipients.


# New-to-area retired couple donates \$50,000 to PCC Foundation 

Mike and Janice Gould


A couple that recently moved from out-ofstate to retire in this area has donated $\$ 50,000$ to the Pueblo Community College Foundation to provide scholarships to needy students. The donation is the first of several

## NewsBite

Are you ready for the month-long 10th Annual Kids' College? Classes for grades 1 through 3 will be held from July 5 to 8 . Grades 4 through 12 will run from July 11 to August 5 . It will be hard to choose from over 100 classes with everything from art, math and language to technology, science and outdoor sports.


## Joe W. Holloran

Joe Holloran, Pueblo Junior College class of 1947, or as some refer to him, "Mr. I'll Never Retire Realtor" was born during the middle of a Central-Centennial football game in Pueblo, Colorado, on Saturday, November 15, 1924. The fact that he was born in the middle of the biggest high school rivalry west of the Mississippi River helps explain why he truly bleeds the school colors...red.

Only 10 days after graduation from high school, he was drafted into the Army and after 6 months of infantry training was sent to England. After another six months he was sent to France where he fought at Normandy and on the front lines. He was discharged from the Army and enrolled at Pueblo Junior College where he earned a degree in Business in 1947.

That same year he married his high school sweetheart, Dorothy Listerman, who was by then a nurse. They moved to Denver so Joe could attend the University of Denver, where in 1949, he earned his bachelor's degree in Real Estate.

After returning to Pueblo, Joe went to work in his grandfather's real estate business where his grandfather hung his sign in 1894. Joe himself became a driving force in the real estate profession where he earned numerous awards for his professional career and community

efforts. He is known for his honesty, fairness, kindness, integrity and strong ethics.

Probably the most salient aspect of Joe's life, except for his devotion to his family (three sons and five grandchildren), has been his dedication to education. He served on several committees for School District 60 and was a member of the Pueblo Community College Foundation (PCCF) for over 20 years until he stepped down in 2004. He received the prestige honor of being inducted into the PCCF's President's Circle not only for his financial support of the Foundation but for his many hours of service and moral support to the College.

The Foundation and the College are most pleased to recognize Joe Holloran in our inaugural issue of the LEGACY.


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## Joeseph W. Holloran

## NewsBite

PCC's Culinary Arts program has received a rare seven-year accreditation from the American Culinary Federation (ACF), a distinction usually granted only to culinary institutes. One of the main benefits of being accredited is that all PCC students who earn an Associate of Applied Science degree in Culinary Arts qualify as "ACF-certified culinarians." PCC is one of the few institutions of higher education in Colorado with an accredited Culinary Arts program. It's part of the Hospitality Studies department.


## PCC Foundation's Fersis President's Circle President's Circle Inductees

Induction into the Pueblo Community College Foundation's President's Circle demonstrates sincere appreciation for the contributions of our major donors and those future donors that have identified themselves as benefactors through the Foundation in their wills. Donor's have a variety of projects that they would like their funding to be used for: student scholarships, programs, equipment and building projects.

Last year in 2005, two major donors were selected to receive the President's Circle Award, the Robert Hoag Rawlings Foundation and the Parkview Foundation, were honored for their significant contributions for student scholarships.


Robert H. Rawlings


Dr. Jarvis \& Mary Jo Ryals
Dr. Jarvis and Mary Jo Ryals have shown their love and devotion to Pueblo through professional care and passionate support of people, activities and organizations. Cultural entities like the Pueblo Symphony and Colorado MusicFest have been among the recipients of their generous contributions. They have given countless hours to civic and non-profit organizations that work to improve the community. Their philanthropy has greatly benefited the Hasan School of Business and Buell Communications Center at Colorado State University-Pueblo.

A donation of $\$ 250,000$ established the Ryals Professorship of Language and Leadership, a position initially filled by world-renowned author and presidential speech writer, Dr. James Humes. In 2003, the University presented Jarvis and Mary Jo with the President's Medal for Distinguished Service to Education. A gift to the Sangre de Cristo Arts and Conference Center led to the establishment of the Ryals Family Library which houses nearly 800 art resource books. Included in the collection is the personal library
of western art collector Frances E. King.
The Pueblo Hall of Fame was established to honor those individuals who by their extraordinary efforts have contributed to the betterment or enhancement of Pueblo. Individuals in the community are encouraged to submit nominations.

Each year, deceased persons may be selected by virtue of his or her historical contribution. In addition, one or more contemporary individuals may be honored. The areas of endeavor for nominations may include, but are not limited to, education, business and labor, arts and humanities, philanthrophy, government, law, science and technology, and health and human services. Persons elected to the Pueblo Hall of Fame need not have been born in Pueblo, or in the case of contemporary nominees, be current residents of the county of Pueblo. No disqualification or limitation for the nomination or election shall be imposed on the basis of gender, race, religion or national origin. Inductees will be selected in December of each year by a panel of Pueblo Community College Foundation trustees and community representatives.

A banquet honoring the inductees will be held each year. A permanent record of the inductees will be on display at the Pueblo Community College, Fortino Ballroom.

Nominations may be made from the community beginning in April of each year and must be received by the Pueblo Community College Foundation Office by November 30.

## 16th

Annual Pueblo Hall of Fame Banquet
Friday, March 3, 2006 Fortino Ballroom on
Pueblo Community College Campus

Charlene 'Charlie' Madrid


## How Charlie <br> Got Her <br> Education On...

## NewssBite

The PCC Theatre program teamed with the Southern Colorado Theatre Company for six performances of Stand and Deliver in Hoag Theatre in April. The storyline is that of a strong-willed teacher who comes into a Chicano school in East Los Angeles and preaches that all students can succeed if given the opportunity \& environment.

The performances included actors from both organizations.

Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Charlene, but most people know me as Charlic. On behalf of the scholarship recipients, I would like to thank the donors whose generosity made it possible for me to be a student at PCC.

I was born in Walsenburg, Colorado. Although my mother graduated high school, life circumstances prevented my father from obtaining education past the eighth grade. After I graduated high school in Denver, I aspired to attend college and pursue my interest in the field of art...but life sometimes has a way of rescripting our expectations. Somewhere along the way, my children and grandchildren's needs came first and my hopes for higher education always ended up on the back burner. But I am here to tell you that I'm glad to be the writer of this chapter in my life I'm calling, "How Charlie Got Her Education On."

The best way to persuade my children and grandchildren to go to college is to do it myself. That's why I'm completing my associate degree at Pueblo Community College. And thanks to our donors and their desire and ability to make dreams come true, I am able to better myself and influence two generations beyond me to pursue their higher education. You see, the effect of donor's gifts goes a long, long way.

I am happy my chance to achieve my academic goals is now on the front burner. I like being in college! I feel as if I have unlocked doors in my brain and found they opened up to rooms full of untapped knowledge, perception and experiences just waiting to be claimed. I have discovered abilities and talents I didn't know were there. It is exhilarating to get up
each day and know my homework is done and I am ready to go to class and learn what my instructors have prepared for me. I came to this college hungry to learn and I see my instructors as the providers of a feast.... a feast of knowledge and wisdom.

The hard part for me and for many students is not our academic studies. Financing, buying text books, paying tuition and meeting our household expenses-these are the greatest obstacles for many students. I have become very good at creative financing and that, combined with the generosity of donors, has made it possible for me to attend this college. But what you as a donor, and those of you who are considering becoming donors, are doing is far more than just helping me pay the bills. What you are doing for this hungry student is not just giving me a fish, you are making of me a fisherwoman for life. The purpose of higher education after all is not just to satisfy a temporary hunger. Think about it...as I pursue my higher learning and I persuade two more generations to do the same thing, what is actually the result of that? The result, thanks to donors gifts, is a chance to create systemic leveraging to create a better world.

I am blessed to have had the opportunity to begin my educational career here at Pueblo Community College. I have already gained back some of the self-confidence I thought I had lost. I found out it was only dormant, waiting to be brought to life again. Through education I plan to continue adding new information to my life base and hope it is all positive.

I sincerely and deeply appreciate knowing that there are people who unselfishly reach out to others and give not only monetary
hope that I am deserving of both of these gifts and I plan to someday reciprocate, sit in those chairs and be a dream maker like you. I would encourage anyone reading my story to become a donor so that you too will experience the great pleasure and joy of helping students achieve success through education.

$E$very semester talented and deserving students take a first step by entering Pueblo Community College (PCC) in a process that, once taken, determines subsequent events leading to a better career. Eighty-five per cent of our students with families are classified as nontraditional students. Many come back to challenge themselves professionally and personally.

Sixty per cent of our students that attend one of our campuses in Pueblo, Fremont County, Durango or Cortez could not purse their dreams of a better life without the help of individuals like you. In addition, most PCC students have been out of high school and in the work arena for many years. Our students have needs ranging from one on one tutoring, to tuition, childcare, and transportation assistance. In the classroom, we need to keep up to date with technology and equipment to train
tomorrow's workforce. With your help we can successfully cover all these needs.

Your investment can have an impact on any one of the initiatives that have been identified as priorities for (PCC) Foundation: scholarships, advanced technology, student child care, emergency funding, financial aid, and annual giving.

You can make a gift of any amount to an existing scholarship, or you can establish a new scholarship in your family name. Endowments are needed to maintain funding for technology and equipment. Consider the PCC Foundation as a beneficiary in your planned giving, will, insurance or retirement plans.

Contact the PCC Foundation office to discuss how you can invest in our school and our students today and tomorrow.

To invest in PCC students and the College contact Diane C. Porter at (719) 549-3303 or diane.porter@pueblocc.edu.

## YES, I want to make a difference...

To request more information on giving opportunities at Pueblo Community College Foundation, please mark your areas of interest below, fill in your name and mailing address on the attached form, and return the form.

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## NewsBite

Dana Lambert, Director of the TRIO Student Support Services program, wrote an article on electronic learning styles that appeared in the "International Journal on E-Learning," a publication of the Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education. Lambert developed the article from a presentation she helped develop for one of her doctoral study classes.

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Need a clue?
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G?ESS WHO! will be a regular feature in Legacy.
If you would like to be
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