

LEGACY

Honor
the
Past
■
Ensure
the
Future

80th
ANNIVERSARY
Pueblo Community College



Pueblo
Community College
FOUNDATION

Honoring the Past ~ Ensuring the Future

The Magazine of the Pueblo Community College Foundation & Alumni Association

Volume 7 • Issue 2 • Spring 2013



Patty Erjavec, MNM
President



Greetings from President Erjavec

The history of Pueblo Community College is rich, diverse, and filled with so many outstanding accomplishments. However, our greatest contribution has been as a teaching and learning institution. It is with sincere appreciation that I

reminisce and pay tribute to three visionary leaders who in July, 1933, saw fit to start a junior college, even in the most troubling of times. The words of H. G. Wells rang true: "It is now a race between education and catastrophe."

The first organizational meeting of the Board of Directors of Southern Colorado Junior College was held at the office of Phelps & Gobin on July 21, 1933. Elected were Frank S. Hoag, Jr. as Chairman of the Board, J. Arthur Phelps as Vice-Chairman, and E. T. Kelly as Secretary. The institution was established to provide two-year degrees in the arts and sciences, G.E.D., continuing adult education, and other vocational opportunities. The college was located in three unused rooms, once used as a jury dormitory, on the top floor of the county court house. It was staffed with a dean, registrar, two full-time faculty, and eight part-time instructors. Thirty-one full-time and 32 part-time students enrolled, and two years later 17 remained to comprise the first graduating class.

Fast forward to 2013 – Pueblo Community College now serves over 6,000 students annually and is located on four campuses: Pueblo, Cañon City, Durango, and Mancos. Over 75 degree and certificate programs are offered and the college employs over 650 faculty and staff. In May, PCC celebrated the graduation of over 1,300 candidates!

In 1933, it was said that "the greatest asset of the new college was the spirit of public support." This edition of *Legacy* is filled with stories that continue to fuel that spirit of pride – Pueblo Community College remains the crown jewel of the communities we serve! Our academic and vocational programs are highly acclaimed and accredited, our partnerships with business and industry continue to grow, and our relationships with multiple school districts provide early college students affordable opportunities for degree completion.

As you peruse this publication, please join me in acknowledging the vision of those who have come before us, celebrating the great efforts of our faculty and staff, and thanking our communities for their ongoing and generous support.

Happy 80th Anniversary, PCC!

Patty Erjavec, MNM
President



LEGACY

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In 1938, the students of Pueblo Junior College began publication of a yearbook documenting campus life. The title of the new publication – TSANTI – was taken from a word meaning "Behold," in an Apache dialect.

The cover of this issue of *Legacy* uses a photo from the 2013 Pueblo Community College graduation ceremonies and the individual photos of PCC's 1935 graduates.





Expanded Student Center Opens


Dream Becomes Reality

What may have started as a difficult-to-reach dream three years ago is being enjoyed today as a major enhancement for Pueblo Community College students. With the grand opening of its newly renovated and expanded Student Center last fall, PCC has tremendously upgraded both opportunities for academic success and student life on campus. The \$11 million project has increased the size of the center about 20% to 67,200 square feet by adding 11,200 square feet. It established a true one-stop enrollment center that will smooth the entire enrolling, advising and registering process for students while also enabling them to purchase their textbooks and supplies in the same building.

This energized Center is a more student-friendly facility with enhanced resources that provide a richer collegiate lifestyle. It helps students realize their vision

of allotting space for enhanced recreational activities, enrollment services, social space, and study areas.

"This has been a student-driven initiative from the start, and the result is that the Student Center will help students be totally engaged with PCC," said PCC President Patty Erjavec. "By providing both enhanced academic tools and college life, we feel our students will be able to achieve the scholastic success necessary for them to complete their educational goals here."



Originally, the building opened with 46,500 square feet in 1960. It was remodeled in the mid-1990s.

The most recent remodel was initiated through the approved sale of AA2-rated Build America Bonds at a low 3.69% interest rate. The bonds are being repaid by a student-approved fees increase of \$7 per credit hour up to 12 credit hours (a maximum of \$84 per semester).

Primary Revisions

- Consolidating the Go!Zone enrollment center into a single, efficient location
- Improving and doubling the size of the recreation center and furnishing it with brand-new exercise equipment
- Establishing a welcome center containing an information booth to help guide students and visitors
- Expanding and improving the dining areas to enhance the experiences provided there
- Increasing the size of the Tony Fortino Ballroom, where many college and community activities are held
- Developing a spectrum that includes both a quiet study area and a game room
- Greatly expanding the college bookstore and giving it a more visible presence
- Enhancing resources for Culinary Arts students - kitchen, GPA Dining Room, and classroom
- Providing spacious offices for student government and members of student clubs
- Developing greater connectivity between areas



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From the Foundation President
Sharon Swerdfeger

As a member of the Pueblo Community College Foundation (PCCF) Board of Directors for the last 14 years, I am honored to serve as its President for 2012-2013. I can testify that the PCCF has played a significant role in enriching thousands of students' lives since the Foundation was established more than 32 years ago. I am amazed at what the Foundation has accomplished over the years by raising and distributing more than \$4 million dollars in scholarships and \$13 million in college program support.

Our work has focused on building relationships with individuals, like you, who believe in giving people a second chance for an education and a better life. PCCF has earned the trust of the community and we receive many contributions from everyday people, some donating \$25 per month to fund a scholarship and to make a difference for one family.

It has been a privilege to serve on the Foundation Board along with notable leaders in our community such as Tony Fortino, who served for over 20 years. Many members like Tony have left a mark on the fabric of the Foundation and the College. Pueblo Community College has made a huge difference for the Pueblo community over the last 80 years

Those of us who have witnessed the many changes at PCC through difficult economic times can only marvel at its successes. I am truly sincere when I say I am proud of the long history of PCC and the Foundation. I am excited to imagine the role the Foundation will play in the next 80 years!

Sharon Swerdfeger

Kudos to Our Bianca!
Administrative Assistant Is A Shining Star

Bianca Flores has earned a reputation for being organized, industrious and an outstanding event planner for the PCC Foundation. But Bianca has also drawn notice for her work with students as an overseer of the Foundation's scholarship process. In that role, this administrative assistant is noted for being patient, encouraging, calming and extremely helpful. For these and other reasons, Bianca was recognized with PCC's monthly Shining Star award. A Pueblo native, Bianca graduated from South High and earned an associate degree in Business Technologies from PCC in 2002. She worked as a medical transcriptionist for Southern Colorado Clinic until joining the Foundation staff in 2007. She is married and has two young children, a four-year-old daughter and a two-year-old son.



Leaving a Legacy

What does it mean to leave a legacy? Although legacies are often associated with wealth or fame, neither is required for one to leave a legacy. Anyone can leave a legacy, if they are simply inclined to touch someone's future.

Here is the definition of Legacy: a) Money or property bequeathed to another by will, and b) Something handed down from an ancestor or a predecessor. Simply put, a legacy is created by someone who wishes to help others. We hope you are wondering how you can leave a Legacy at Pueblo Community College. Here are a few suggestions:

1. Prepare a will. Be sure to protect what you've worked your life to obtain.
2. Bequest a gift to PCC in your will.
3. Leave a specific dollar amount or a percentage of your assets, such as stocks, bonds, CDs, jewelry, and real property to PCC in your will.
4. Encourage family members and friends to bequest gifts to PCC in their wills or to remember loved ones in honorable or memorial gifts to PCC.
5. Name PCC as the beneficiary of your IRA, Retirement/Pension Plan, or as the beneficiary of an existing or new life insurance policy.

6. Ask your financial advisor to include giving to PCC as part of their counsel to other clients, if asked.

Bequest Language (to be inserted into a will):

Specific Bequest: "I (Name), give to Pueblo Community College Foundation, located at 900 W. Orman Avenue, Pueblo, Colorado (81004), and is a Colorado non-profit organization, the sum of \$ _____ (or _____%) of my estate, or the property described herein, for its general purposes."

Residuary Bequest: "...and all the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate, both real and personal, I leave to Pueblo Community College Foundation, located at 900 W. Orman Avenue, Pueblo, Colorado (81004), a Colorado non-profit organization, for its general purposes."

(Attorneys, Accountants, Insurance Professionals, or Financial Advisors can also help you make a planned gift.)

Leaving a Legacy for Pueblo Community College . . . it's just that simple.

for more information...

**Contact Diane Porter or Donna R. Shaw
at 719-549-3301**

Fremont Campus Capital Improvements Have Begun!

After two and a half years of stop-and-go fundraising campaigns, Project I construction has begun on the Fremont Campus of Pueblo Community College! The first of the two-part capital improvement project will renovate classrooms to create smaller, more efficient rooms and will then increase the number of academic programs offered. The project also includes the creation of a quiet study area and testing area within the Learning Resource Center, and the Art Lab will be moved and refurbished to include running water.

Also included in the initial phase is reconfiguring the Darryl Biggerstaff Library to add classroom and meeting spaces without losing any current library services. Additional and updated computer access will be added to each new area. The total of \$200,000 for Project I was made possible by contributions received from Fremont, Pueblo and Custer County residents. An additional \$7,000 for the initial composite drawings was contributed by the PCC Foundation and \$40,000 from Pueblo Community College for the final architectural drawings. The classroom and library project is estimated

to be completed by the beginning of the fall 2013 semester.

The plan for the second project is to add a 2,820 sq. ft. Student Commons area that will be built as an addition just east of the main corridor. This space will be used for student clubs, student functions as well as a gathering area before and after classes for students. Once complete, the commons area will also be available for various community events.

In February, Fremont students voted for a new student fee to help with the construction costs of Commons Area. This fee will begin in fall of 2013 and continue for four years. Walt and Gloria Schepp have pledged matching funds up to \$100,000 so that the System approval and bidding process can proceed on the Commons Area. Anyone who wishes to pledge towards the Schepps' generous promise can contact Diane Porter at the PCC Foundation Office, 719 549-3303. Pueblo Community College is excited to see these projects come together to improve the instruction and student life of the Fremont Campus.



2013 Pueblo Hall of Fame
Inductee Louie Carleo, PCCF President Sharon Swerdfefer, PCC President Patty Erjavec, and Inductee Dick Cline.

Pueblo

This year marked the 24th annual Pueblo Hall of Fame induction banquet and honored Dick Cline and Louie Carleo – two individuals who exemplify the essence of the Pueblo Hall of Fame.

Dick Cline's interest in the financial world directed his career as a local stockbroker. He served on many community boards, and he taught finance and investing classes for the University of Southern Colorado. Dick was an original member of the community theatre Impossible Players; and over a ten-year period, Dick did a one-man show titled "Charles Goodnight."

Louie D. Carleo founded LDC Properties, a local commercial and residential developer, along with many other business creations and investments. Mr. Carleo renovated many older buildings, some of which generated new jobs for Pueblo. He stated, "This city and the people have been so good to me and my family. It is important to be able to give back to the community."

Attendees listened to a student testimonial from Patricia Lovato, who graduated in 2012. She spoke about how the PCC Foundation's scholarships assisted her and the inspiration she received while a student.

The Hall of Fame banquets are major fundraisers for the PCC Foundation and the beneficiaries are the College and its students.

2013 Hall of Fame

The Pueblo and Fremont Halls of Fame were established to honor individuals who, by their extraordinary efforts, have contributed to the betterment of their communities. Inductees are considered on the basis of the philanthropic and/or educational contributions.

Fremont

Harold L. "Mack" McCormick left a legacy of public service. He had a lifelong interest in public education and service and used his business sense to run theaters in both Colorado and New Mexico. Mack's wife Jeanne was his inspiration for 68 years.

Mack was a photo intelligence officer during WWII; and during his 32 years of service, he reached the rank of colonel and was an Air Force Academy liaison officer.

He was honored by the Colorado State Legislature for his 28-year career. While in office, he sponsored the Colorado Water Law satellite monitoring system, initiated the building of the Women's Prison and the Florence Veterans' home, established the Colorado Film Commission, and championed the drive for the PCC Fremont Campus.

Bob and Helen Shoemaker were founding members of the PCC Advisory Board and assisted in the transfer of land from Department of Corrections to PCC, paving the way for the Fremont campus.

Bob was elected to the House of Representatives in 1975 and served for 12 years. An authority on prison issues, he sponsored the Prison Industries Program, pursued standards for correctional officers, and served on the Colorado Parole Board. In addition, he was honored by the Colorado Wildlife Commission as an Outstanding Conservationist.

Helen held office in Fremont County and the National Cowbells Association. She was named Colorado Master Farm Homemaker and sat on the Criminal Justice Academy Advisory Board.



The family of the late Harold McCormick accepts the award, including his daughter, Carole McCormick (left); wife, Jeanne McCormick (middle); and daughter, Dr. Ellen McCormick (right).



Helen and Robert Shoemaker

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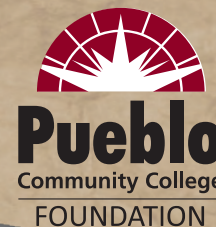
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Burton A. Hennum



December 27, 1914
December 9, 2012

With a Big Heart

Burton Hennum was born on a homestead near Winnett, Montana. His family moved to Wanamingo, Minnesota, when he was nine, and he lived there until he graduated from Rochester High School in 1933. He began working at Rochester post office as a letter carrier.

He married Beatrice "Bea" Todd in 1942 in Jefferson City, Missouri, and they adopted one son, Robert, in 1948. In 1941, Burton was drafted into the Army and was stationed at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, and then spent over two years in the Pacific (Hawaii, New Guinea, Philippines and Korea). While in Hawaii, he was awarded the Bronze Star for Meritorious Service. In 1946, he was honorably discharged and returned to work at the post office in Rochester.

He retired in 1971 and moved his family to Pueblo in 1972. He worked at Davis Mortuary from 1972 to 1978. Then, for 27 years, he volunteered at the SRDA assisting the elderly with income taxes.

Burton was a devoted and active member of King of Kings Lutheran church and participated for many years in social ministries, such as Thimbles & Patches Quilting. He made many lap robes, donating them to senior citizens, shut-ins, first-year college students from his church, and children with leukemia traveling to Denver for chemotherapy treatments. He recycled everything including aluminum and iron to donate to WELCA (Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) for Ronald McDonald Homes.

He created the **Beatrice And Burton Hennum Scholarship Fund** at Pueblo Community College where a percentage of his estate will remain. These are all testaments of Burton's big heart, reaching out to so many!



Dorothy "Tiny" Striegel

Dorothy R. "Tiny" (Huston) Striegel set up a quasi-endowment several years ago for students attending Fremont Campus because she has been a strong supporter of education. She became a member of the PCC Foundation's Legacy Circle by listing the Fremont Campus of Pueblo Community College as a beneficiary in her will. Tiny has been a participant in other activities for the Fremont Campus such as a presenter at the annual Senior Mini College, speaker at the PCC Fremont Hall of Fame, and donor for the Fremont Capital Campaign.

Before Tiny retired in 1982, she was a registered radiology and laboratory technician, and a licensed practical nurse in hospitals in Missouri and Colorado. Her career took a different path as she took courses at Pueblo Community College and attended a few art workshops with local artists. Tiny has self-published three books of poetry: *Memoirs in Rhyme* (1999) and *My Second Book of Rhymes* (2001), *People, Pets and Places* (2003); and has one in process *Tin Cans and Toothpicks* (2013.) In 2009, she published *World War I, A Soldier's Letters Home*, a collection of letters that her father sent home while he was fighting in WWI.

Tiny's many oil paintings and drawings of local citizens are part of the permanent collection within the Museum and History Center in Cañon City.

Tiny is obviously a very gifted individual. The school is honored to be in her realm of friends.



**BRAGGING
RIGHTS**

PCC is the only college in the state capable of producing Nemeth Braille Code for our students with disabilities. Nemeth Braille is used for mathematical and scientific notation. The Disability Resources Office has the capability to do this, and sometimes hires out for other schools and agencies to produce their braille materials.



Start Here ... Go Anywhere

In rural regions like southwest Colorado, community is king, and people are used to pulling together to address the area's needs. Twenty-five years ago, when community members recognized the need for a community college option, they came together and searched for a solution.

PCC accepted the challenge to meet the needs of these southwest Colorado communities. In 1988, Pueblo Community College's Southwest Center was established to provide the five-county area of Region 9 with

college academic courses. Two satellite offices were established, in Cortez and Durango. Over the next 21 years, PCC Southwest Center relocated in the community several times while continuing to provide area students with affordable, quality post-secondary instruction.

In 2009, PCC's Southwest Center merged with the area vocational-technical school, San Juan Basin Technical College, to form Southwest Colorado Community College, a division of Pueblo Community College. The look and feel of the college has changed dramatically since those earlier years, from offices in a strip mall to a building and a fully-equipped college campus, but one thing remains the same – the quality and affordable post-secondary education that is provided.

Enrollment continues to grow; and with the arrival of the new

Executive Dean Norm Jones, SCCC continues to thrive. The staff, faculty and Dean Jones are working with renewed fervor to reach out to surrounding communities, emphasizing the college's role as a center of academic excellence.

We are proud that the SCCC nursing graduate pass rate on the state board of nursing licensure examination remains consistent at 100%. Additionally, 90% of the SCCC nursing graduates find employment in the nursing field within nine months.

**Your College.
Your Community.**

**Southwest
COLORADO**
Community College
A Division of Pueblo Community College

Serving
Colorado in the
**Four Corners
Region**

This spring SCCC's Student Success Team administered Accuplacer tests for nearly 400 high school students in the region's service area. This opportunity has given SCCC a jump start on connecting with future SCCC students in the area.

It is said that the one constant in life is change. SCCC has proven to be flexible in meeting the area's education needs. In essence, the communities we serve can always expect quality, affordable post-secondary education, where they can "Start Here, Go Anywhere."



SCCC Welcomes Executive Dean Norm Jones

Norm Jones, Executive Dean, brings to PCC's Southwest Colorado Community College nearly 40 years of experience in colleges and universities in higher education. Since January, he has overseen the college's operations in the southwest region which includes sites in Durango, Mancos/Cortez and Pagosa Springs. A dynamic leader with a proven track

record, Jones works to build a regional center of academic excellence for students.

Previously, Jones was Vice President for Enrollment and Athletics at Delaware Valley College in Doylestown, Pennsylvania. He has a wealth of administrative experience, especially in the areas of enrollment, admissions and marketing. Throughout his career, Jones has served on several national professional organizations and has given numerous conference presentations on topics related to student recruiting and marketing. He developed software and other tools for use in admissions, recruitment research and financial aid awarding.

Jones earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Social Science at the University of Tennessee and his Master of Education degree in Guidance and Counseling from West Georgia University.

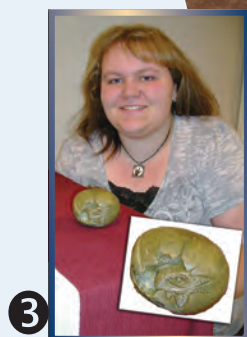
Art Show Illustrates Students' Talents

SCCC Art Instructors Mary Dangler-Frey and Doug Pfliger continue their efforts to expose the community to the artistic talents of SCCC students. For two days in March, much of the Commons building was transformed into an art gallery, showcasing the varied talents of students enrolled in painting, drawing, and sculpture classes. Dangler-Frey stated that there were over a hundred people attending the reception, many of whom voted for the new People's Choice award.

SCCC instructors Gene Orr and Tiana Lemley served as this year's judges and were faced with the difficult task of narrowing the entries down to the Merit Scholarship award winners. Lemley said, "I was impressed with the amount of talent here at SCCC. The students had to go from conceptualizing, to putting those ideas into a finished product, paying close attention to detail, to finalizing their art to be hung for deliberations from judges and peers. What a great accomplishment! For some, it was a leap of faith, filled with insecurities and doubt but also a sense of pride in seeing their work on display."

The 2013 Merit Scholarship winners were: first place – Aubrey Kimmel for her oil painting *War Horse* (photo #1); second place – Jason Baca for his mixed media sculpture *School of Rock* (photo #2); third place – Alexander Sharp for his painting *Sea Set*, and Merit Awards went to Amy Tanner for her mixed media sculpture *Mirror Image of Soul*, and Laurel Bradford for her Soapstone sculpture *Rise of the Dragon* (photo #3). The People's Choice Award went to Brandon Stagner for his polychromed clay sculpture *One Last Time* (photo #4).

After the exhibition concluded, the pieces were moved to the Go!Zone office and displayed during April, to generate interest in the art courses being offered at SCCC. Dangler-Frey and Pfliger continue to develop new course offerings and push the art rooms' limitations.



between heated rivals Durango and Montezuma-Cortez (M-C) high schools at M-C's gym in February. Everyone was stunned, especially SCCC Executive Dean Norm Jones, pictured here, when Walt Whiteskunk sank the shot.

Farewell, Dear Colleague



Dennis Siebel, a long-time instructor and staff member at Southwest Colorado Community College (SCCC), passed away on March 5, 2013. During the six years that Dennis was with the college, he served as a history instructor, faculty administrator, and student advisor. A Dennis Siebel Memorial Scholarship has been established in his honor. The scholarship requires the recipient to be enrolled in a SCCC - West history class, working toward an associate degree and taking a minimum of 9 credit hours. It will be awarded for the fall semester.

Dennis was a consummate student of life, talented actor, singer/songwriter, historian, gifted author, and skilled documentarian. He was beloved by his students, faculty, and staff at Southwest Colorado Community College and is missed dearly.

Contributions to the scholarship can be made by contacting Bev Cattles at 970.564.6210.



This can't be happening! But it did – and more than once! Students Win Scholarships With Half-Court Shots

For the second consecutive year, a student won a scholarship to attend PCC's Southwest Colorado Community College by making a half-court shot during halftime. The event took place at the

high school boys basketball game

This was the third consecutive year that SCCC has hosted the shootout during halftime of the game between these two schools.

If having someone sink a half-court shot two years in a row isn't unbelievable enough, the following week Durango High student Albert Pena, Jr., sank a hook shot from half court during a similar contest held during halftime of the Durango-Montrose basketball game. And, like Whiteskunk, he also earned a \$1,000 scholarship to attend SCCC.

Last year, Terino Littleben, then a junior at M-C, sank the half-court shot. He plans to attend SCCC's campus in Mancos next year and study welding.




In 2001, it was a new home away from home



Pueblo Community College began offering courses for Fremont and Custer county residents in 1980 in various locations throughout Cañon City. As course offerings and programs expanded, the campus moved to The Abbey grounds in 1987. A group of community leaders began advocating for a “real” college campus, beginning with the

transfer of Prison Gardens land from the Department of Corrections to the Colorado

Community College System. The land transfer process began in 1991 and was official in 1995 thanks to the hard work and lobbying of local community members. A capital construction plan for the campus was approved by the State in 1991, and a fundraising kick-off breakfast began the historic capital campaign that lead to building the current campus. The “Rainmakers,” led by local community leader Darryl Biggerstaff, led a highly acclaimed and unprecedented effort to raise \$1 million toward the \$9 million construction of the campus building. The new Fremont Campus opened in 2001, and the number of students and programs has grown exponentially since the doors were opened that August.



Pueblo
Community College
BOOKSTORE



PUEBLO CAMPUS
Student Center • Room 148
719-549-3065

SCCC-EAST CAMPUS
Second Floor • Commons Bldg.
Durango • 970-247-2929 X7225

SCCC-WEST CAMPUS
Main Building, Go Zone
Mancos • 970-564-6204

FREMONT CAMPUS
Main Building, Room 113
Canon City • 719-296-6124

Dr. Lana Carter Appointed Dean of Fremont Campus

Dr. Lana Carter, who has served in a number of administrative positions since coming to Pueblo Community College in 1999, was appointed Dean of the Fremont Campus and assumed those duties on March 11. She replaced Sterling Jenkins, who is pursuing other career opportunities. Carter most recently has been Executive Dean and Dean of PCC's Arts & Sciences Division. She will continue handling those responsibilities until that position is filled through a search.

Dr. Carter came to PCC in 1999 to be the chair of what then was the Social Sciences and Education Department and as a psychology instructor and she later served as Teaching and Learning Coordinator. She was named Dean of the Arts & Sciences Division in 2006. In 2008, Carter spent several months in her native Cortez as Acting Director of PCC's Southwest Campus prior to its merger with San Juan Basin Technical College that created Southwest Colorado Community College. SCCC is a branch of PCC with sites in Durango and Cortez. Last April, Carter was named Executive Dean of PCC's Arts & Sciences Division.



Carter has a bachelor's degree in psychology from Fort Lewis College and both master's and doctorate degrees in counseling psychology from Colorado State University.

☐ *True* or ☐ *False:*

PCC's Testing Center Has Expanded Beyond the Basics

One reason many people celebrated their graduation was ... no more tests! However, the staff at PCC's Testing Center can't seem to get enough of true/false, fill-in-the-blank, pick-the-best-answer, essays, quizzes and all of the above. Fulfilling its mission "to serve the assessment and certification needs of Pueblo and Southern Colorado," the Testing Center has experienced considerable growth in the last five years. Additional staff has made it possible to expand the scope of the Center's testing services beyond the basics (Accuplacer placement testing, GED, and academic testing), as well as handle the increased complexity of many exams.

Testing Center Coordinator Strider Swope said, "We are consistently striving to improve and increase our services, while maintaining our strengths of test security and customer service. We have been working with our branch campuses to expand their testing services, and we act as the go-to support for testing college-wide." Additionally,

the Testing Center proctors tests for other colleges and universities. Since 2008, there has been an increase of 11.5% in this service.

Put away the sharpened #2 pencils, because PCC's Testing Center has also modernized much of its test delivery, becoming the first Testing Center in its service area to offer the GED test on the computer (fourth in the state) and offering the Work Keys Para-Professional exam on computer.

Some people believe that experience is the world's greatest teacher, and PCC has a way to test that. The College Level Examination Program (CLEP) is a series of exams for students who want credit for prior learning. These exams are vital to PCC's mission, because they allow students to earn college credit for knowledge that they already possess, saving time and money. The Center has seen an increase of 310% from last year in students taking these types of tests.

In March, PCC began administering basic skills



PCC Testing Center staff (l. to r.): Stephen (Tucker) Graham, Jordyn Hiner, Bethany Graham, Melissa Montoya, Jean Heuton, Vada Acrey, Duemece Aragon, Strider Swope - on the floor.

assessment tests (Accuplacer tests) to high school students in its eight-county service area, including thousands from Pueblo's two school districts, over a two-week period that began April 1. Students were tested in groups of 100 in the old Learning Center space. State law requires all high school students in Colorado to take a basic skills test at some point, and the state provides funding to administer one test per student. Mike Gage, PCC's Director of Academic Advising, is overseeing the project with Swope. Gage said, "The idea of the basic skills assessment is to use the scores to determine if students

are college ready academically and, if necessary, point out weak areas. The goal is to reduce college remediation rates by indicating areas where intervention is needed to provide extra support to help students become college ready."

Adding multiple testing partnerships has also allowed the PCC Testing Center to become a valuable resource for community businesses and professionals. Some of the testing partners include Pearson VUE (including Cisco and CompTIA), Comira, ETA, MSSC, McCann, ATI, NABCEP, BPI, and ACT Center.

for more information ...

Contact Strider Swope at 719-549-3091
or stider.swope@pueblocc.edu

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Last year the Learning Center provided almost 45,000 hours of student tutoring for students at the Pueblo Campus.

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Pueblo JOE'S

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Hope • Opportunity • Education • Legacy



June 1933. In the midst of the Great Depression, a group of public-spirited men and women founded the Southern Colorado Junior College of Pueblo. The founding group had no financial backing, no campus or building; only their own determination and the support of the community. That evening E.T. Kelly,

Frank S. Hoag, Jr., C.N. Caldwell, A.J. Dooner, R.D. Landis, Hattie A. Mead, Margaret D. Peterson and J. Arthur Phelps formed themselves into the first governing body for the new college.



1937-1938. The athletic program consisted of basketball, golf, tennis, and track. The 1938 basketball team tied for first place in the Eastern Division Junior College conference.

1940. The Civil Aeronautics Authority, a government program to train aviators, began at Pueblo Junior College.

1950. The new Vocational Technical Building reflected a broadened purpose of Pueblo Junior College "... to offer two years of vocational-technical instruction in business, home economics, trades, industry, and agriculture." The building was completed in time for fall 1950 classes.

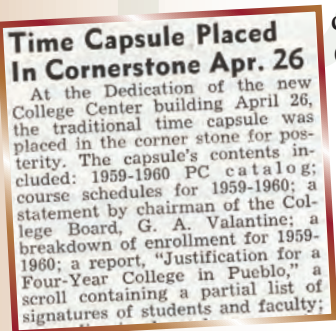


1961. Pueblo Junior College men's basketball team, coached by Harry Simmons, won the NJCAA national championship.

1963. The Pueblo Junior College District was dissolved and the college became a four-year institution, Southern Colorado State College.

1963. The Pueblo Junior College District was dissolved and the college became a four-year institution, Southern Colorado State College.

1979. Pueblo Vocational Community College (PVCC) offered fourteen post-secondary vocational programs, five allied health programs, and sixteen secondary vocational programs.



80
ANNIVERSARY
Pueblo Community College

Eighty Years of

It was a time of uncertainty. "Dusters" obscured the sun and buried everything in dirt as the Dust Bowl raged. The old ways of making a living weren't working anymore as the Depression deepened: businesses stopped hiring, farms had dried up, and dollars were measured in nickels and dimes. It was as if everything was out of balance, shriveling, drying up and being carried away by the arid winds only to be left crooked and confused. It was as if hope itself was being taken away as opportunity dwindled. A few people realized that uncertainty had to be met head on. They understood that hope was dependent upon opportunity and that opportunity was dependent upon hope. They understood that it would take more than a job to secure hope – so they created opportunity.

Pueblo Community College began 80 years ago as a place of opportunity, a place where local people could learn viable

SPRING 2013 CONTRIBUTORS

Dr. Lana Carter, Dean-Fremont Campus; Beverly Cattles, Administrative Assistant-SCCC; Mary Chavez, Dean-Health Professions and Public Safety; Mary Dengler-Frey, Adjunct Faculty, Fine Arts-SCCC; Patty Erjavec, MNM, President-PCC; Bianca Flores, Administrative Assistant-PCC Foundation; Juanita Fuentes, Dean-Community Education & Training; Gary Franchi, Public Relations Specialist; Jeanne Gardner, Director-Library Services; Erin Hergert, Director-Marketing & Communications; Charles Hurley, Graphic Artist-Marketing & Communications; Ed Iniguez, PCC Purchasing; Norm Jones, Executive Dean-SCCC; Jeremy Mares, CHEO Data Analyst; Carriann Martinez, Interim Dean-Student Success; Sara McKinnon, Faculty; Raquel Moss, Recruiter-SCCC; Doug Pfliger, Fine Arts Instructor-SCCC; Donna Shaw, Development Program Coordinator, PCC Foundation; Corey Shilling, Director of Institutional Effectiveness; David Siguenza, Chair-Alumni Association; Sharon Swerdfeger, President, PCC Foundation; Strider Swope, Testing Center Coordinator; Alan Ziff, Chair-Fire Science Technology.

Inspiration • Dedication • Cooperation



of Opportunity

skills that could take them beyond the average job. Those early visionaries saw hope in opportunity and understood that opportunity could be had through education. They knew that if the world was to be made uncertain, it had to be understood beyond the dusty scope of the old way of living. So they offered art, music, philosophy, sciences, and languages. They wanted to expose the people of Southern Colorado to a new way of looking at the shriveling world and inspire them to make it bigger, to breathe new life into it, and to inspire the inspired to inspire. They understood that opportunity would beget more opportunity.

And so it continues. Eighty years later, Southern Colorado Junior College has become Pueblo Community College. In a time of uncertainty, it still seeks to inspire, to make the world bigger, to change how people see themselves. Eighty years later, Pueblo Community College still offers opportunity.

1980. PVCC offered courses at the Cañon City Extension Center, moving to the Holy Cross Abbey campus in 1984.

1981. The PCC Foundation is formed and begins to fulfill its mission: to provide funding to Pueblo Community College and its students through Foundation-approved fundraising activities for student scholarships and special needs identified by the College.

1985. The former baseball field was renamed Valdez Field for Fred Valdez, the first Hispanic to serve on the State Board for Community Colleges and Occupational Education.

1988. The State Board for Community Colleges and Occupational Education approved the Pueblo Community College service area expansion to the southwest counties of Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata, Montezuma, and San Juan. Southwest Colorado Community College, a division of Pueblo Community College, was created May 20, 2009. The new comprehensive two-year community college has two locations: West Campus is located in between Mancos and Cortez, and East Campus is located in Durango at The Commons Building.

1991. The Academic Building opened for spring classes. The new building housed classrooms, offices, the Learning Center, the Library, and science laboratories.

1993. PCC begins broadcasting classes on Channel 39. In 1998, PCC programming moved to Channel 18 with slogan "Education Raised To The Power Of Television." In 1999, PCC's Center for New Media (CNM) began operating Community Access Channel 19 and broadcasting numerous community events. In 2003, CNM partnered with Pueblo County Government to operate County Government Access 22.

1994. PCC/PJC Alumni Association was formed.

1997. The Gorsich Advanced Technology Building opened.

2000. Fremont Campus groundbreaking is held and the first classes in the new facility were offered in 2001.

2006. PCC President Mike Davis died in plane crash.

2010. Patty Erjavec is named first female president of PCC.

2012. Newly remodeled Student Center opens.



1952 • Pueblo College 1952-1961 • Southern Colorado State College 1961-1975

1979 • Pueblo Vocational Community College 1979-1982 • Pueblo Community College 1982-Present •

Students Are Impressive College Representatives

Ambassadors

Ever see a PCC information booth at an event or activity and wonder about the people staffing it? Wonder who is out in the schools and community talking with prospective students about PCC? That would be our Student Ambassador team. The team is a group of high-achieving students at PCC who assist the Office of Recruitment with various outreach activities such as information booths, community events and high school visits. The Student Ambassador program gives students an opportunity to learn valuable work skills including networking, community and public relations, computer and office skills as well as the opportunity to assist students through the enrollment process, which is greatly appreciated by those just getting started. The program also offers a decent starting wage. Students are selected based on a competitive application and interview process.



PCC Ambassadors (l to r) Evan Henley, LeRoy Sandoval, Shawnalee Terrones, Toni Skilling, Louis Trevizo, Ali Wickham, Heather Stevens

Each summer a new team begins and undergoes a three-day training session right before the fall rush begins. "These students are vital to our ability to successfully provide services and outreach to our students and communities," says Carriann Martinez, Interim Dean of Student Success.

Leadership

The President's Leadership Program (PLP) will be entering its third year at Pueblo Community College. The first of its kind at the community college level in Colorado, the program offers high-achieving students an opportunity to learn leadership skills inside and outside the classroom. Students enroll in leadership coursework and also are required to conduct community outreach in exchange for a scholarship. Examples of community outreach include participation in events such as the Project Paintbrush and MyLIFE, which is a leadership program for eighth-grade students. Those who complete the program are eligible to apply for a \$2,500 scholarship through the President's office. Rachel Anderson, Assistant Director of Student Life, oversees the program and has plans to host networking events for the PCC PLP students to interact with the CSU-Pueblo PLP students.



Recruiting efforts draw a tremendous turnout for the Day/Night College Fair on the Pueblo campus.

Making your next step possible

Whether you want professional certification, credit for prior learning, your GED, or you are an employer who needs skill level assessments, the PCC Testing Center is here to make it possible.

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Pueblo TESTING CENTER
Community College



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www.pueblocc.edu/Admissions/AssessmentTesting

CETD: 30 Year Legacy of Giving Back to the Community

Community Education Training Division (CETD) and the Pre-College Programs have had the privilege of providing

opportunities for life-long learning and giving back to the community for over 30 years. There are several programs offered through CETD: HOPE Bridge, Pre-College and Youth Programs, and Continuing Education classes. The CETD Youth Programs foster a college mindset that builds a legacy of learning.

One student, John Trivett (pictured here), not only exemplifies the successful transition from grade school to graduation, but also the



reciprocity that CETD sets out to accomplish. John started his pathway at PCC in 2004 with Kids' College. His exposure to welding led him to pursue college classes in high school through the (AVEP) or Careers and Tech in the Automotive Program. He completed a certificate in Small Engine Repair, and then as a high school senior he focused on Criminal Justice through the dual enrollment program.

When he graduated from high school, he had earned 25 credits from Pueblo Community College and transferred 17 articulated credits to CSU-Pueblo. John graduated in May 2013, Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Sociology and an

emphasis in Criminology from CSU-Pueblo. In addition, John completed his criminal justice internship for his bachelor's degree at PCC in the CETD HOPE Bridge program.

John states, "I believe that the pre-college experiences I had at PCC were a driving force for me to enroll in college and begin my educational pathway to my degree field." The CETD Executive Director, Juanita Fuentes, stated, "Community Education and Training is thrilled to have been part of John's educational journey and we have been pleased with his work in HOPE Bridge Program. It is wonderful to see this full circle completion and to have been a part of his educational journey."

Developmental Math Pilot Project Earns A+

A pilot project inaugurated in the spring 2013 semester to provide students with a more relevant pathway to success has earned excellent marks. PCC instructors, staff and administrators worked together to develop Compressed Introductory and Intermediate Algebra (MAT 095) that replaced two developmental classes, saving students both three credit hours of tuition and one semester of time. It was designed for students who need to develop their math skills before taking MAT 121 as part of their associate degree. The first class had an enrollment of 101 students.

All MAT 095 students were required to have a minimum spec laptop computer, and all assignments and exams were accomplished through MyLabsPlus, a dynamic online teaching and learning environment designed to support online instruction programs and allow instructors to analyze strengths and weaknesses of students.

MAT 095 is part of the newly created i-Grad program that combines what was formerly referred to as "developmental" or "remedial" classes that students need, accelerating the time taken to complete an academic certificate or degree and saving them money at the same time. A second i-Grad course that was inaugurated in the 2013 spring semester was Basic Composition & Reading that combines several English and reading developmental courses into just one class. Students taking this class were able to take seven less credit hours.

The i-Grad program is significant considering that PCC served almost 3,500 students in one or more developmental class during the 2011-2012 academic year.

Kids' College

Twenty-five children from the Boys and Girls Club of Pueblo County had fun at PCC! The Club transported 25 of its kids to PCC's Kids' College Program coordinated by the Community Education and Training Division. Students participated in ROBOTICS, where they learned teamwork and technology by building a robotic vehicle. They enjoyed OOEEY GOOEY SCIENCE STUFF with hands-on activities and experiments. Students engaged in STEM learning activities in the lab and with mock crime scene investigations in the WORLD OF FORENSICS. Students had options in science, technology, math, leisure and personal interest classes.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

The PCC

Foundation provided scholarships to offer this opportunity to the Boys and Girls Club. If you would like to make a donation for more

kids to enjoy Kids' College, please contact the PCC Foundation to find out how you can sponsor kids in our community. PCC's Community Education and Training Division provides great learning opportunities for the youth of our community. "PCC Kids' College—Where Knowledge is Power!"

A History of Meeting the Needs of Our Communities

Current Programs in PCC's Health & Public Safety Division

Cosmetology
Dental Assisting
Dental Hygiene
Emergency Medical Services
Fire Science
Law Enforcement Academy
Massage Therapy
Medical Assistant
Nursing
Nurse Aide
Occupational Therapy Assistant
Pharmacy Technician
Phlebotomy Technician
Physical Therapist Assistant
Polysomnography
Psychiatric Technician
Radiologic Technology
Respiratory Therapy

Health & Public Safety Division Has Impressive 80 Years of Growth

Pueblo Community College's 80 years of change and growth have had a positive impact on the communities it serves and the current Health & Public Safety division is an impressive example of that impact. From the first year of its existence, the college offered training in Pre-Pharmacy, Pre-Medicine, Pre-Dentistry and Pre-Veterinarian, and in 1947 Pre-Nursing was added.

In the late '70s and early '80s, the division was referred to as the Allied Health Professions and consisted of five different programs, offering either A.A.S. degrees or certificates in Dental Hygiene, Practical Nursing, Psychiatric Technician, Radiologic Technician, and Respiratory Therapy. Occupational Therapy Assistant, Emergency Medical Services and Cosmetology were introduced in the mid-'80s. (The Cosmetology program was stopped in the early '90s but returned in 2008.) During the '90s, the college added more programs that would benefit the growing student body and the community: Physical Therapist Assistant, Surgical Technician, Dental Assisting and Ophthalmic Technician.

The division's title was recently changed to Health & Public Safety to more accurately reflect its educational spectrum, which includes the Law Enforcement Academy and Fire Science programs. The division currently boasts 18



Assistant. No doubt this division at PCC will continue to grow and find new ways to provide more occupational opportunities to its students and meet the needs of its communities.



The Huerfano County Fire Protection District has recently entered into an agreement with Pueblo Community College to give this Class A Structural Fire Truck to PCC in exchange for the PCC Fire Science Technology Department providing structure fire response training to the members of the Huerfano County Fire Department. The two organizations have also discussed partnering in an effort to develop a regional emergency response training center in Walsenburg.



IT'S NOT ALL ABOUT THE NUMBERS.

SOMETIMES IT'S ABOUT THE

ELEPHANT.

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Pueblo Community College **Simulation Lab** at St. Mary-Corwin Medical Center *Simulation... Learn and Live the Experience*

History of the Nursing Program at Pueblo Community College

The nursing program at PCC started in 1947 as a Pre-Nursing program within the Arts & Sciences Division. However, it was not until September 1957 that the first 16 students were accepted into the Practical Nursing Program. A nursing lab was developed at the college for pre-clinic training and partnerships were created with local hospitals for the clinical portion of the program, the majority of clinic occurring at St. Mary Corwin Medical Center. In 1978, a Practical Nurse program at our Fremont Campus was developed. The Associate Degree Nursing (RN) program started at PCC in 1985; 1988 brought the second year of the associate degree program to the Southwest Center in Durango with the full two-year program coming on board in 2008. Currently, PCC offers associate degree nursing programs

at all three sites, Pueblo, Cañon City and SCCC, which follow the common nursing curriculum developed by the Colorado Community College System (CCCS). Between the three campuses, 100 new students are accepted each year. Mary Chavez, Dean of Health & Public Safety, said "We are extremely proud and appreciative of the strong support from our communities, including our state-of-the-art Simulation Lab at St. Mary Corwin Medical Center that opened in 2012." This partnership allows student nurses to simulate "live" patient care scenarios and provides leading edge training opportunities for the hospital's personnel.



Concurrent Enrollment In Its Early Days

PCC's concurrent (high school) enrollment programs have grown tremendously in the past few years and cover multiple programs and courses that will grant both high school and college credit for students. My story takes us back a few years when the college carried the name Area Vocational Center. In 1979-1980, I was a senior at Rye High School and applied for the Area Vocational Center's Health Occupations course, and I received an internship in physical therapy and also a job as a physical therapy aide. The mentoring, guidance, and education I received in the Health Occupations courses left a lasting impression on me and I knew physical therapy was the path I wanted to pursue. I attended a Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program out of state at a time when Colorado did not have a program. I returned to Pueblo and worked with a physical therapist who was asked to start a PTA program at PCC. I joined the PCC teaching staff in the second year of the program, moved to department chair several years later, and now am serving as the Dean of Health & Public Safety. I feel extremely privileged to have been a part of the early concurrent enrollment days and to now be guiding our division and college towards PCC's mission of providing quality educational opportunities.

~ Mary Chavez

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Lori Mott

SCCC Instructor Awarded Prestigious State Honor



Lori Mott, a Montezuma-Cortez High School career and technical education teacher who reaches SCCC-West students thru her Emergency Medical Services Basic concurrent enrollment classes, has been named Colorado's Career & Technical Educator of the Year by the Colorado Community College

System. She was honored in February at the CCCS awards luncheon held to recognize the CCCS Faculty of the Year.

Lori started M-C High's Fire Science and Emergency Responder program and has worked tirelessly developing community partnerships to obtain donated resources that have helped make it a program of excellence. She also incorporates what she learns in professional development experiences into her classrooms. Because she instills a drive for excellence in her students, many of them have moved forward in the field of firefighting and EMS. A Cortez firefighter, Lori received the Firefighter of the Year award from the Cortez Fire Dept in 2001 and the similar award from the Dolores Fire Department in 2006.



Pueblo
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
Community College
DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI



Dr. Irene I. Blea

is a distinguished alumna of Pueblo Community College's predecessor institution, Southern Colorado State College. Dr. Blea has achieved outstanding professional, civic and personal accomplishments as a scholar, an author of textbooks and academic articles in the fields of Sociology and in the area of community service. She applied her college and university education in a manner that

is worthwhile and has attained positions of leadership in her communities of Pueblo, Boulder, and Denver, as well as in civic and philanthropic organizations in Los Angeles, California and Albuquerque.

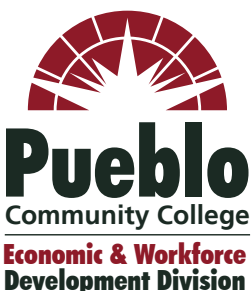
As the oldest daughter of a full-time homemaker and a Pueblo steelworker, she was a role model to her five siblings. She graduated from Central High School in 1965 and attended Southern Colorado State College where she earned an AA degree in Mental Health and a BA in Sociology. Her doctorate degree was earned at the University of Colorado-Boulder. Dr. Blea retired as a tenured, Full Professor and first female Department Chair of the Mexican American Studies Department at California State University-Los Angeles (CSULA) in 1986. The CSULA department was the first and largest BA and MA degree-granting Mexican American Studies department in the nation. She laid the ground work for its Ph.D program.

Dr. Blea continues to teach, write, and engage in community service. After publishing seven textbooks and over 30 articles on race and gender relations, she retired to write social-historical novels. Two of her textbooks are considered classics in her field: *Toward a Chicano Social Science* and *La Chicana and the Intersection of Race, Class and Gender*.

The Pueblo Community College Alumni Association's "Distinguished Alumni Award" recognizes those students who attended or graduated from Pueblo Community College or its predecessor institutions who have gone on to apply their college education in a worthwhile manner and have attained positions of leadership in their community for outstanding civic, philanthropic, or social welfare efforts.

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A Sentimental Journey



Max Kaplan Makes Music at Pueblo Junior College

Max Kaplan, a musician, an educator, and a sociologist, came to Pueblo Junior College (PJC) in 1937 when he was hired to develop a music program at the new institution. Kaplan earned his education degree at Milwaukee State Teachers' College in 1933. He and the PJC Band and Orchestra are described in the 1939 *Tsanti* yearbook:

Our College band and orchestra have just completed their first year of organization ...the noon hour rehearsal period had so many other attractions that Mr. Kaplan probably found solace in recalling similar difficulties experienced by others of his fellow tradesmen, such as Haydn and Bach. But little by little, by borrowing music, hauling chairs through the halls and bribing his artists with lollypops, Mr. Kaplan whipped his group into shape.

By 1945 the students knew "Max" better and wrote the following description in the faculty section of the *Tsanti*:

Our talented master of music is well known far beyond the boundaries of our campus. A writer of no mean ability, a musician of fame, and a wholesome influence on our college life, "Max" is beloved by all. He likes outdoor sports, tennis, bicycling, and "fiddling". He doesn't like people who do superficial thinking . . . he isn't particularly fond of students who think there is a royal road to becoming a musician. He knows that it takes hard work.

While at PJC, Max Kaplan wrote *Problems of Junior College Music*, (1941); *Beethoven or a Bottle of Beer*, (1943), and *Music for Community or Catalogue*, (1945) all published in the Junior College Journal. His *Music in the*

City: A sociological survey of musical facilities and activities in Pueblo, Colorado, was self-published in 1944. During his tenure at PJC Max Kaplan earned his Masters' Degree in Music at the University of Colorado in 1941. In 1945, he was the sponsor of the Orpheus Club and director of the chorus.

The 1945 *Tsanti* was dedicated to Max Kaplan.

His untiring efforts, his sympathetic nature, his unlimited patience – all will be long remembered by each and every student who has profited from his understanding and intelligent instruction. He has fought for the rights of young

people; he has fought to right the wrongs of young people; he is intolerant only of the intolerance of youth. In grateful recognition of his munificent service to Pueblo Junior College, we proudly dedicate the 1945 TSANTI to our beloved "MAX".

Kaplan taught, lectured and served as a consultant for over four decades, writing or editing 27 books and some 350 articles along the way. His last publication, *One Life: The Free Academic*, was published in 1998. He died in August of that year at age 87.



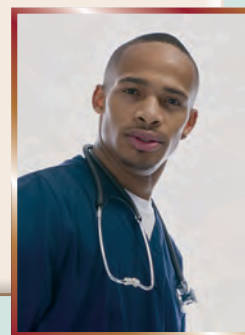
Equity: In the Spotlight Now and Then!

In March of this year, one of the college's "Spotlight" sessions was on gender equity in education. And that reminded some here at PCC about an initiative in 1987 – 26 years ago!

At that time, PCC was awarded a grant from the state system to commence a study and produce a document on promoting gender equity in technical education. The goal was to learn and share "best practices" for recruiting

and retaining students in fields that were predominantly male or female (nursing, welding, machining, electronics, etc.). Four PCC employees spent several months during the spring semester of 1987 researching and compiling the handbook which was published in house in June of 1987:

Equality: An Idea Book. Its subtitle was *To Promote Sex Equity in High Technology Vocational Education*. The researchers were Alberta Girodo, nursing; Heather Hill, electronics; Sara McKinnon, English; and Emily Daxton, English. When the handbook was completed, copies were distributed at the college and state-wide. Heather Hill and Sara McKinnon presented the findings at several conferences the spring and summer of 1987.



"Education Saves The Day!"
 SCCC "Super Hero" Staff Jill Carithers and Melinda Green promote Gateway to College.



BRAGGING RIGHTS

Graduates for 2012-13*

416 Associate Degrees

927 Certificates

1343 Total

*unofficial numbers

People

President Patty Erjavec Earns Pair of Awards

PCC President Patty Erjavec was honored twice this spring by being selected to receive a pair of very prestigious awards. In mid-March, the Pueblo native was selected to receive a President's Medallion for Distinguished Service to Education award by Colorado State University-Pueblo. A week later, the State Student Advisory Council (SSAC) chose Patty as the recipient of this year's President/Vice President Award. The award goes to a college administrator who demonstrates enthusiastic support of student initiatives. While the first award was made in May, Erjavec received the SSAC award at the Rising Star luncheon held in April. It was quite fitting that both notifications came in March, since that is national Women's History Month. Patty made her own bit of history three years ago by becoming PCC's first woman president.



Rosemary Breckenfelder Faculty of the Year

Rosemary was selected Pueblo Community College's Faculty of the Year recipient just months after her Early Childhood Education (ECE) program received national accreditation. She was an adjunct ECE instructor at PCC from 1998-2001, became a full-time faculty member in 2002 and the department's chair in 2005. Rosemary previously

served as preschool site coordinator for Pueblo School District 60 and director of the Children's World Learning Center in Pueblo as well as three other centers. She has served on numerous PCC committees and completed the Academic Management Institute for Women program. Rosemary earned higher education degrees in her native Massachusetts (Falmouth) by receiving a bachelor's in Early Childhood Education at Fitchburg State College and her master's in Education from Lesley University.



Tom Gribben Part-Time Instructor of the Year

Students in Tom Gribben's science classes love the teaching style and hands-on approach that he has brought to his classrooms since becoming a part-time instructor at PCC two years ago. A life-long educator who spent 30 years as a teacher, administrator and even a coach for the local school districts, Tom is dedicated to making sure his students learn the skills they need to be successful. The Florence native has a bachelor's degree in Biology from what then was Southern Colorado State College and master's degrees in Science Education from Western State College and Leadership from UCCS. He was selected PCC's Part-Time Instructor of the Month last October. He has been married for 40 years and has three adult children.



Whitney Strobel Classified Employee of the Year

Whitney is known for always bringing an exceptional attitude and work ethic to her position as bookstore Sales Assistant I on Pueblo Community College's Fremont Campus. Not only has she managed the bookstore since 2006, but Whitney also coordinates special events for the campus. The Cañon City native started as a work-study student in the bookstore while earning an associate degree in Criminal Justice, which she completed in 2006. Whitney has served the college further as either a current or former member of the Promise, Senior Mini College, SPLASh, Fremont Hall of Fame, Work-Study Supervisors and Engaging Youth committees.



Jill Sanchez Administrative/Professional Technical Employee of the Year

Jill helps students transform their lives as Coordinator of Pueblo Community College's Community Education & Training Division (CETD). The Pueblo native previously was a branch manager for two different banks and a religious education coordinator for a church. Jill became familiar with PCC by earning an Associate of General Studies degree in Accounting at the community college in 2004 before going on to receive her bachelor's degree in Business Administration (Business Management concentration) from Colorado State University-Pueblo in 2009. She was a part-time CETD instructor from 2007-2009 before assuming her current position. She has or currently serves on PCC's Professional, Promise, CQI Facilitator, Summer Institute, and Customer Solution Center committees. Jill and her husband of 15 years have two daughters.



Students Receive Rising Star Awards

Bonnie Lechtenberg and Schyler Kline are two exceptional students who have demonstrated significant leadership and volunteer participation while attending PCC's Pueblo campus and have been selected by the State Student Advisory Council (SSAC) to receive Rising Star awards. Bonnie and Schyler were honored in April at a Rising Star Luncheon held at Front Range Community College in Westminster.

A Beulah native and Branson School Online high school graduate, Bonnie participated in the President's Leadership Program, New Student Orientation, and Student Activities Board while also serving as

Associated Student Government secretary, vice president, president, and clubs chair officer. She rounded out these activities as PCC's representative on SSAC, also serving as that organization's secretary. A 3.48 GPA student, she graduated in May with two associate degrees and plans to transfer to Colorado State University-Pueblo to seek a bachelor's degree in business.

Since beginning at PCC, Schyler has been involved with TRiO Project Success, was a New Student Orientation leader, served on the Student Activities Board and the Associated Student Government, as well as the AmeriCorps program where he devoted over 900 hours of community service.

Schyler has also been recognized by the PCC Foundation as an outstanding scholarship recipient. (See the other article on this page.)



Outstanding Scholarship Recipients



Student Uses The Past to Pay It Forward

by small class sizes and the idea that the college president often walked the campus.

During his first year at PCC, Schyler received the E.M. Christmas scholarship and the PFLAG scholarship. During his second year, he received the Pueblo Lodge No. 17 A.F. & A.M. Warren Skrifvars Scholarship and again the PFLAG Scholarship.

In August 2012, he met a ninth-grade earth science teacher in need of resources for the classroom. With a desire to support his community, Schyler used what he had learned in the two geology classes at PCC to create a high school level presentation titled, *Ancient Tides: The Western Interior Seaway and the Geology of Pueblo, Colorado*, that gave an overview of how an ocean once covered all of Colorado. He also designed a day-long field trip to the Pueblo Reservoir for exploring and interpreting the geology of the area. Collaborating with the Nature and Raptor Center of Pueblo, he will be designing other field trips to emphasize Pueblo's geology. He plans to take his presentations and research with him as he transfers to the University of Northern Colorado for his bachelor's degree in geology after he graduates from PCC in May 2013.

In 2012, Schyler Kline spoke at the PCC Foundation Scholarship Reception where he shared his reasons for choosing PCC – the campus staff he encountered was willing to help students succeed, and he was intrigued

In June 2010, David A. Maes was out of work as a journeyman carpenter due to the economic downturn. As a homeowner, single parent, and caretaker of his blind mother, David knew unemployment benefits would not be enough to support his family. He made the decision to enroll in PCC for a career in Electro-Mechanical Technologies, a field that is currently in demand and would complement his current skills.

Attending college was a challenge, David was both nervous and excited to be in the classroom, and there were times when he thought he would have to withdraw and go back to work. However, David knew PCC had all the resources he needed to be successful. And with the financial support from the Max & Kathleen Watts Scholarship and the Dammann Family Scholarship, David made his goals a reality.

Today, David is working in his field of study at Rocla Concrete Tie, Inc., in Pueblo as a maintenance technician. He was referred to this position by his program advisor, Tom Elliott. David said, "Not only did PCC educate and advise me, they also referred me to my current employer and did the same for several of my classmates."

In addition, David wanted to tell PCC Foundation donors, "Your generosity has positively impacted my life and the lives of other students. One day I'd like to help others the way you have helped me. I hope I can encourage you to keep giving by assuring you that your donations are gifts that last a lifetime."



Foundation Donors Have Positive Impact

UPDATES



www.pueblocc.edu/AboutUs/Alumni

A note from David Siguenza, Alumni Association Chair

Pueblo Community College's 80th anniversary marks a milestone in the history of higher education in Pueblo. The College opened its doors on July 13, 1933 and has achieved eighty years of educating community members. Students, faculty, staff, administrators, donors, and alumni are all proud to recognize the ruby jubilee.

The Alumni Association will be honoring the anniversary by recording oral histories from alumni. The association is seeking input from alumni who would like to share their comments about the college.

The Alumni Oral History is a collection of historical information about the College using videotapes of interviews. These interviews are conducted with people who attended Pueblo Junior College or Pueblo Community College or those who observed past events that impacted the College.

The Alumni Association congratulates Pueblo Community College for reaching 80 years of success and thanks PCC alumni for their support in sustaining the future of the PCC.

Alumni Deaths

Robert E. Even, '48
William S. Gaby, '48
Howard P. Summers, '48
John P. Dernovshek, '56
Gilbert B. Armenta, '58
Hal S. Hartman, '58
Loren H. Catron, '61
Vernon D. Roberts, '65
Joy R. Vining, '65
Lois A. Plant, '67
Gretchen E. Seifried, '68
Sharon K. Weldon, '81
Theodore L. Longdo, '84
Johnny Maestas, '87
Robert W. Lenz, '93
Frank C. Montee, '93
Colette R. Arnold, '97
Patrick Kerrigan, '99
Philip Doane, '00
Jennifer D. Kennedy, '12
Dr. Jack Parsons
Beverly L. Hunter
Mary Lee "Sally" McGill-Egan

Alumni Marriages

Quanisha M. Gonzales, '05,
married David P. Lucero.
Angelica M. Machado, '07,
married Emmanuel A. Villeda.
Faith A. Cortez, '09,
married Brendan J. DeLao, '10.
Briana A. Garcia, '09,
married John Ben Jude Apodaca.
Holly J. Crespin, '10,
married Valentin Jose Rueda.
Kim Knutson, '11,
married Dylan M. Addington.
Damon A. Kelson, '12,
married Alix Yukiko Kieber Kuhn.
Daniel J. Thielemier, '12,
married Nicole R. Supancic.
Roxann R. Robles, '13,
married Andrew J. Bryant.

Births to Alumni

Dawn M. King, '04 and
Jack King ~ daughter on Feb 25
Chris J. Cordova, '05 and
Shantelle Perez ~ son Sept 21
Amber Scott, '05, ~ son on Sept 21
Hannah R. Eberhardt, '07 and
Jason Eberhardt ~ son Mar 16
Michael Perea, '07 and
Jessica Cordova ~ son on Mar 29
Alicia Cabrera, '07 & '08 and
Steven Whitehead
~ daughter on Apr 13
Jeremiah Cruz, '09 and
Renae Maese ~ daughter on Feb 21
Nicole J. Martinez, '09 and
Michael Costa ~ son on Feb 22
Donald E. Tate, '09 and
Jennifer Tate ~ daughter on Sept 16
Damien M. Montelongo-Gallegos, '10 and
Nikita Chavez ~ daughter on Feb 12
Phillip B. Nulkey, '10 and
Sierra Mulkey ~ son on Feb 20
Paul A. Bueno, '10 and Tenesha
Bueno ~ son on Mar 25
Jacob D. Ragland, '11
and Mariah Robson ~
son on Jan 24
Nicholas E. Lile,
'12 and Amy Colvin ~
daughter Mar 7

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LaVerne "Buzz" Elias, '40, celebrated his 92nd birthday in November.

Jay R. Dammann, '55, has been elected as Emeritus Director with the PCC Foundation.



Janice L. Williams '69

and her husband **Ralph, '61**, celebrated their fifteenth wedding anniversary in November. In April, Jan was honored by the Pueblo Child Advocacy Center's Blue Tie Gala for her service to the organization.

Loren F. Blaney '70, transferred to CSU-Ft. Collins where he received his electrical engineering degree. He then spent four years at Martin Marietta. He is now an independent consultant.

Frieda G. Padilla, '97, has returned to PCC to earn her RN after graduating with her LPN degree 15 years ago.



Amanda A. Corum, '01, Director of Operations at PCC's Economic Development & Workforce Division gave a presentation at the first Donor Appreciation Breakfast hosted by the PCC Foundation.

Barbara Simms, '01, has been a strong supporter of PCC since her first semester as a student in 1999. She began as a volunteer tutor in the math and science departments and the Learning Center. She was employed by PCC in 2005 as a tutor and an adjunct instructor. She has been teaching for the math department ever since and was chosen as the 2011 Instructor of the Year. She currently works full time in the Records Office as the Enrollment Coordinator for the Colorado State Department of Corrections.

Barbara says, "I love PCC! I continue to volunteer as an advisor in the Go!Zone, and I invite people I know and meet in the community to enroll at our wonderful school." She and her husband, Richard, live on a small ranch and raise cattle, dogs, and cats. They have one daughter who graduated from PCC's Cosmetology Program in May, and they have two beautiful grandchildren who love to visit "the prettiest school in Pueblo."

Pam Sterner, '04, transferred to CSU-Pueblo where a paper she wrote about the Congressional Medal of Honor led to the passage of the Stolen Valor Act. The law makes it a crime to falsely make a verbal, written, or physical claim to a military award or decoration. She helped create, draft and lobby for the Act which was passed by Congress in 2006. "I was glad I could play a small part in preserving the honor of our military heroes," she said. Last year, Pam had a front-row seat at the U.S. Supreme Court hearing on the law.

Leroy M. Garcia, Jr., '05, left the Pueblo City Council for the statehouse when he won the race for House District 46. Once in office, he worked to bring Fort Lyon back into action as a transition center for homeless people - especially homeless veterans.

Mr. Garcia is a first-generation college grad, with a master's degree in organizational management from Ashford University in Clinton, Iowa; a bachelor's in management from the University of Phoenix in Colorado Springs; and an associate's degree in emergency medical services from PCC.

Denise Spaccamonti, '06, is the Coordinator of Concurrent Enrollment at PCC. She earned her associate degree at PCC and then completed her bachelor's degree at Adams State College and finally her Masters of Business with Colorado Technical University. Denise says, "My education has always been a personal goal for me. I was not able to finish until later in my life because I worked full-time to put my ex-husband through the Rad Tech Program here at PCC and then motherhood took over after that."



Juanita Whitaker, '09, obtained a Bachelors of Mass Communications in 2010 and a Bachelors of Sociology in 2011, both at CSU-Pueblo.

She recalls her time at PCC with making the Dean's list, videotaping a promotion for the College and being a part of the broadcasting crew. All these things got her "hooked on education." In May, she received a Master's in Nonprofit Management from Regis University in Denver.

For the last seven years, she has been speaking to students majoring in psychology, sociology, social work, and pre-med courses at several Denver college campuses. She speaks about her story of spending 14 years legally committed to a mental hospital. After her release, she was determined to make a

difference in herself and her community. Juanita states, "I tell my story with clarity and meaning from the point of view of someone who has experienced the debilitating grip of mental illness to the liberation of remission. I give these students the opportunity to ask questions which may one day lead to more innovative ways of treating a disease that afflicts millions every year in this country."

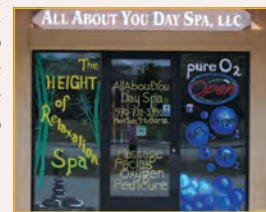
Joel Flaugh, '10, was honored by the Southwest Colorado Chapter of the American Red Cross along with 17 others for their life-saving efforts. During the Breakfast of Champions event in Durango, Joel was presented with an award for performing life-saving CPR on a 7-year-old boy after he had collapsed at the Southern Ute Indian Tribe ceremonial grounds in Ignacio.



Rachel K. Martinez, '10, had transferred to Colorado State University to seek a Bachelor of Fine Arts when she received an internship in Orlando, Florida, working her dream job of drawing for Disney. She works for Caricature

Connections and is responsible for art-based products sold at the Disney, Universal, and Nickelodeon resorts. She plans to finish her BFA at Full Sail University in Orlando, and hopes to move forward within the company. She has a goal of transferring to the Disney Studios in Burbank, California, to work on future movie releases.

Pamela Larson, '12, graduated summa cum laude and became a Registered Respiratory Therapist. After spending time in the hospital setting, she decided to change professions and become an esthetician. She bought a spa in Pagosa Springs and opened the first high-altitude oxygen bar and spa. Vacationers who are suffering the effects of high altitude sickness use the oxygen bar. At the same time, she runs a boutique spa that offers multiple modalities of massage, facial, and pedicure. All services are also connected to oxygen. In the future, she plans to offer Chinese Medicine, acupuncture, and acupuncture face lifts. She states, "I am awake very early every morning because I just cannot wait to get to work." She has two supportive sons who are also alumni, two dogs, and 25 chickens.





Community College

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