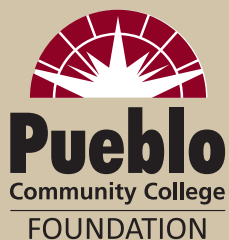


LEGACY

Honor
the
Past
■
Ensure
the
Future



Renewed Energy

A Message from the President

Dear Friends:

It is our pleasure to present this, the Spring 2011 edition of "Legacy," in partnership with San Isabel Electric Co-op. As usual, you will find this publication to be filled with great information about the many programs and educational opportunities afforded to those students in the prescribed service areas of Pueblo, Canon City, Durango and Mancos/Cortez, Colorado. It has been a wonderful semester and I am pleased that we are able to capture and highlight some of the recent outstanding endeavors! At Pueblo Community College, we are so much more than just the bricks and mortar that makes up the four campuses. We are about students, faculty, staff *and* the numerous community members who support us in every way.

This spring we will be graduating 39 high school students, who on May 6 will earn an associate's degree from

Pueblo Community College, and then later in the month will be awarded their high school diploma. Kaylin Berry is but one shining example of the outstanding students who are taking advantage of our concurrent enrollment program and we wish her (*and all of our students*) the very best as they venture on to their next "Step to Success!"

In keeping with tradition, we recognized and introduced outstanding faculty and staff to the Colorado Community College System and Board earlier this year. You can only imagine how proud I was to introduce Mr. Michael Engle (Faculty of the Year), Mr. Luis Nazario (Recipient of the CCCS Teaching with Technology Award), Ms. Pam Tyner (Part-time Faculty of the Year), Ms. Carriann Martinez (APT of the Year) and Ms. Pat Hegler (Classified Staff of the Year)! I hope you enjoy reading about the diverse, talented group of leaders that represent the PCC team.

Finally, I would like to call your attention to the section in this issue that recognizes the members of the PCC Advisory Council and 2020 GOLD Panel, the PCC Foundation, the Fremont Advisory Committee, the Southwest Colorado Community College Advisory Committee, and all of the program advisory committees. It is important for you to know that these individuals give tirelessly of their time and talents to support the access and success of our students. Without all of these fine individuals and their ongoing support, we would not be the strong, vibrant institution that you know us to be today.

At Pueblo Community College, we are committed to academic excellence in an environment that is sensitive to the dynamics of everyday life. We work hard to ensure that our programs add value to our students and the community as a whole. We are flexible and we are creative. We are *your* community college. We enjoy our business and industry partnerships and especially appreciate the opportunity to provide customized training to the likes of San Isabel Electric. We are confident that the San Isabel employees left our campus with *renewed energy* and new skills - making them even more globally competitive in an ever-changing industry.

On behalf of the faculty, staff and students of Pueblo Community College, please allow me to thank all of you who contribute to our success.

*"The Journey
of a Thousand Miles
Begins with the First Step"*

With warm regards,




**Patty Erjavec, MNM
President**

Honor
the
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■
Ensure
the
Future

LEGACY

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www.pueblocc.edu/about-us/foundation

ABOUT THE COVER

Instructor Judy Fosdick watches students Matty Pulley (front) and Vernon Roth (back) installing solar panels as part of the Solar PV System Installation class.

COVER PHOTO BY STEVE BIGLEY

SCCC-East Celebrates Archuleta County Expansion

On March 25, 2011, President Patty Erjavec signed a statement of commitment to cooperate with both the Archuleta School District JT50 and the Archuleta County Education Center to expand community college services in the Pagosa Springs area. The three organizations have been discussing ways to bring needed programs to the community and believe that by collaborating resources can be shared and options can be expanded for students in the area.

For example, the Education Center is likely to open its

doors to PCC offerings such as an Alternative High School Diploma Program and college-level online and videoconference courses. In addition, the School District may help to grow traditional college courses by making them available to qualified high school students as well as community members. PCC also plans to add some advising services to help students navigate into and through the college system.

There are still several details to be worked out, but the enthusiasm for the

project has been very high. Education Center board member Richard Richardson summed it up by saying, "Working with Southwest Colorado Community College and the Archuleta School District to bring an additional location of PCC to Pagosa Springs has been an energizing experience for me and other members of the Archuleta County Education Center Board. This has been a long-term dream for this community that until very recently seemed unattainable. We



Linda Reed, Assistant Superintendent Archuleta School District (left); Malcolm Rodgers, Vice President Archuleta County Education Center (middle); Patty Erjavec, President Pueblo Community College (right)

are very grateful to President Patty Erjavec, Dean Lynn Urban and Dean Juanita Fuentes for working with us and helping us to understand how our dream can become a reality."



Got The T? Second edition to help students

On the first day of classes in the Fall of 2010, many students received a free maroon PCC T-shirt as part of the "First Step to Success Celebration Walk" and barbecue. The shirts were a huge hit as a couple of thousand of them were worn as part of the welcome-back celebration at all four

campuses. Featuring the official PCC Panther on the front, the shirt – which will now be called "The T" – featured the quote from the Chinese philosopher Lao-tzu, "The Journey of a Thousand Miles Begins with One Step." The shirts have been seen and regularly worn by students ever since.

With so much success behind the first "T", PCC President Patty Erjavec proposed to make the next edition of "The T" be a project that could benefit PCC students. A limited number of the 2nd edition of the shirt will again be given away on the first day of classes this fall as part of the second annual "Celebration Walk." However, students, faculty and staff also will have the opportunity to purchase "The T" before and after the event, with the proceeds going to help students with financial needs such as tuition assistance, housing expenses, book costs, etc. Go to our website at www.pueblocc.edu to find out how you can purchase "The T," show your school pride and support PCC students.

CNM Cuts Ribbon on New Facility

Pardon the folks in the Center for New Media (CNM) department for being overly excited. They recently moved into a like-new facility that includes a classroom, editing suites, control room, storage, offices, new hallway entrance and – best of all – a new, highly-technical studio to stage many of their live programs and to record others for playback. The remodeling, handled by Copestone Construction of Colorado Springs from a design by HGF Architects of Pueblo, includes a new 1,500-square-foot addition to the CNM's previous headquarters at the east end of the Medical Arts & Technology Building. An upgrade to the

HVAC and electrical systems was part of the \$766,000 project, which was paid for with state and in-house funds.

In addition to covering campus events, the CNM broadcasting production staff work on many community projects such as the Pueblo Hispanic Education Foundation's telethon, City Council meetings, Ask a Lawyer nights, high school and college athletic events, parades (State Fair, Cinco de Mayo, Fiesta), candidate forums, local high school and university graduations, Andenucio baseball tourneys, etc. Many of the local programs run on the four cable access channels that are managed by PCC.

CNM has also covered out-of-town events such as Sky Sox baseball, Colorado College hockey, Gold Kings hockey, the Denver Broncos Super Bowl victory parades, the JUCO World Series in Grand Junction, Little Britches Rodeo, and RMAC football and basketball for Altitude Sports.

The Mass Communications Department trains students for employment in art, design, entertainment, sports and media, helping meet the growing need for workers and freelance contractors in many organizations. It also is a successful transfer program, especially with Colorado State University-Pueblo.



"The new CNM studios and classroom will allow for the synergy between broadcasting, web technology and communication design that the media industry demands," noted Jenny Sherman, the Mass Communications Department chair. "Students will benefit tremendously from this cross-discipline lab."

for more information ...
Center for New Media
719-549-3178

From the 2010-2012 PCCF President



Ryan Griego
PCC Foundation President

This issue of Legacy focuses on community partnerships and how important they are to the Pueblo Community College Foundation (PCCF) and to PCC. These partners provide the Foundation with the means to support the College in ways that are beyond the reach of state funds. These include scholarships, the replacement of obsolete instructional equipment, and operating expenses for new and expanding programs.

A huge "thank you" is extended to our sponsor, San Isabel Electric, for financially supporting this issue of

Legacy. San Isabel became a community partner with PCC in 2009 because they believe "that a well-educated employee is more productive and derives more personal satisfaction from their work." They have also stated "that their employees' educational needs must develop right along with the demands of the industry."

Over the course of an academic year, other partnerships have developed with all four campuses. Assistance from these partners has included donations of vehicles, engine-alignment equipment and auto parts from auto dealers for use within our auto repair and body shop programs. Colorado health clinics and hospitals have sent medical equipment such as polysomnographic equipment to study sleep disorders within our nursing programs and extensive medical supplies. Community dental and other organization members donated their personal time to assist our Dental Hygiene and Dental Assisting students when they hosted two Community Days that provided free dental care to 160 Pueblo residents during a special United Way-funded event. We have received construction materials and labor, machining equipment, welding equipment and supplies, trees, light bulbs, asphalt and snow-removal service. I cannot list the entire lengthy number of partners here.

Understanding the types of challenges that the Foundation has faced during the last three years has been a learning experience for me as a board member and now as President of the PCCF. The Foundation has been hurt by the economic downswing just like our business partners, affecting the financial assistance it can give our school and our students. But, we have still been able to award thousands of dollars in scholarships because of the generous support from our partners.

Within this issue of Legacy, you will read more about these partnerships and become aware of the reasons the PCC Foundation has taken on the challenge of raising dollars to help train a workforce for the communities the College serves. Please enjoy this issue. I am very proud of the accomplishments of our College, students and the Foundation.



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Pueblo Community College Foundation 2011 Golf Tournament



7:30 Registration • 8:30 Shotgun Start
Hollydot Golf Course
Register by e-mail to bianca.flores@pueblocc.edu

Pueblo Community College Foundation Mission

To provide funding to Pueblo Community College and its students through Foundation-approved fund raising activities for student scholarships and special needs identified by the College.

Join *Legacy* Club

Pueblo Community College Foundation has created the Legacy Club to honor and thank you!

Simply by identifying that Pueblo Community College Foundation (PCCF) is in your will, living trust or other testamentary arrangement, or by establishing an endowment fund of \$10,000 or more with the PCCF, you become a member of the Legacy Club. Membership means that you are:

- a strong supporter of PCC students and higher education; and
- investing in your community.



With your permission, your name will be included:

- with the entire group of Legacy members in our Legacy magazine;
- on our Foundation website;
- and on our Legacy Club wall on the College Campus.

If you would like more information about Planned Giving or would like to join this honorary group

of donors, please contact the Foundation Office, Diane Porter at 719 549-3303 and request an application. *It's that simple.*

Did *You* Know. . .

That the property you work for all your life can go to the state's treasury?

- *If no relatives can be found after your death,*
- *If you did not create a will,*

your estate will not go to the people or charities of your choice.

- *If you die in Colorado without a will, you die "intestate," which means*

state law directs what happens to your property. You will have no control over where your property goes!

- *To die without a will, even with relatives, probate can cost your heirs more than the cost of creating a will while living.*

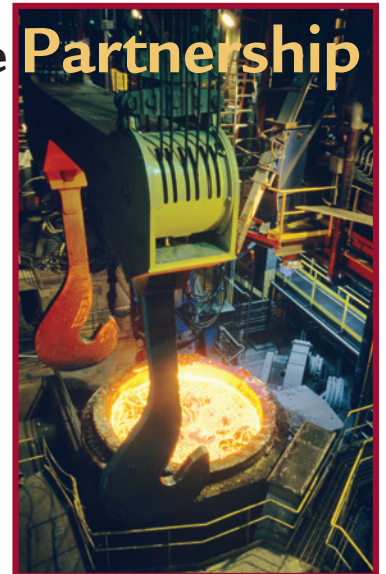
Most individuals do not have wills. Are you one of them? Why?

Call your attorney now – create a will for the people and charities you care about with a planned gift for the future.

PCC and Evraz Recognized For Having Effective Partnership

The strong partnership that Pueblo Community College has with Evraz Rocky Mountain Steel, which was featured in the Fall 2010 issue of Legacy, has drawn national recognition from the Steel Manufacturers Association (SMA). PCC provides extensive training programs for Evraz's maintenance department employees, helping the company to compete in a global economy. Evraz also has been recognized for its employment of veterans, which represent approximately 23% of its workforce. These efforts engage employees and are supported by the community.

As part of its workforce development initiative, Evraz developed an apprenticeship program in 2005 for employees looking to advance in their job field. The four-year program combines 575 hours of academic theory at PCC's Gorsich Advanced Technology Center with on-the-job training in the mill. In addition, over the years, PCC's Economic and Workforce Development Division has worked with Evraz to design highly-technical customized training programs for new mechanical and electrical personnel. Evraz also brings in PCC instructors to provide practical skills training at the mill, with the classes focusing on business writing, presentation skills, and human behavior and ethics. Evraz employees who choose to pursue a degree at PCC are eligible for 100 percent reimbursement for tuition and books.



PCC Conference & Event Services

An Affair to Remember
Catering by Executive Chef Gus Bootle

- *Business Meetings • Seminars • Trainings*
- *Proms/Formal Dances • Dinners • Weddings & Receptions*
- *Fundraisers • Conferences*

To book your next event, contact our Event Planner
719-549-3074 • eventplanner@pueblocc.edu
900 W. Orman Avenue • Pueblo, CO 81004



Cooperation

Cooperative businesses, like San Isabel Electric, are special because they are owned by the consumers they serve and because they are guided by a set of **SEVEN PRINCIPLES** that reflect the best interests of those consumers.

1. Voluntary and Open Membership
2. Democratic Member Control
3. Members' Economic Participation
4. Autonomy and Independence
5. Education, Training and Information
6. Cooperation Among Cooperatives
7. Concern for Community

Energizes Our Community

For 73 years, the hallmark for San Isabel Electric Association (SIEA) has been its ability to provide members with excellent service. This past January, those members rated the company with an American Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI) score of 89. Since 2002, SIEA has scored in the 80s on this particular benchmark, but the recent score put the locally member-owned electric cooperative in an elite class for customer satisfaction. Only 10 other electric cooperatives in the nation scored higher, and average scores for investor-owned utilities in the nation are usually in the mid-70s.

The lofty score didn't just happen by chance and is not believed to be a one-time occurrence either. Actually, it was the result of a new initiative that was adopted as the result of feedback that employees gave company officials.

In 2008, Reg Rudolph took the helm as general manager of San Isabel Electric and brought with him a "good to great" business philosophy. He recognized that San Isabel was a very good company. But he began to ask what it would take to make SIEA a great company. An employee survey revealed that three work sectors within the company wanted more training in the customer information/ billing system.

Employees in the Member Service, Billing and Accounting departments were looking for educational opportunities to better understand work processes and thus better serve the members of the cooperative.

At San Isabel, all accounting functions are performed using a customized computer system developed by National Information Solutions Cooperative (NISC). Based in Lake Saint Louis, Missouri, the company provides back-office services to 441 cooperatives nationwide. Additionally, NISC offers a professional certification, something Rudolph was keenly interested in for SIEA personnel.

According to Rudolph, the utility industry, like all other industries, is changing and has become more complicated, noting that consumers demand a higher level of service and want more options. "It is essential that our employee educational needs develop right along with the demands of the industry," said Rudolph.

"I truly believe that a well-educated employee is more productive and derives more personal satisfaction from their work. They are content and have confidence, knowing they have the skills necessary to best serve the consumer," he added. "As a not-for-profit company, San Isabel is service-driven, not profit-driven. So, providing great member service is paramount to what we do," said Rudolph.

With that goal in mind, job descriptions were developed with three tiers of educational requirements and responsibility levels set in place. With the direction of SIEA's Chief Administrative Officer Susan Ritter, the idea of a three-way educational partnership with SIEA, Pueblo Community College and NISC was born.

Originally, SIEA office personnel took accounting classes offered by PCC, utilizing traditional classroom instruction or on-line training. The course work would lay the foundation for employees to eventually earn the professional certification from NISC. Traditionally, co-op employees travel to NISC for training. The biggest challenge for Ritter and other

department managers was keeping the SIEA back office running while a large number of employees attended training out of state. Ritter was also concerned about budget expenses and the hardship on families of the traveling employee.

Embarking on a first-time pilot project, Ritter brainstormed with NISC personnel about a possible solution; bringing the classroom to the employee at a local level. Because of the relationship developed between PCC and SIEA, Ritter began meeting with PCC Vice President of Learning Laura Solano and Business Management Department Chairman Joe Easton about the possibility of PCC customizing a



Member Service Representatives Kathy Schaiberger (Left), Peggy Nielsen (middle) and Chief Administrative Officer Susan Ritter (right).

"The program is really a great example of how working together can accomplish great things," Ritter said.

curriculum to offer a Member Service Representative certification and holding classes on the Pueblo campus.

"It has been a pleasure to work with San Isabel as a community partner who really has adopted the notion that a better educated workforce is a requirement to excel in the 21st

continued on next page



Article and Photos by Ashley Valdez, San Isabel Electric Communications Manager

San Isabel Electric – *Energizing* Our Community

Century,” said Joe Easton. “The cooperation has helped both of us leverage our resources to better serve the community.”

The partnership led to smooth development of the training program, and the first classes were held in the fall 2010 semester. Easton noted that the program is a great example of PCC’s ability to fully utilize its resources, including classrooms and



Member Service Representatives Leslie Bak (left) and Naomi Simmons (right) “The certification courses are an invaluable tool. The instructors teach about all facets of the programming. I am looking forward to the next session,” commented Leslie Bak.

computers, to serve the community while also providing the college with a potential population of future students.

SIEA employees and three other area cooperatives filled all 28 openings for the classes in Accounts Receivable Management, Service Orders, Customer Management, and Cash Register. Employees from Southeast Colorado Power Association in La Junta, Sangre de Cristo Electric Association in Buena Vista and K.C. Electric Association in Hugo rounded out the class roster led on-site by NISC personnel.

“This is a great example of **teaming industry and community resources to fashion the best member services possible** while at the same time enhancing the career paths of our employees. I would highly recommend PCC to any other business that has training needs. They’ve been great to work with on this venture,” said Ritter. “We were provided with a fully equipped classroom with a high-speed Internet connection at every desk. Employees came to class, entered a few passwords and, just like that, they

were online with NISC software.”

The pilot project worked so well that those employees will take more classes soon and additional cooperatives in the southern Colorado area will join the group. Specialized courses needed to earn the NISC certification include Delinquent Collections, Capital Credits, Bill Calc, and Work Management, and are all slated for the summer 2011 session.

Ritter noted that **three of the seven principles that guide San Isabel Electric** were on display in this partnership. “The principles of providing education, training and information, cooperation among cooperatives and demonstrating concern for our communities were evident throughout this project.” She is hopeful that other cooperatives across the nation will see this educational program as something they can develop with their community colleges. “The program is really a great example of how working together can accomplish great things. Ultimately, that is what electric cooperatives are all about.”

for more information...

about San Isabel Electric Association
call 719-547-2160 or 800-279-7432
or visit www.SIEA.com

San Isabel Electric Association, Inc. is a rural electric cooperative and wholly owned by its more than 19,000 members. The service area, which includes all or parts of seven counties, covers approximately 9,600 square miles, extending from Pueblo to the New Mexico border.

San Isabel Electric operates on a non-profit basis by returning margins to members on a patronage basis. The SIEA service area is comprised of seven districts, with each district’s interest represented by an elected board member. The San Isabel Board Members have the overall responsibility for the policies, which provide guidelines for the management of the system. The SIEA General Manager oversees the day-to-day operations, management staff and employees.

Headquartered in Pueblo West, San Isabel Electric Association is a Touchstone Energy Cooperative and one of 44 member cooperatives in a four-state area that receive power from Tri-State Generation and Transmission of Westminster, Colorado.

Counties Served: Pueblo, Las Animas, Huerfano, Otero, Fremont, Custer and Costilla

Number of Employees: 83

Year Organized: 1938

Total Plant in Service: \$153,600,860

Consumers Per Mile: 5.44

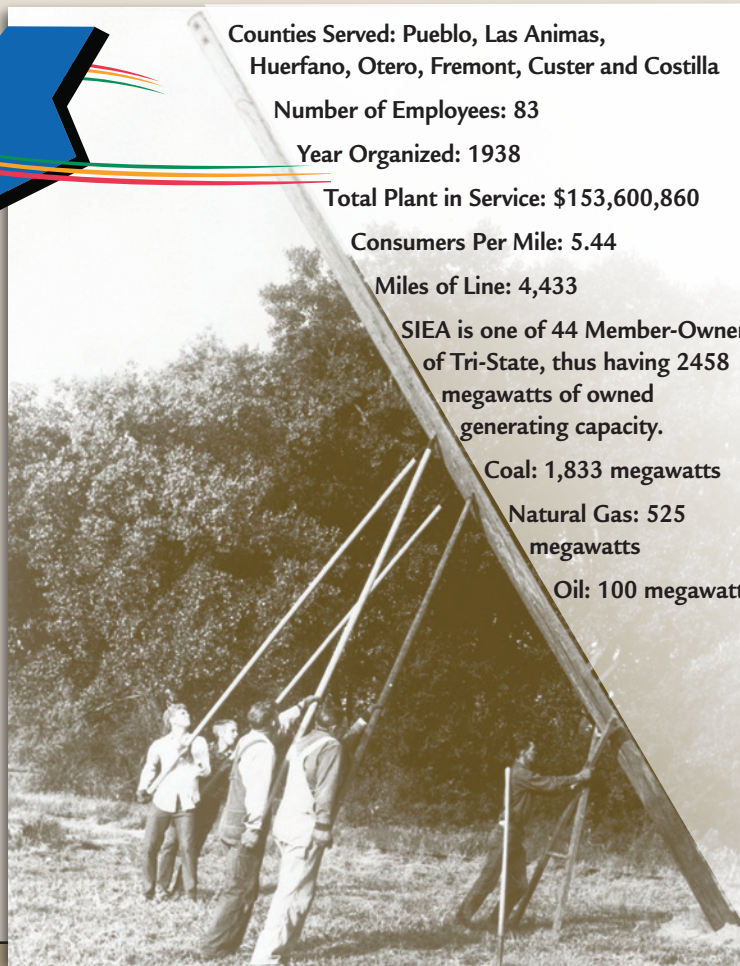
Miles of Line: 4,433

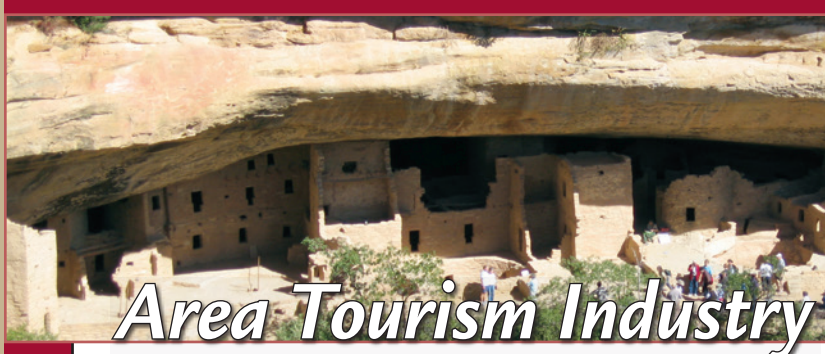
SIEA is one of 44 Member-Owners of Tri-State, thus having 2458 megawatts of owned generating capacity.

Coal: 1,833 megawatts

Natural Gas: 525 megawatts

Oil: 100 megawatts





Area Tourism Industry Focus of New SCCC West Program

Pueblo Community College has always prided itself for developing and offering programs that fill particular needs in its service areas. For that reason, PCC has launched a new Tourism and Guest Relations certificate program at its Southwest Colorado Community College West Campus in Cortez/Mancos. Initial classes are being offered in the spring semester that began in January 2011.

Tourism and Guest Relations is a five-credit program with classes held two evenings a week and Saturday mornings to accommodate working people. It consists of three courses: Customer Service, Conflict Resolution and Introductory Hospitality Management.

The program will help cultivate workers in Montezuma County, where tourism contributes to the economy and is a growing industry. The Cortez Area Chamber of Commerce estimates that the tourism industry provides at least 15 percent of the jobs in the county – in restaurants, motels, museums, gift shops, and tour and travel services.

Shannon South, Dean of the West Campus, pointed out that the program was developed as a result of requests from businesses in the area. "A lot of input from business representatives went into creating this program with the intention of meeting the region's hospitality training needs."

PCC continues to operate a Hospitality Studies certificate and associate degree program on its Pueblo campus, with certificates available in three areas of concentration: Culinary Arts Production, Culinary Arts Management, and Tourism, Conventions & Events.

Larry Hollstein Scholarship

A new scholarship will be named after one of the original founders of the San Juan Basin Technical Colorado Foundation. Charles Lawrence "Larry" Hollstein will be remembered with each scholarship awarded to students attending Southwest Colorado Community College – West Branch Campus (SCCC West). Mr. Hollstein was one of the founders of the SJBTC Foundation and a major contributor to the success of many students over the years. Sadly, Larry passed away in February 2011.

The funds for the Hollstein Scholarship are available because of the July 2009 merger of Pueblo Community College, SCCC – West in Cortez and the San Juan Basin Technical College (SJBTC). A sum of \$18,000 was transferred from the SJBTC Foundation to the Pueblo Community College Foundation. The SJBTC Foundation has directed that the use of these funds or interest from these funds be limited to scholarships for students from Dolores and Montezuma Counties attending the West Campus of Southwest Colorado Community College. Additional contributions to the Hollstein Scholarship are welcome.

for more information...

Contact Dean Shannon South
at 970-564-6212

SCCC Sponsors Half Court Shot Competition For \$1,000 Scholarship

It was an exciting night of basketball at Montezuma-Cortez High School as the M-CHS Panthers took on their rival Durango Demons for the Booster Blackout night on January 27. Southwest Colorado Community College (SCCC) was a proud sponsor of both the varsity girls' and boys' basketball games with sellout crowds on hand.

Between the games, SCCC held a half court shot competition for a \$1,000 scholarship to the college. Before entering the gym, students received a raffle ticket to be part of a drawing to determine who would have two chances at making a shot from half court. With much excitement, three students were drawn including one student from Durango High School and two from M-CHS. The SCCC Panther and

Jill Carithers, SCCC Coordinator of Outreach and External Programs, got the crowd on their feet as they brought the three student contestants down to the half court line to make their shots



for the \$1,000 scholarship. Unfortunately, no one was able to land a shot, but they all walked away with some great prizes on behalf of the college.

Representatives from SCCC gave all students in attendance at the games free cheer towels with their own school colors to help root their teams to victory. Both the girls' and boys' team from M-CHS took the night winning 52-43 and 50-36 respectively.

Community Benefits from *Win-Win Style* of West Campus

Spring tends to be that time of year that breathes new life into many of us! Cosmetology students at SCCC West are continuing to hone their skills as they provide fresh new looks to local community members with haircuts, hair color, manicures and pedicures. The cosmetology department has been accepting appointments at the college as well as traveling to local nursing homes to offer their services. Lead instructor Brenda Maez said, "Our students have to have a strong customer base in order to be able to continue their learning and build strong skills." It is a "win-win" situation when students can provide a service in the community while learning at the same time.



Enrollment *Exceeds 500* at SCCC-East

The students at the East Campus have spring fever! One sure sign is that our bookstore has sold out of fancy water bottles (handy on all those bikes!). Don't worry, there is plenty of hard work occurring too, as evidenced by the 162 drop-in tutoring sessions recorded in the Proshop since it opened for the semester on January 24. Campus is buzzing with our highest enrollment in several years – we crossed the 500-student headcount mark this term (508 students).

Everyone has been creatively responding to the increased demand for services. For example, we expanded into the science labs at Durango High School in order to accommodate all of the pre-health students who wanted biology classes. Additionally, we have offered some non-credit training for industry (e.g. OSHA) into our classrooms when they are available. Campus is typically

humming with the sound of students six days per week.

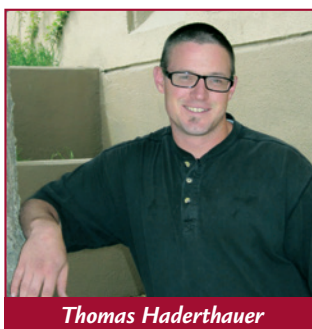
The spring semester will end with our favorite event of the year – commencement. Once again this year, we will have a joint celebration with the West Campus. Of the over 120 students graduating this year, we expect about 70 to participate in the ceremony, so we have relocated to a larger venue. The event is scheduled for Sunday, May 8, 2:00 p.m. at the Whalen Gymnasium at Fort Lewis College. Mr. Cliff Spencer, Superintendent of Mesa Verde National Park, will be delivering the address. Everyone is welcome, so please come celebrate with us.



Advising the College

When we talk about advising at college, we are usually talking about advising students on a career path, which course to take, how to study more effectively, etc. The road goes both ways though, and the college administration and staff benefit from the advising we receive from various groups. For example, we are pleased to announce that students at the East Campus have formed a new Student Advisory Council. The group of dedicated students generates ideas to help their fellow students and works with instructors and administrators to make positive changes for students. For example, the first project undertaken by the group is to have an end-of-the-semester celebration picnic at the East Campus. The SAC is working hard to set up a fun event with food, games, and entertainment for their fellow students.

Furthermore, the President of the Student Advisory Council, Thomas Haderthauer, has been invited to join the President's new SCCC Advisory Committee. The committee is made up of community and business leaders who help champion and provide direction to PCC in the Southwest Region of Colorado. The first meeting was held Thursday, March 24 in Durango, and the energy from the group was evident. The first request from President Erjavec was for the group to participate in the upcoming "Conversation Days," to kick off the development of the new PCC Strategic Plan. We are fortunate to have over 50 individuals who provide input to our campus and programs through these and other advisory groups. *Thank you!*



Thomas Haderthauer


Laptops Are Powered Up

Any classroom at the East Campus can now become a computer lab thanks to the new laptop cart. After requests from instructors for more access to computers for students, we prioritized our allocation of Amendment 50 funds to purchase laptops for the classroom. The cart holds 20 laptops and can be wheeled into any classroom when checked out by the instructor. Then, the instructor can incorporate the use of the technology in the day's lesson or for testing using an online format. After use, the laptops are powered off and placed

back in the cart which also serves as a giant charger for all 20 computers at once.

The availability of these computers gives instructors new options and increases the technology skills of our students. Gini England, Director of the Law Enforcement Academy remarked, "In today's technology driven law enforcement agencies, computer skills are essential. The introduction of the laptop cart into the classroom will enhance a student's learning by affording them the opportunity to use computers and programs they might not otherwise have access to. Using computers to complete assignments and tests will develop writing and typing skills and inspire confidence among students. In turn, these students will be more marketable in any career field."




Pueblo
Community College
BOOKSTORE



PUEBLO CAMPUS

Mon - Fri • 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
College Center • Room 140
719-549-3065

SCCC-EAST CAMPUS

Mon - Fri • 11:00 am to 5:00 pm
Second Floor • Commons Bldg.
970-247-2929 X7225

SCCC-WEST CAMPUS

Mon, Tues, Thurs • 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Wed, Fri • 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Main Building, Go Zone • 970-564-6266

FREMONT CAMPUS

Mon - Thurs • 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
Fri • 8:00 am to 12:00 pm
Main Building, Room 113 • 719-296-6124

United Way Grant for Dental Days Brings Smiles to Patients and Students

A \$20,000 Oral Health Impact Grant from United Way of Pueblo County allowed over 300 individuals to receive free dental care, and it also provided invaluable experience to many students in Pueblo Community College's dental hygiene and dental assisting programs. Through the grant, two free community dental days were offered to the Pueblo county community on November 6, 2010 and February 19, 2011. The free dental services that were offered included dental exams, x-rays, silver and tooth colored fillings, dental cleanings, dental sealants, and extractions.

Ten PCC expanded functions dental assisting students were given an opportunity to perform restorative dentistry at the November event under the supervision of licensed dentists. A total of five dentists, two community dental hygienists, four dental assistants and fourteen first year dental assisting students volunteered their services during the month of October and the first week of November.

On February 19 the second free community dental day was held in collaboration with the PCC's Dental Hygiene Department. A total of six dentists, 10 dental hygienists, 10 dental assistants and seven staff members from both dental assisting and dental hygiene departments volunteered their time. Patients were screened over a two-week period with a total of 90 patients being served in February.

It was estimated that between \$75,000 and \$85,000 in service costs were provided during the two sessions. Many of the patients served were indigent, low income, unemployed or uninsured individuals.

"I am thankful and grateful. I now have a healthy mouth and teeth, and I can feel better about my smile."



The following are a few of the dental patient's testimonials:

- "I was able to have some much needed work done that otherwise would have not been done due to no insurance ." (last visit to dentist – 7 years ago)
- "It has really given me hope beyond belief, to know that people would care so much to help others by volunteering, thank you and God bless." (last visit to dentist – 11 years ago)
- "It has fixed the pain and helped relieve the stress about getting teeth fixed. Helped me move on and focus on getting a job without stressing over dental work."



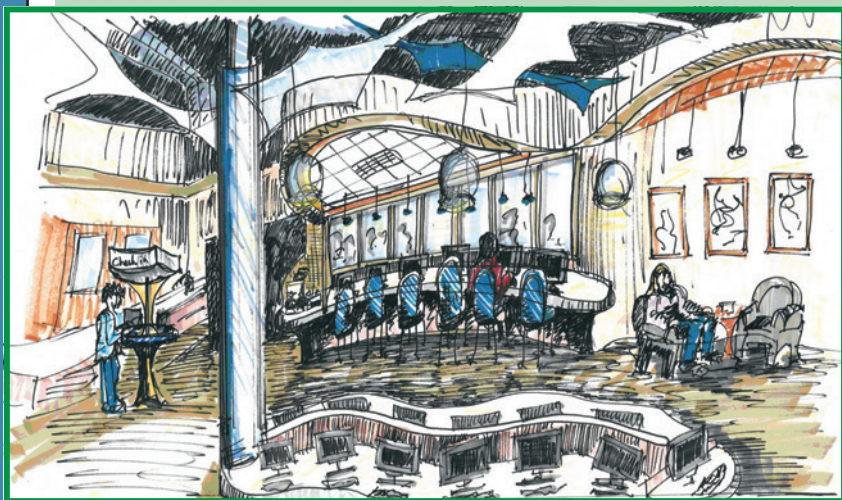
Learning Center To Go *Under Ground*

After 13-years of on-again, off-again funding and planning, the creation of a new, expanded and much-needed Learning Center at Pueblo Community College is definitely "on" – and this time for keeps. PCC sold \$4 million in bonds to finance the renovation that will transform an unfinished 10,000-square-foot basement space in the Davis Academic Building (see photo) into a state-of-the-art, LEED-Certified, Learning Center.

This conceptual sketch shows our express computer area, quiet study space, check-in kiosk, and our new cyber café.

That space will be turned into a vibrant area with ample space for study, tutoring, computer use, and classrooms as necessitated by PCC's strong enrollment growth in recent years. It will be located directly below the current center but will contain nearly triple the space, a greater variety of learning spaces, and enhanced technology to promote collaborative student learning.

The Learning Center is being designed to enable it to achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) gold status in support of campus efforts to be environmentally friendly. To help meet that goal, it will utilize geothermal energy for heating and cooling.



RENEWED

Sunny Forecast



For *Solar* Technicians at PCC

Last summer, Pueblo Community College's solar instructor, Judy Fosdick, participated in the Rocky Mountain Solar Training Consortium solar instructor training, which was funded by federal stimulus grant funds through Salt Lake Community College in Utah. The goal of the program was to improve the quality and consistency of solar training, raising the national standard in solar education. The grant provided for comprehensive training for college solar instructors from Solar Energy International. SEI online courses were the starting point, followed by a one week intensive train the trainer workshop at the SEI campus in Paonia, CO.

An area of bare ground on the southwest end of the PCC campus had perfect solar access and was chosen for a solar training lab. The RMSTP grant provided \$7,142 in solar equipment to set up the teaching lab. Colorado's Amendment 50 funds (gambling taxes dedicated to community college classroom instruction) were used to complete the modest infrastructure of the solar lab.

Students enrolled in the solar energy curriculum at PCC can obtain either a one-year certificate or a two-year degree. The North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP) Entry Level Prep course prepares students for taking the national certification exam. Internships are available with local contractors for students after completing the classroom work. After students have their certificates, they will be able to design and install residential, commercial, or industrial solar electric systems.

GREEN

Training Across PCC's Campuses!

Pueblo Community College and Red Rocks Community College (RRCC) were recently awarded a Colorado Workforce Development Council grant for training Energy Efficiency (EE) and Renewable Energy (RE) workers across the state. The two partners and the Governor's Energy Office are already providing Building Performance Institute (BPI) Certification trainings to state Weatherization Program (WAP) employees. The new grant will now allow PCC and RRCC to expand its training in two important ways:

1. The new grant will provide tuition, books and certification testing scholarships for incumbent trade contractors to attend the BPI certification trainings offered by PCC and RRCC; and
2. The grant will help PCC expand its RE and EE training services for existing contractors and expansion employees in the Southwest Colorado and Four Corners Region.

Pueblo Community College will add to its southwestern Colorado region the BPI weatherization and Solar Energy International (SEI) solar installer certificate programs that are currently taught in Pueblo. The SEI solar curriculum prepares students for the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners' (NABCEP) certification exam. Project directors are Dr. David Cockrell, Dean, Business and Technology, and Joan W. Smith, Dean and Executive Director, Energy and Environmental Technology, and the Rocky Mountain Education Center, Red Rocks Community College. SCCC-West Campus Dean Shannon South and Interior Design Department Chair Jamie Gage will coordinate program administration at the SCCC-West Campus. Instructor Judy Fosdick will coordinate program planning and delivery.



RENEWABLE ENERGY

NEW JOBS

Weatherization Technician Training

A whole new career path in energy efficiency has opened up through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009! Most are calling it "building science," and it makes a science out of saving energy and money for homeowners and commercial property owners. Pueblo Community College will begin its weatherization certificate programs through a nearly \$1 million U.S. Department of Energy grant announced last year by the Colorado Governor's Energy Office (GEO). The goal of the program is to augment the GEO's existing weatherization training program, but interest has been strong this spring from many seeking opportunity in this new career.

PCC will teach eight certificates for weatherization, compatible with the nationally recognized Building Performance Institute's (BPI) certification system. The certification courses include:

- Weatherization Building Envelope Accessible Areas Air Leakage Control Installer
- Weatherization Building Envelope Whole House Air Leakage Control Crew Chief
- Weatherization Manufactured Housing Technician
- Weatherization Heating Technician
- Weatherization Building Analyst

In years to come, these courses in energy efficiency may be coupled with PCC's current energy maintenance courses in solar technology. With additional coursework in heating, ventilation

and air conditioning, as well as commercial structure assessment and management, the curriculum could form a new Associate Degree program in building science.

The courses in weatherization are targeted to begin in June, 2011.



Energy Maintenance Students Are *Blowing in the Wind*

Pueblo Community College's new Wind Turbine Technology Associate of Applied Science program trains students to troubleshoot and repair utility scale wind turbines like those found on the wind farms in eastern Colorado. This program was a good fit because of its similarity to the existing curriculum in Industrial Electronics.

The initial development of the Wind Turbine Technology Program was aided by a small National Science Foundation grant which paired PCC faculty and administrators with mentors from Laramie County Community College in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Interest and enrollment in the program has grown steadily since its inception in 2009.

Recent activities include collaboration with educators and industry experts at the National Science Foundation Mentorlinks Conference in Washington DC and the American Wind Energy Association's Project

Performance Project Reliability conference in San Diego. Current activities are focused on establishment of relationships with eastern Colorado wind farms for student internship opportunities as well as advisory board members.

Colorado is already a leader in renewable energy and as use of the wind to provide our electricity grows in our state as well as nationally, PCC's graduates will be ready to fill the high paying jobs that keep the turbines turning and electricity flowing.



Fremont Campus Call to Action

\$2 Million Capital Campaign Special Matching Grant Opportunity

FREMONT CAMPUS BUILDING FUND

Just a few things here I'd like to state:
I graduated high school in 1938;
And that indeed was long ago
And times have changed since then, you know.

Our classmates back then all were yearning
For a local school of higher learning.
And leaving home then was so sad
But that was the only choice we had.

Many years have passed since 30's days,
And now students don't have to move away.
We have our wonderful college here
To start students off on great careers!

At first it started out quite small
With classes in the Abbey's halls,
But with community support from you and me
Our beautiful campus came to be.

Then our student census grew and grew
And now we need more help from you
To enlarge the building and make more room
For the many more students coming soon.

As modern industry comes and goes
We need more room to handle those.
Now all I can ask of you at this time
Is "Will you give a buck, or give a dime?"

Tiny Striegel

Two Fremont County individuals have stepped forward with a generous challenge grant. They have pledged to contribute up to \$75,000 to the building fund for the Fremont Campus Capital Campaign; dollar for dollar. This is a Call to Action to the Fremont Campus' service area of Custer County, Fremont County and beyond to help meet this challenge. The Campaign Committee members, the school and its staff along with the PCC Foundation thank these generous benefactors!

To date, \$640,000 has been raised from the Custer and Fremont communities with an additional \$250,000 pledged by Pueblo Community College making the total available at this printing \$890,000. We are so close to meeting the amount needed for **Phase I ~ the \$1,200,000 Wing Addition ~** the addition of three lecture classrooms, restrooms, storage for health occupations equipment, four faculty offices, and a large student and community activity center. This addition will allow:

- additional space for student study and gatherings, community meetings, special events;
- space for short-term workforce training;
- accommodation for larger lab-like courses;
- remodel an existing large classroom to convert to a lecture hall format;
- accommodate faculty with some private work space;
- upgrade of student services, academic advising and part-time instructor work areas.
- some new furniture

Phase II - \$576,700 Career Technical Building: This will increase course and program capacity by more than 50% and offer courses not available at this time such as welding and machining.

These two expansion phases along with a transition to some hybrid and online courses should accommodate our Fremont Campus growth for the next ten years.



For information on the Fremont Campus, the expansion project, or to make a donation, contact Jennifer Pierceall Herman, Dean of the Fremont Campus at 719-296-6106 or Jennifer.Herman@pueblocc.edu.



Help Us Meet Our \$75,000 Matching Opportunity!

Every dollar pledged to the Fremont Campus Expansion Project will be matched!



The \$2 Million Fremont Campus Expansion Project will add classrooms, a student and community activities center, a career and technical facility for industrial training, and more!

To **make a donation** or for more information, contact
Jennifer Pierceall Herman | Dean, Fremont Campus | 719-296-6106

Contributions of \$250 or more are eligible for the Colorado Enterprise Zone Tax Credit!

Fremont Campus Honors Founders and Unveils Heritage Hall

The Fremont Campus recognized its founding members and dedicated its new Heritage Hall on March 21 when it conducted an Emeritus Celebration. Attending were several of the original 21 visionary individuals who in 1982 comprised the Advisory Committee that helped launch what was then called the Canon City Extension Center of Pueblo Community College. "When we all got together back then to bring some college classes to Fremont County, never did we imagine that we would end up here, with all of this," said Advisory Committee charter member Marvin Bradley at the ceremony.

The 21 founding members were honored in a special program that was held in the Darryl Biggerstaff Learning Resource Center. The original advisory committee members were Carlos Baca, Marv Bradley, Darryl Biggerstaff, Ann Brown, Roy Canterbury, Tom Cooper, Bob Kirscht, Harold McCormick, Mark McGoff, Jim Milam, Doug Miles, Bruce Mohr, Eddie Orff, Judi Rupp, Sue Seuffer, Helen Shoemaker, Robert Shoemaker, John Smith, George Turner, John Wilson and Elizabeth Winters.

"It gives us great pleasure to recognize these individuals for their vision and the tenacity to work for a sustainable alternative to higher education right in their own community," said PCC President Patty Erjavec. "Pueblo Community College is proud to serve the students of Fremont and Custer counties with that same passion and vigor."

The dedication of the new Heritage Hall was part of the celebration and included the unveiling of a historically symbolic plaque in the hallway outside the Fremont Campus' conference room. "We are very excited for the opportunity to create a permanent tribute to all of the great citizens who worked so hard to bring a college to our local area," said Jennifer Pierceall Herman, Dean of the Fremont Campus. "Our hope is that Heritage Hall will serve as an inspiration to students as they see how their community supports their career and educational aspirations."



George Turner (left) and Marvin Bradley (right), who are founding members of the Fremont Advisory Committee, check out the history display at Heritage Hall.

Senior Mini College, **SPLASH** Program Round Out Fremont Campus Year-End Activities

In addition to serving the approximately 800 regular degree or certificate seeking students attending the Fremont Campus this year, many other programs and services are offered to the community.

The Senior Mini College, which provides non-credit learning experiences to senior citizens during the College's spring break, boasted attendance of 313 "students" this year. The students were able to participate in more than 120 volunteer-taught class sessions. Registration is underway for the Summer Program and Learning for Advanced Students (SPLASH), which is scheduled for June 13-23. More than 150 K-12 students from across the Fremont and Custer county area participate in the program, which is a partnership between PCC and Canon City Schools to provide a multi-disciplinary experience for gifted and talented youth.

This spring also marks the end of the 4th year for the Alternative High School Diploma program at PCC-Fremont Campus. More than 30 students are expected to graduate this year with their high school diplomas from the AHSDP program.

Donations and Innovation Funds **Rev Up** Electric Vehicle Instruction

Pueblo Community College Fremont Campus students have the opportunity to learn new "green" technologies thanks to community volunteers, donations, and two very creative PCC instructors. Since the last school year, PCC automotive faculty John Duston and PCC instructor Frank Nosal have worked with a group of dual-enrolled Canon City High School/PCC students on a special project to convert gasoline engine vehicles to electric power.

Last year's successful project focused on the conversion of a 1951 John Deere tractor. "It's the way things are going now," Nosal said. "Almost every car company is coming out with an electric car and that's probably what the future will be for the students in this class – working with these type of vehicles."

This year, the instructors and students have stepped it up a notch and are working toward the conversion of an actual car – a Fiat X19 purchased and donated by Nosal. Instructors also applied for and received funding from the PCC Innovation Funds for supplies and parts. Batteries were donated by NAPA Auto Parts/Litz Auto Supply of Canon City and Johnson Controls Power Solutions of Wisconsin. In addition to Nosal, two other local community members volunteer their time with faculty member Duston to teach and mentor the students. Larry Guy is the electrical mentor and Werner Windbergs is the mechanical mentor.



Canon City HS Auto Technology Class with John Duston, Instructor and Larry Guy, Mentor

People

... our most important resource

There's a common characteristic that easily distinguishes Pueblo Community College's top employees for the 2010-2011 academic year – a strong, unwavering commitment to serving students. Those traits were evident in January, when PCC honored its outstanding employees of the year at its traditional "Welcome Back" meeting for all faculty and staff.



**Part-Time
Math Instructor
Pam Tyner**

Tyner is energetic, makes her students feel comfortable, is committed to making them understand the course material and is willing to try new ideas in the classroom. Pam has been a part-time math instructor at PCC for the past 6 years while also serving on Faculty Council and as an academic advisor, tabulating student surveys into summary reports and as faculty adviser for the Campus Crusade for Christ Club.



**Classified
Employee
Pat Hegler**

Hegler is the administrative assistant in the Financial Aid office, where her calm demeanor, professionalism and personal warmth are crucial since she is usually the first person to greet students when they arrive there. She has worked at PCC for 12 years.



**Admin & Professional
Technical Staff
Carriann Martinez**

Martinez started at PCC as an associate degree student and worked out of a CCCOES Human Resources office on the Pueblo campus while earning bachelor's and master's degrees in business management simultaneously from the University of Southern Colorado. She then became a full-time Recruiter at PCC 10 years ago. Since then, Carriann has served as Coordinator of Recruitment, and the Director of Enrollment Management and Student Retention.



**Faculty
History Instructor
Michael Engle**

During his five years teaching history at PCC, Engle has gained respect and admiration from his students by intriguing them with his relevant stories, relating historical people and events to today's world, and engaging them in the learning process. He has been teaching for 18 years at the elementary school, middle school, high school and collegiate levels. He even spent a year teaching at a federal penitentiary and another as the Dolores Huerta Preparatory School principal. Michael also is assistant chair of our Social Sciences, Education and Library Technician department, vice chair of Faculty Council, host of the PCC Connection community television program broadcast at PCC and past chair of the Curriculum Committee.

Luis Nazario Honored With *Teaching Technology Award*



Luis Nazario was involved with distance learning when higher education was first beginning to use it seriously as a learning option in the mid-1990s. Today, the Pueblo Community College English instructor has been recognized as one of the state's leaders at using high-technology to make education available to more students. In February, Nazario was honored as the 2010 winner of the Jerry Wartgow Teaching with Technology Award from the Colorado Community College System (CCCS).

When the CCCS worked to develop the Colorado Electronic Community College in the early 1990s, Nazario got involved in the project. In the fall of 1995, the CCCS recognized him with a plaque for being the initiative's main creative force. Since then, he has developed the master course shells for PCC's Basic Composition and English Composition I & II courses. His master design for English Composition II provides the online material for those hybrid courses, which combine online and classroom instruction.

Luis has taught at PCC since 1990 and is the Assistant Chair of the English / Communications Department in addition to his teaching responsibilities. He was selected PCC's Faculty of the Year for the 1994-95 academic year.

Hall of Fame Inductees

Pueblo



RICK AVALOS PHOTOGRAPHY

DORIS KESTER

Public service defines Doris Kester's life and career. As a third-generation Puebloan, Doris immersed herself in an astounding number of civic and community organizations. After 20 years of teaching, Doris retired and allocated countless hours of volunteer

work at KTSC-TV, Pueblo City-County Library District, Mental Health Association of Pueblo, Pueblo League of Women Voters, Pueblo Education Association, USC Alumni Association, and Pueblo County Historical Society. Her most active participation has been with the Girl Scouts where she served in every volunteer position and twice earned the "Thanks" badge. At the time of induction, Doris was Executive Director of the Southern Colorado Community Foundation and served on the Pueblo Human Relations Commission and the Pueblo Rape Crisis Center. She became an authority on parliamentary and governing board procedures. She was a staunch Centennial High School alumna and was inducted into the Centennial Hall of Fame. Volunteerism, community service, and selfless giving truly define life for Doris. While she has been an inspiring beacon to many, her family of two daughters, three grandchildren, and a great-grandson would have readily nominated her as "super grandma."



JAMES POOLE

(posthumously)

James Poole was a gentleman with a sterling intellect. Endowed with a penchant for math, Jim was well-known for his intellectually stimulating teaching methods at Central High School. His career as an investment advisor challenged his mind and engaged his people skills. Jim's baritone voice was heard at Carnegie Hall,

on television, and at the inauguration of Gov. Roy Romer. He held active memberships on El Pueblo Boys Ranch, Pueblo City Planning and Zoning Commission, Pueblo Symphony, Spanish Peaks Mental Health Association, Pueblo HARP Commission, Pueblo African-American Concern Organization, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, and Eureka Lodge. Jim Poole was a skilled political debater, worked on numerous campaigns at the local, state, and national levels, and was the Colorado Democratic Party Treasurer for seven consecutive years. He held several statewide memberships on the Centennial Commission, Family and Children Services, and Colorado State Insurance board. If a career filled with intellect, arts, and selfless giving constitutes a full life, then James F. Poole, dedicated husband, father, and grandfather, had a truly abundant life.

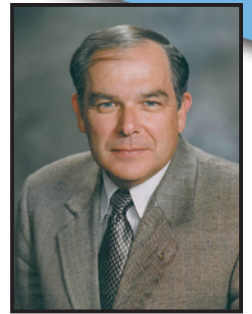
Fremont

FRANK COOPER

The career path Frank Cooper chose to excel in was the field of education. However, in the field of serving his community, he has certainly not been eclipsed.

He arrived in Canon City as principal at Canon City Junior High School in 1977. Next, he moved into central administration as Director of Curriculum/Instruction in 1983, and lastly, because of his outstanding work, he was the overwhelming choice for Superintendent of Canon City Schools in 1989. He was instrumental in the planning and realization of Garden Park High School. Frank received the Outstanding Educator and Leader Award from the Durango Jaycees in 1975, Teacher of the Year at Charleston Jr. High in 1966, and the Community Leaders and Noteworthy American Award in 1974.

Frank's community and civic involvement are legion with the Fremont County Economic Development Corporation, Fremont County Head Start, Lion's Club, Canon City Booster Club, United Way and Blossom Festival being most prominently featured. Serving as Chairman of the PCC Fremont Campus Advisory Board, he successfully bridged his experience in K-12 education to higher education. Frank's tireless efforts on behalf of PCC make him a very legitimate member of the Fremont Hall of Fame.

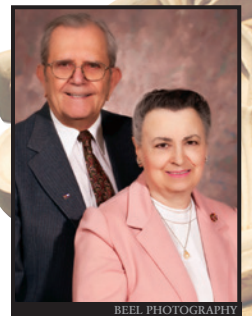


WALTER AND GLORIA SCHEPP

Walter and Gloria Schepp culminated their vast travel experiences by adopting Canon City as their hometown in 1967. They purchased and managed the Best Western Motel there but their exotic career prior to that "retirement" was in the United States Foreign Service where they worked and lived in Bangladesh, Germany, and Canada.

Always dedicated to furthering education, Walt was selected President of the College of the Canons, the predecessor of Pueblo Vocational Community College in Fremont County. When Pueblo Community College-Fremont Campus was created, Walt was selected to sit on the Advisory board and the PCC Foundation.

The Schepps have become outstanding contributors and benefactors in their adopted community. For over 20 years they have generously contributed to educational building and expansion projects at the college through the PCC Foundation. They have donated funds to the Senior Citizen Transportation Project and the East Canon Town Hall building. Individually, the Schepps also sponsor a PCC Foundation Scholarship of \$500 per semester for students of single parent households.



BEEL PHOTOGRAPHY

Gateway Leads to Improved Opportunities

High school did not go as planned for Alicia Ambriz. First, a child arrived. When another child came onto the scene



and an excruciating adoption decision had to be made, suddenly high school wasn't so important. So, Alicia dropped out and became a statistic, part of the 40% of local high school students who don't complete their senior year on time.

But instead of settling for that reality, Alicia turned this detour to her advantage. She heard about the Gateway to College program from her mom and went through the thorough screening process. Through partnerships with PCC, Pueblo City Schools, Pueblo School District 70 and PCC's Division of Community Education Training/Pre-College Programs, students can still receive a traditional high school diploma while earning college credits toward an associates degree or certificate.

Since her return to the classroom, Alicia has impressed her teachers. PCC science instructor Nick Alfonso says, "Waters run deep with Alicia. She absorbs all of the information provided and is always conceptualizing ways to apply the information and concepts covered in class. She truly is a wonderful student!"

PCC is one of two campuses in Colorado that supports the Gateway to College cause and brings dropout students back into the fold. In May, Alicia will complete both a two-year certificate from PCC and her high school diploma. Gateway to College will be her springboard into the teacher education program at CSU-Pueblo. With a goal to "give back," Alicia said, "I know now that my dream is to help kids."

for more information...
about the Gateway to College Program
Call 719-549-3096



SCCC-West Student Exemplifies Renewed Energy

Regina Tohtsoni spent most of her youth growing up in Montezuma Creek, Utah, located 60 miles west of Cortez. After graduating from high school in Montezuma Creek, she spent time in Phoenix, AZ, where she was inspired by her mother to continue her education. She began taking business courses at Phoenix Community College; however, she soon discovered that she would rather work with children in a school environment. She eventually moved to Cortez with her husband, taking a break from her schooling, and became a full-time wife and mother of a daughter born in 2002.

In 2010, with renewed motivation and a well-defined goal, she entered the AAS degree program for Early Childhood Education at Southwest Colorado Community College-West Campus. She has earned a 3.6 GPA, and is on track to obtain her degree within two years. She was recently inducted into Phi Theta Kappa honor society. Regina is a very self-motivated, high achieving student with a great sense of humor.

Upon graduation, she would like to begin teaching in an early childhood environment. In the future, she would like to continue her education, obtaining Elementary Education certification, and continue teaching her favorite age group.

PCC Student Named to All-Colorado Academic Team

Ashlee Huntley's first taste of college while still a high school student was a big success that has continued since she enrolled at Pueblo Community College full time. Even more, she carries a 4.0 grade-point average and will graduate in May with an Associate of Science degree. Ashlee recently was selected to the Phi Theta Kappa All-Colorado Academic Team for the 2010-2011 academic year. She and other All-Colorado Team selectees were honored March 9 with a recognition ceremony and luncheon held at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Denver.

Initially, Huntley started earning college credits through the Advanced Vocational Education Partnership while a senior at Pueblo West High School. Since enrolling at PCC in the fall of 2009, she has maintained a perfect 4.0 grade-point average while also working as a work-study in the Department of Academic Advising and serving as treasurer of the college's Phi Theta Kappa honor society chapter.

The 19-year-old has been helped financially by Early College and Freda T. Roof Memorial / Yngve Hansen Fund Scholarships. PCC is the first step on her journey toward a career in social work, preferably in the areas of adoption or foster care. She hopes to attend Colorado State University in Fort Collins this fall to begin pursuing both bachelor's and master's degrees in social work.





“PCC is home for me.”

Fremont’s Cassie Passero

Cassie Passero is far from a “traditional” student, but her story is one that is typical of many of the students attending the Pueblo Community College Fremont Campus.

Cassie is working toward an Associate of Arts degree, with an emphasis in history. Her career goal is to transfer to Colorado State University-Pueblo to earn her secondary education teaching degree so she can be a high school history teacher.

“I was scared to go to college and I thought a community college was a good place to start. I was intimidated. I had a lot of problems in high school, including having an Individual Education Plan the whole time, for comprehension issues,” Cassie said. “But I tested right into college level classes when I enrolled at PCC and have done great with no problems—because of all of the support and homey feel here.”

Cassie was married in 2001 to Justin Passero. Justin is a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps who served five years active duty, including a tour in Iraq. Cassie and Justin are both full-time students at the PCC Fremont Campus. Justin is part of the Fremont Campus Student Advisory Committee. They have three children—ages 11, 8, and 7, one of whom struggles with a physical disability after being born with “ballerina syndrome” where her ankle tendons did not develop. Cassie and Justin spend a great amount of time caring for her special needs. Cassie has been a work study student on campus for two years, has earned a Canon City Chamber of Commerce Scholarship, and gets support from the Federal Student Aid Program. Cassie volunteers her time to help with SAC, other campus events, and was the student representative on the PCC Pledge Committee.

In addition to her great success in and out of the classroom at PCC, Cassie has also been the PTO president for two years and is a self-declared “soccer mom.” She says that she focuses everything on her kids and on college. “I am happy to be a PCC student and proud to be a Panther.”



Early College *Student Honored* by State Board

Kaylin Berry isn’t your typical Early College student. She began taking concurrent enrollment classes at Pueblo Community College while just a sophomore at Pueblo Centennial High School and now, two years later, takes all of her classes at the Pueblo campus. What’s more, with the various extra grade-point average credits that are available to students, Kaylin carries a 4.8 grade-point average at Centennial and will graduate simultaneously from high school and from PCC in the spring with an Associate of Science degree and more than 60 college credits. She has maintained close ties with her Centennial friends and her “high school experience” by playing softball for four years and soccer for three years.

Berry has been accepted in the Colorado School of Mines for fall 2011 and will major in chemical engineering. Her dream, she noted, is to have a job that produces “green” products. She is launching a project at PCC called Earth Hour in which the college and the Pueblo community will participate in a global event in which we turn lights off (and/or decrease electricity usage) one hour to impact global warming.

Because of her outstanding academic and extracurricular achievements, Kaylin was recognized as PCC’s Outstanding Student at a recent meeting of the State Board for Community Colleges and Occupational Education.

PUEBLO COMMUNITY COLLEGE’S ECONOMIC & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DIVISION



Designing Innovation through Education

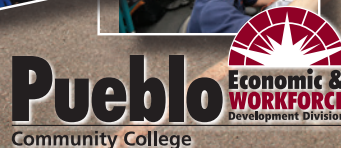


**Economic and Workforce
Development Division**

Addressing the current and emerging challenges employers face with Workforce Development.

Training over 2600 people in a wide array of topics in the last year alone.

Receiving national recognition by becoming a top ten finalist in the nation for the coveted Bellwether Award through the Community College Futures Academy and the University of Florida. Visited by U.S. Department of Labor Secretary Hilda Solis on behalf of the Obama administration’s national tour.



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www.pueblocc.edu/CommunityOutreach/BusinessDevelopment

ALUMNI

1950s

Harry Williams '59 welcomed a granddaughter and enjoys salmon fishing in the Salmon River of Idaho where he lives in Chubbuck. He graduated with the Pueblo Central High School class of '57, but now is proud of his white beard.

1960s

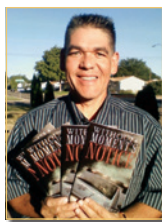
Robert and Rosanne Busch '61 live in Prescott, Arizona. Bob retired after nearly 25 years of service with US West and is now managing The Granite Oaks Water Company. Rosanne has been a real estate broker for over 30 years and owns Painted Desert Realty, LLC. They have four children and four grandchildren. Their fondest memories were times spent at Pueblo College.



James L. Simmons '63 was responsible for raising capital funds for the Daniel Ritchie Sports, Recreation & Wellness Center at the University of Denver in Denver, Colorado. He retired in 1996. On May 21, 2010, he married Kathy Rose Williams. The couple resides in Green Valley, Arizona.

1990s

Christina Campbell '96 went on to receive her bachelor's degree in sociology/criminology. She retired in 2009 from the Department of Social Services after 21 years. She enjoys traveling, her grandchildren, and great grandchildren. She credits PCC for putting her on the road to success.



2000s

Troy Salazar '00 is Emergency Medical Services faculty and published *Without a Moment's Notice* in 2010. The book combines the experiences the author has had as a paramedic and his dedication to ministry. For more information or to purchase a copy visit www.withoutamomentsnotice.com.

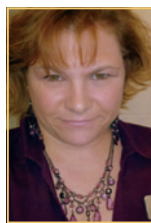
Diana (Ayala) Vasquez '04 furthered her education with a bachelor's degree in criminology/sociology from University of Southern Colorado (CSU-Pueblo). Soon afterwards, she began working as a probation officer in Pueblo, Colorado, until she moved to her current residence in Garden City, Kansas. For the past 12 years, she has been a juvenile probation/parole officer and recently became an adult probation officer. She has been married to Jose for eight years and they have two children, Savannah (8) and Juan (22) who is being deployed on his second tour of Iraq as an Army Reservist.

UPDATES

John Gust '04 earned a bachelor's degree in history with an education minor and a master's degree in special education from CSU-Pueblo. He is currently teaching special education in the Pueblo area and loves what he is doing.



Sabrina Bosley '06 is working at the Smart Style Salon in Pueblo, Colorado, and loves her job. She thanks her cosmetology instructors for helping get her to where she is today.



Carey DeWitt '06 was a manager at The Cock & Bull Tavern in Pueblo, Colorado, and also worked in the dietary department at Parkview Hospital as a meal assistant. She helped the patients with their doctor-ordered meal choices. Now she is a Dining Services instructor at Pueblo Community College. She enjoys working with students and her goal is to become a full-time faculty member. She lives in Pueblo with her son, Alex.

Kenneth Kester '06 is a Navy Corpsman 1 with a rank of E6 stationed at Camp LeJuene, Jacksonville, North Carolina. He has made two tours in Iraq as a Marine. During his first tour of duty in Ramada, Iraq, he corresponded with school children in Utah and Minnesota. Ken wants to continue his education when he leaves the military. He would enjoy e-mails at kenkwater@yahoo.com.

Tom Sykes '07 is employed at Southern Colorado Community College East Campus in Durango as a respiratory therapy instructor.

Eva Pedraza '08 took her nursing degree to a pediatric emergency room in San Antonio, Texas, where she and her fiancé plan to buy a home. In the meantime, she is finishing her BSN.



Cynthia Barrington '09 is writing independently about ribonucleic acid viruses that contribute to cancer per the research of Bernice Eddy and Sarah Stewart.

Maritza Martinez '09 had no problem finding an employment position after graduation. She passed the R.N. NCLEX at Fresenius Medical Care Pueblo, a dialysis clinic, and has been employed there since 2009. She exclaims she absolutely loves her time at the clinic.



Karen Umbhau '09 began employment with San Juan Regional Medical Center (SJRMC) in Farmington, New Mexico, four months after graduation. In December, she received an award for "representing the Mission, Vision, Philosophy and Values" of SJRMC. Of the award, Karen states, "I was very proud to receive this award. It continues to encourage me to be a better nurse every day. I hope it has inspired others to be the best they can be in a field of selfless giving." She describes nursing as the ultimate reward.

GRADUATE RECOGNITION

The PCC Alumni Association created the Graduate Recognition award to honor those students who, through perseverance and sheer commitment, overcome life's challenges and obstacles and graduate from Pueblo Community College. Pure academic achievements are not the sole criteria, so much as determination and pure grit. The three individuals selected this year show this exceptional determination and drive despite problems in their lives.



At the Pueblo campus, **DAVID SIGUENZA** is graduating in May with his AA in Business and AGS in Accounting. As an older, non-traditional student, David had many adjustments coming back to school after working 17 years. Although it has taken a few years to complete his chosen degree path, David did not give up hope or commitment. While in school, he overlooked personal hardships to volunteer as student ambassador and Vice-President of Leadership for Phi Theta Kappa. He mentors other students and teaches workshops himself despite his own pressing familial obligations and college challenges.

GEORGE "ANDY" ROMERO will graduate from the West campus in May with an AAS Degree in Industrial Electronics. George never realized how high one can reach until he hit bottom in his personal life. He entered college at that low point in his life, however, his instructors marvel at his ability to progress and excel. While in school, he experienced a major motorcycle accident where he was severely injured. That incident might have discouraged a lesser person—but not Andy. After learning to maneuver on his crutches, he was back in class after only one and one-half weeks of his hospitalization. Since then, he still shines in class and serves as an example to all his fellow students.



SAVANNA CONNOLLY receives her AA Degree in Business Management from the SCCC-East Campus. An exceptional student starting college right out of high school, Savanna did not have many of the life experiences of her older classmates. Yet, her young age belies her maturity and steadfast desire to succeed. A full-time employee while taking on-line classes presented its own particular challenges. She received tutoring where it was needed so that she could graduate as soon as possible and enter Fort Lewis College to obtain her bachelor's degree. Savanna maintains an excellent, positive outlook on life and is a clear role model exemplifying persistence and determination.

Life was not always easy for me. After much perseverance, I now have a great job, a home, and have been employed at the Greater Pueblo Chamber of Commerce for over 11 years. I want to be an inspiration for others. ***You can change your life situation as I did; just believe in yourself.***

I was orphaned at the age of 15; emancipating myself at age 17. I soon was married, had my first child and moved to Denver. My second child was born two years later. I then moved to Colorado Springs where I attended Pikes Peak Community College. Unfortunately, my husband was very abusive; eventually, for the safety of my children and myself, I left that relationship. I moved to New York with my children for a year, then back to Pueblo where I lived at the YWCA Shelter for four months.

After that I started hanging around party people. Then I realized that for the sake of my children, I needed to change my life around and I enrolled at Pueblo Community College. One day my professor told me: You know, these one and two classes a semester are great, but how do you think you are going to

Never let anyone stop you from pursuing your dreams!



by **Ava DeHerrera**
2004 PCC Graduate

graduate!? I thought I had lost that dream forever, but I stayed the course and I graduated with an Associate Degree in Travel and Tourism within 4 years.

I can attest that you can come back and earn your education. ***Never let anyone stop you from pursuing your dreams.***

Thank You

It gives us great pleasure to recognize the many individuals who give their time so selflessly to advise the President, Administration, Faculty and Staff concerning educational opportunities relative to our community needs. It is with gratitude that we recognize the following partners:

**Emeritus members served for more than 10 years; some are still active.*

We have made every effort to include all of our valued partners and colleagues. If we missed anyone, please accept our sincere apology and notify Julie Leyba at 719-549-3222 so that we can correct our records.

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