

# LEGACY

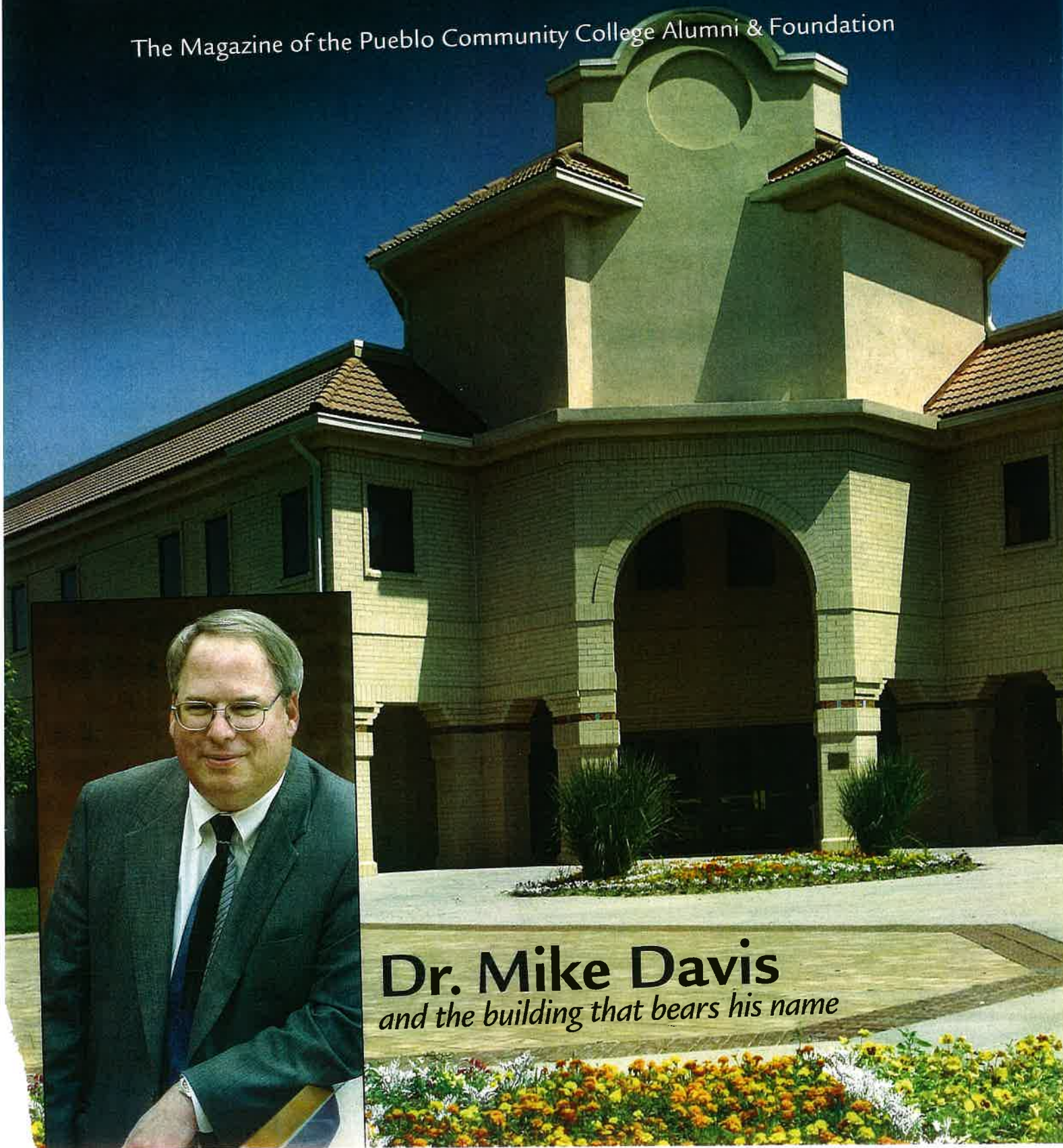
Honor  
the  
Past  
■  
Ensure  
the  
Future

Volume  
TWO  
Spring  
2007

The Magazine of the Pueblo Community College Alumni & Foundation



**Dr. Mike Davis**  
*and the building that bears his name*





# Letters

The individuals featured in this second issue of the LEGACY have had, in various ways, a very personal relationship with PCC. They represent you—financial supporters of this fine college and people who have attended classes/worked here.

We are paying special tribute to Dr. Mike Davis, whom we lost so tragically in a plane crash last August. As one of our faculty remarked at the memorial service, he was “just hitting his stride as our president.” With a charge from him, we are working to continue our “legacy of learning.”

The Foundation Board of Directors is actively working on a strategic plan that will identify PCC’s ongoing needs and address inherent financial concerns.

Pueblo campus projects that have been discussed include enhancing the Learning Center to offer all students opportunities to excel in their classes, creating a wellness center to bring the health programs together in a seamless learning environment and expanding the Gorsich Advanced Technology Center to ensure state-of-the-art educational training.

Branch campus projects would include new buildings to house a first-class art program and new vocational offerings in Cañon City, upgrading our current office and classroom space in Durango and expanding our comprehensive mission in

Southwestern Colorado.

Because the Foundation and the Alumni Association are your conduits to remain connected to Pueblo Community College, we will keep you apprised as the planning process continues. As we

move forward, please consider how you can be vested in our future, helping us preserve our legacy.



Diane Porter  
Executive Director  
Pueblo Community College Foundation



**Pueblo  
Community  
College**



**Marjorie J. Villani**

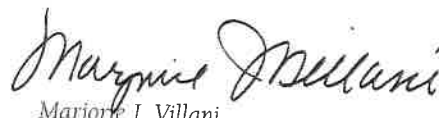
As I look back on 2006, I remember a year filled with transitions and challenges – not only for me as a higher education administrator – but for our campus community. We lost a friend, a mentor, and a good leader when Dr. Mike Davis left this earth to touch the face of God on August 3, 2006. At the time of his death, we were facing challenges that we knew the College could overcome with the will and hard work of our faculty and staff. Dr. Davis would have been proud to know (and I think he does) that we were able to pull ourselves out of these difficult times and that we emerged with a much better enrollment and financial picture.

It was important to make sure we continued to move the College forward and focus on the quality improvement process that was started months earlier. It was a time to bring everyone together and identify what will be needed to move the College to the next level of excellence. Thus, we began a strategic planning process that involved asking both internal and external constituents for input and answers to some tough questions like “What bold new risks do we need to take to move the college in a positive direction?”

This process has helped the College begin an important journey that will shape our future. It gives us a unique opportunity to discover what is critical to our success and to put what we discover into action.

I can assure you that we will be paying close attention to what we hear from our internal and external constituents and will make sure that we focus on our mission, on the delivery of quality academic programs and services, and on our contributions to the communities we serve. Most important, we will be trustworthy caretakers of PCC’s valuable human, financial, and physical resources.

I am honored to serve PCC as an administrator, and I will continue to provide strong leadership and a commitment to help us meet the challenges that will strengthen our College.



Marjorie J. Villani  
Interim President  
Pueblo Community College



**Foundation Staff L to R:**  
Nicole Pechek, student worker,  
Diane Porter, Executive Director,  
Kathy McHugh, Coordinator/  
Accountant & Shirley Carey,  
Administrative Assistant II

**R**ecently, in response to our annual PCC Foundation solicitation letter, I received a handwritten note from an old friend whom I hadn't seen or heard from in over 40 years. It was a terrific surprise and pleasure to get George's short message. The note didn't go into detail about him. However, it did spark a flood of memories from my old high school and junior college days in the 1960s.



**Joe T. Ulibarri**

George and I were the best of friends from grade school through college. We played out rubber gun fights and gladiator contests in our back yards in Bessemer where we grew up. We spoke frequently of our hopes and dreams for the future. He got me interested in playing tennis and, ultimately, we both played on the varsity team at Central High. Later, we both attended Pueblo Junior College and struggled together with our first collegiate intellectual challenges – Freshman English and Western World Literature.

Neither George nor I knew what to expect from college but it turned out to be a very positive experience for both of us. We agonized (not unlike present students) but ultimately thrived on the give and take of higher education. The curiosity and the challenges created the foundation upon which I built my professional career.

As full-time students, he played tennis at PJC while I found part-time work selling shoes. George helped me obtain this job and I was extremely grateful. It gave me a selling career that I maintained off and on through law school.

Ultimately, in our transition from junior college to Southern Colorado State College (now Colorado State University-Pueblo), we failed to stay in touch. I had a steady girlfriend while George was devoting his spare moments to the college tennis team. We remained good friends whenever we saw each other but, as busy circumstances sometimes dictate, the communication wasn't often enough.

We lost track of each other after graduation in 1965. I began a teaching career outside of Pueblo and he moved on to begin a successful real estate career in Denver.

Neither of us attended the periodic high school class reunions held over the years. I got interested in our 30-year reunion in 1991 and hoped to be able to reconnect with him. Unfortunately, my friend missed that reunion and our 45-year reunion held just recently.

Who would have known that a fairly innocuous solicitation letter signed by me as the President of the PCC Foundation and circulated to thousands of past PJC and PCC students, would have returned such an important part of my past to me? Despite his still busy business and travel schedule, George remembered my name and jotted a message on the letter and returned it to the Foundation Office.

I reciprocated with my own letter and he later followed up with a personal phone call. After talking to one another for a short time about our past work experience and present grandchildren, we made plans to reconnect and re-live, in depth, the past 60 years.

For me, that solicitation letter turned out to be not only a request for donations for our Foundation, which is dedicated to helping PCC students and programs, but a much greater thing – an inadvertent reconnection to my childhood and college past.

Hopefully, your PJC or PCC experience has the same effect and you, too, will remember it fondly – not only in your gift giving but also in friendships and memories that last a lifetime.

*Joe T. Ulibarri*  
Joe T. Ulibarri

President  
Pueblo Community College Foundation

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G?ESS WHO!

## LEGACY

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# Dr. Mike

To meet him was

# Davis





by Beth Davis

When asked to write an article about my husband, I was excited and honored – and just a teeny bit overwhelmed! Where to start? I wanted to share things about him that the general public would not know, but then I thought to myself, to meet Mike was to know him.

He was completely genuine and without pretense. It was more important for you to be comfortable in his presence than for you to be impressed by what he had to offer. I loved that about him.

Mike was born and raised in Vincennes, a small historic town in southwestern Indiana and, aside from the few years he spent at the University of Louisville while in graduate school, he lived there until we moved to Pueblo in 2000.

# to know him...

As the third of four children, he always referenced himself as “the middle child.” His older sister and brother, Sue and Jim, live in Chicago; his younger sister, Debbie, lives in Florida.

Schooling, from kindergarten through high school, was at a very small private Catholic all-boys school. As Vincennes friends confirm his story, he was a good student who stayed out of trouble, was somewhat quiet and on the shy side. If I remember correctly, extracurricular activities included playing baseball and, as a senior, winning a trophy that he kept through the years.

While most of his academic career has been recorded in the newspapers, I am confident in saying that Mike would report his greatest academic achievement as obtaining a doctorate degree in 1999. He began that advanced degree while working full-time as an assistant vice-president at Vincennes University. In my mind, this was an unimaginable feat.



**Dr. Michael Davis**  
1952 - 2006

**Dr. Davis was in route to the Southwest Center on August 3, 2006 when the plane he was piloting crashed in the San Luis Valley. He died at the age of 54. PCC has etched Davis' legacy in stone by officially renaming its Academic Building the Dr. Mike Davis Academic Building.**



*This list is a summary  
of a life well spent.*

## EDUCATION

**1999**

Doctor of Education  
Higher Education Administration  
Nova Southeastern University

**1978**

Master of Science in Social Work  
University of Louisville

**1976**

Bachelor of Science in Psychology  
University of Evansville

**1972**

Associate of Science  
in Psychology  
Vincennes University

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

### Colorado

Pueblo Community Health Center  
Board of Directors

SunWest Educational Credit Union  
Board of Directors

Pueblo Education Consortium

Pueblo Diversified Industries  
Board of Directors

Pueblo County Workforce  
Development Board

Pueblo Economic Development  
Corporation  
Board of Directors

Minnequa Rotary Club

United Way of Pueblo County  
2002 Campaign Chair

### Indiana

Children & Family Services, Inc.

Vincennes Rotary Club

Area Association for Social Work

United Community  
Social Ministries

Know County Youth  
Development Commission

Community Values Campaign

Assistive Technology Training  
and Information Center

Vincennes University  
Neuman Center

Vincennes University Student  
Volunteer Services Program

For a three-year period, he literally worked 24 hours a day. The outcome was two "Outstanding Practicum(s)" and an "Outstanding Dissertation." To show my pride in these accomplishments, I started to call him "Mr. Outstanding Practicum Man!"

As the years went by, it was our private joke for me to keep adding his achievements to his title: "Mr. Outstanding Practicum, Outstanding Dissertation, Doctor, Vice President, President, President of the Year, Shirley B. Gordon award winner, Honorary Phi Theta Kappa, Captain Man." He would just smile that impish smile and roll his eyes but I know he appreciated that I was so proud of him.

When we first met, Mike played racquetball ALL THE TIME! He was an equally good tennis player; a great athlete actually. His athletics were like his academics – smart, steady and tenacious.

From the day we met in 1985, my impression was of a handsome, kind and brilliant man. He was very self-deprecating and would wince at these descriptions, but I admired that he was kind to everyone he met and could just as easily strike up a conversation with a child as with a person of authority. Although he was genuinely shy, he pushed through all that insecurity and effectively held VERY public positions.

Other qualities included an uncanny memory, the ability to tell a great story and a great sense of humor. It was a treat to be in

another room and hear him belly-laughing at something on television.

Both Vincennes and Pueblo benefited from having this active member in their community. His social work background led him to problem-solve community issues and bring groups together in ways that encouraged cohesiveness and change.

Regardless of Mike's tremendous work and community responsibilities, he was first and foremost a family man. His family was always at the very top of the list.

Mike was the love of my life and I miss him tremendously. On October 18, 2006, we would have celebrated our twentieth wedding anniversary.

He was a devoted husband and tended to me in very gentle ways. I once told him that when he was away on travels, I quietly said good-night as though he were next to me. The next time

he traveled, I found a note under my pillow, wishing me sweet dreams.

This caring individual was also devoted to his parents. Since we lived in the same town with them until 2000, he was at their home regularly. He continued to help with their

needs even after we moved to Colorado.

He was also a proud father and cherished his son so much. When Chris was younger, we were in the stands of baseball

# He was a leader.

~ Laura Solano  
Dean, Business &  
Technology Division



**LEFT, FAR LEFT & BELOW:  
...fulfilling his many roles  
as a college president**



**LEFT & ABOVE:**  
...enjoying  
his passions

and basketball games, cheering loudly.

Although Chris and Staci, his wife, moved to Tennessee, they still maintained a very close

relationship and they were on the phone several times a week. It was gratifying to see their relationship evolve through the years as Chris became a family man and father. They had an unspoken admiration for each other.

There was also Mike, the grandpa. He treasured spending time with Chase and Nolan. He shared his talents for cooking with them, often baking cookies – that elusive “perfect” chocolate chip – or biscuits with their help.

Equally shared with them was his love of flying. They each were treated to their own ride in his plane.

The Davis family celebrated the birth of Mike’s third grandson, Gavin Dennis Michael, on December 15. I was there days after the birth and happily observed that this newest addition has

**BELOW:** new signage for the building that bears his name



several physical characteristics that make him resemble his grandpa whom we know was there in spirit.

It is very hard to keep this brief because it is difficult to stop telling stories about someone with whom you have shared 21 years of life. But, this magazine is only so long! Suffice

it to say that I’d love to tell you more. Call me sometime and we’ll share stories.

In the meantime, thanks to every one of you who have sent a card, called, said a prayer, given money to the Mike Davis Presidential Scholarship, offered a Mass, planted a tree or generally sent a positive vibe.

We are forever grateful. ■



**LEFT & ABOVE:**  
...devoted to his family

## COLORADO COMMUNITY COLLEGES SYSTEM SERVICE

Information Technology  
Task Force / Chair

Presidents’ Budget &  
Operations Committee

State Board Budget &  
Operations Committee

Enrollment Management  
Planning Committee

CCOnline Ready Response Team

Educational Services Committee

## PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Phi Theta Kappa Honorary  
Membership Award

Phi Theta Kappa  
Shirley B. Gordon Award

Phi Theta Kappa Excellence Award

Colorado State  
Student Advisory Council  
President of the Year Award

Outstanding Dissertation/  
Research Excellence Award

Social Worker of the Year  
NASW Region 13

Vincennes Rotary Club  
Board Member of the Year

Community Values Campaign  
Outstanding Service Award

Phi Delta Kappa  
Outstanding Service Award

VU Blue & Gold  
Faculty/Alumni Award

Spirit of ‘76 Award

VU Exemplary Service Award

Knox County Social  
Worker of the Year Award

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Association  
of Community Colleges

National Council of  
Instructional Administrators

Hispanic Association  
of Colleges & Universities

Academy of Certified  
Social Workers

National Association  
of Social Workers



# Endowment aims to help students who wish to teach



Hazel and Frank Petrocco

## NewsBite

### GED testing expands to off-campus locations

*After being approved last summer to offer GED testing, PCC has begun offering the service for residents at two off-campus sites: El Pueblo-an Adolescent Treatment Community and the Pueblo County Jail. Ross Barnhart, GED testing coordinator, said community testing also is being considered at the El Pueblo location.*

Pueblo Community College Foundation has two exceptional educators among its newest supporters – **Hazel and Frank Petrocco**. This dynamic duo was part of Pueblo's educational fabric for a combined total of 60-plus years and Frank continues to represent the interests of retirees today.

Hazel Felton Petrocco, before she passed away in 2003 at the age of 81, was well-known for the stylish hats she wore. Born in 1921, she was raised in rural Iowa and received her teaching certification from Iowa State Teacher's College (now the University of Northern Iowa).

After teaching for several years in the Midwest, she returned to school to major in Elementary Education at Colorado State College (now UNC). She later earned her Master's Degree in Education at Adams State College.

Hazel was a highly respected elementary school teacher for Pueblo School District 60. In a tenure spanning 32 years, she was the most compassionate and sensitive of teachers – the kind that every parent wishes for their child.

Frank was born in 1916 in Concrete, Colorado. The son of Italian immigrants, he has lived most of his life in Pueblo. He resided at Sacred Heart Orphanage and graduated from Centennial High School in 1934.

Like many of his generation, Frank served in the U.S. Army during World War II; he was assigned to the European Theater. Upon his discharge, he resumed his education, graduating from Colorado State College with a major in business education. He earned his Master's Degree in Education from the University of Arkansas.

For 37 years, Frank was also a beloved teacher as well as an administrator for Pueblo School District 60. Those who know him state that he is like the energizer bunny; he never slows down – even after a serious car accident put him in rehabilitation for almost a year.

Throughout their lives, both Hazel and Frank were active members of educational boards, including the National Education Association, the Colorado Education Association (CEA) and the Pueblo Education Association. Hazel had the distinct privilege of being elected to serve on the State Board of Education. Frank still serves as a representative for retirees at the annual CEA delegate assembly and he is a member of the Pueblo Board of Elections.

In honor of his wife of 55 years, Frank recently created a *Frank and Hazel Felton Petrocco Endowment*. The interest from the endowment will fund scholarships for Pueblo Community College students who have their sights set on an education degree.

Contributions to the endowment can be made directly to the Pueblo Community College Foundation at 900 W. Orman Avenue, CA 115, Pueblo, CO 81004 or into a restricted account at SunWest Credit Union, 4141 Sovereign Cir, Pueblo, CO 81005. ■



# More than just money...

I was a proud recipient of *Pueblo Community College Foundation Scholarships*. Those scholarships gave me more than just money...they gave me pride and a genuine feeling of a community that was and still is supportive of me.

I dropped out of high school in the tenth grade and was married by the time I was 17. I worked odd jobs from the age of 16 until the birth of my first child at age 21.

During this time, I was in an abusive relationship, although, at the time I didn't realize the extent. The emotional abuse was devastating to my self-image and esteem. By the time my marriage ended, I was lost because of being told for so long that I was incapable, incompetent and would never amount to anything.

After five years of being on my own, I decided to go to college. With the support of my family, friends and a very special loved one, I began my journey. College was a huge risk. I knew in the back of my mind that it was my only option for a future and the best way to set a good example for my children. I recognized I was getting older and competing for jobs against others who had college degrees.

Going to college was one of the best therapies I could have undertaken. Making up my mind to enroll in college was a huge step that challenged my intellect, my self-esteem and my courage.

I'll admit I struggled in math, failed science in high school and dreaded taking the classes in college. I enrolled in a self-paced tutoring program, and soon I tested out of the math requirement for algebra. I was on my way!

I feel fortunate that I chose Pueblo Community College and am grateful to the instructors I had in my first classes. I never thought learning could be so much fun and rewarding at the same time. I couldn't get enough. While I was nervous about studying and tests, I possessed a most important component – the desire to learn more.

I began college with the "do the best you can do" attitude. I am proud to say that I earned a 4.0 GPA and was on the Dean's list. I reached my dream of earning an Associate of Applied Science degree.

In addition to reaching my own educational goals, my three children know "mom did it!" Through my PCC Foundation scholarships, I was able to show them that there really are people and organizations out there who support and reward hard work and perseverance. Currently, I am attending the University of Denver and working as a respiratory therapist in Denver.

I am looking forward to a future that includes serving my community. I am thankful to have a community and a college that believed in me. I'm also very grateful that my children can look at my life and see me as a role model as they plan how they will pursue their dreams. ■

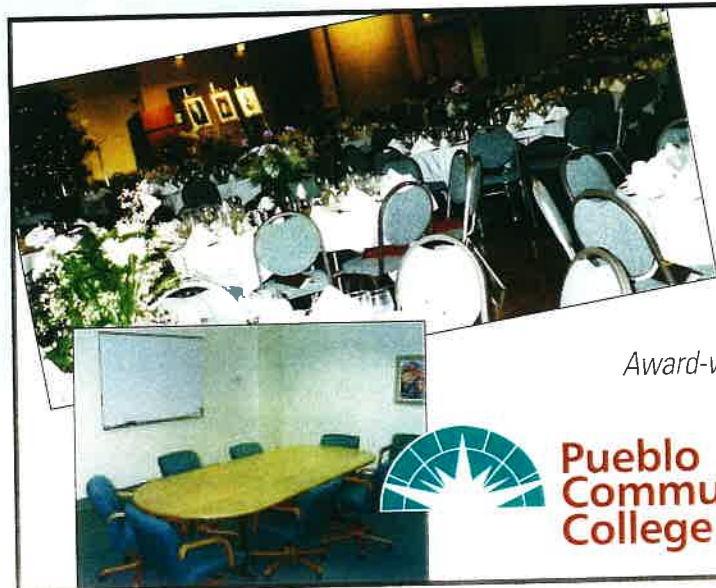


by Michelle Montoya

## NewsBite

**Grant underwrites safety course curriculum development**

*The U.S. Department of Labor, through it's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), has awarded PCC a \$112,100 Susan Harwood Training Grant to develop an instructional curriculum for construction workers. The classes will promote safety and health at construction sites by providing education on how to prevent injuries and fatalities. The course materials will be available in Spanish to assist non-English speaking and low-literate workers. The classes will be conducted by the Business & Technology Workforce Training department under the direction of Amanda Ackerman, the department's Project/Resources Coordinator. The grant was written by Ms Ackerman with assistance from Chris Beltran, PCC Grant Writer/Manager.*



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your next event  
or meeting...**

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*Award-winning on-site catering service  
by Cinfully Delicious*



**Pueblo  
Community  
College**

Events Coordinator  
College Center, Rm 240  
719. **549.3061**





## President's Circle Inductees

**1999**

Joseph A. & Barbara Fortino  
Clem & Marge Hausman  
LeVert Hoag

**2000**

Tom & June Healy  
Welte Family

**2001**

Dammann Family  
Art & Lorraine Gonzales

**2002**

Ruth M. Robinson  
Gene & Peachy Wilcoxson

**2003**

E. M. Christmas  
Intel Corporation

**2004**

Joseph W. Holloran  
Joan C. Occhiato

**2005**

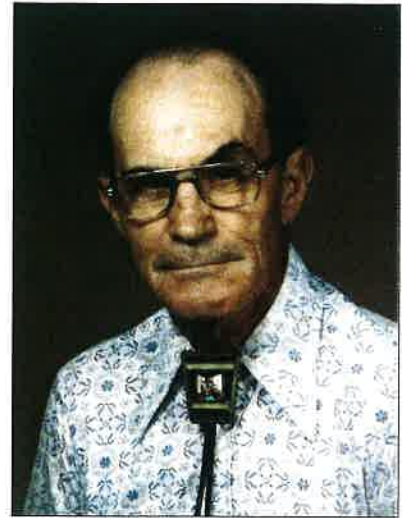
Parkview Foundation  
Robert Hoag Rawlings  
Foundation

**2006**

Charles & Earlene Wolfers  
Robert E. Trisler



Charles & Earlene Wolfers



Robert E. Trisler

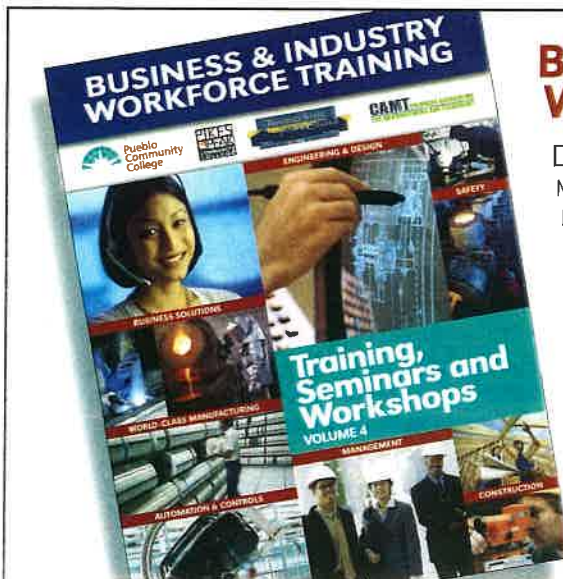
# Three inducted into the President's Circle

On November 13, the Pueblo Community College Foundation honored three long-time donors by inducting them into the *President's Circle*. Charles and Earlene Wolfers and, posthumously, Robert E. Trisler were recognized for significant contributions in support of the College.

The Wolfers were a big part of "The Rainmakers." Beginning in 1996, this group helped Fremont County raise one million dollars toward the construction of the permanent campus in Cañon City. In addition, Charles and Earlene have been active, long-time members of the Senior Mini College planning committee.

Robert Trisler's support of the Foundation began in 1999 when he donated a house. Part of the sale proceeds was used to establish an endowment to fund the *Robert and Bernice Trisler Scholarships*. In 2004, he donated a very valuable coin collection and, when he passed away in April 2006, he left an unrestricted bequest in the amount of \$382,000.

The President's Circle was established in 1999 to showcase and thank outstanding Foundation supporters. Recipients or family representatives are presented with a soaring crystal eagle as our token of appreciation. It recognizes the spirit they have demonstrated through their contributions. ■



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# Scholarship recognizes presidency



**FAR LEFT: Marvin C. Knudson today at 98 years old.**

**LEFT: Marvin C. Knudson as President, Pueblo Junior College, 1945-1962; President, Southern Colorado State College 1963-1964**

**Marvin C. Knudson**, who oversaw the transition of Pueblo Junior College into Southern Colorado State College, now has a scholarship named in his honor. His three sons – Doug, Roger and Robert – established the endowment as a Christmas gift.

Named the *Marvin C. Knudson Past President's Scholarship*, it recognizes the emphasis that this leader put on making Pueblo Community College a nationally-accredited institution of higher learning, which serves students not only

from Pueblo and Colorado but other states and countries as well. As established, the scholarships will continue in perpetuity.

Recipients – targeted as high-achieving high school graduates – are expected to pursue programs of study that result in an associate of arts or associate of science degree. Full-time attendance, with quality instruction and personal attention from faculty and staff, is encouraged to facilitate transfer, as juniors, into a bachelor's program. ■

## 17th Annual Pueblo Hall of Fame

On Friday, March 2, **M. Edmund Vallejo, Ph.D.** and Colorado State Senator **Abel J. Tapia** were inducted into the *Pueblo Hall of Fame*. Their portraits and biographies joined those of other outstanding citizens – now numbering over 50 – who have received similar recognition.

Dr. Vallejo was recognized for over 50 years of dedication to the field of education. He started as an English teacher at Keating Junior High in 1955, rose through the ranks to become the first Hispanic to serve as School District 60 Superintendent and continues to mentor students and teachers today. His civic and philanthropic contributions and awards are equally impressive.

Senator Tapia, a first generation college student from the Bessemer area, has been successful as a businessman and even more influential as a community advocate, volunteer and leader. His involvement with School District 60, the Greater Pueblo Chamber and the Pueblo Area Council of Governments are overshadowed today by his impact at the state level where he is currently chair of the powerful Joint Budget Committee and vice chair of the Appropriations Committee.

The Pueblo Hall of Fame was established in 1991 to honor individuals who, by their extraordinary efforts, have contributed to the betterment of Pueblo. Nominees are considered on the basis of contributions in the following areas: all facets of education; business and labor; arts and humanities; philanthropy; government; law; science and technology; and health and human services.

To submit nominations for the 2008 Pueblo Hall of Fame, please call the Foundation office at 719.549.3303. ■



*Pueblo Hall of Fame*

**FAR LEFT: M. Edmund Vallejo, Ph.D.**

**LEFT: Colorado State Senator Abel J. Tapia**

### 2008 BANQUET

Friday, March 7  
Fortino Ballroom  
PCC College Center





# PCC Calendar of Events

## 2007

### March

**26-30** Senior Mini College on the Fremont Campus

\* PCC vs CSU-P March Madness Basketball Game  
PCC Staff/Students vs. CSU-Pueblo Staff/Students

### April

**2** Matt Pauley Zarb Concert (from Australia)

**5** Job Fair/Alumni Booth

**12** Spring Fling/Alumni Booth

**13** Last day to accept Scholarship Applications

\* Classic Car Show

\* Student Art Shows on the Pueblo & Fremont Campuses

### May

**4** PCC Main Campus & Fremont Campus Graduation

**5** PCC Southwest Campus Graduation

### August

**7** PCC Foundation Mandatory Scholarship Orientation

**18** Ice Cream Social

**23** Fine Arts Exhibit Colorado State Fairgrounds

**25** PCC VIP Picnic Colorado State Fairgrounds

### September

**15** PCC Foundation's 18th Annual Golf Tournament

### October

**16** PCC Scholarship Reception

\* Flag Throwers of Italy

### November

**2** Donor Appreciation Dinner

**11** Veteran's Day Celebration

\* To be announced

Call PCC Foundation Office at 719. **549.3314** for more information

# Academics in the News...



## ▲ Culinary student awarded national scholarship

**Eric Rovegno**, a second-year Culinary Arts student, has been awarded a national *Chef2Chef Scholarship* from the Yampa Valley Community Foundation. He is one of just 12 college students from across the country selected to receive a \$1,000 grant. Rovegno, 31, has a 3.7 GPA, is president of the Culinary Arts Club and will graduate in May with an associate's degree. He'll serve an internship this summer. ■

## Alum wins business contest

**Andrew Baca**, who graduated from PCC in 2005 with an Associate of Applied Science degree in Business Management, recently won the *Pueblo Apprentice II* competition and its top prize – a \$10,000 scholarship. Baca will use the scholarship funds to continue his business studies at Colorado State University-Pueblo. As one of 75 entrants given \$20 in seed money, the 29-year-old created and operated a business for 14 weeks. His rental property cleaning service, which he named "Menial Labor," was one of 10 that made a profit and earned praise from both judges and participants. ■

## Students to produce and star in soap opera episodes

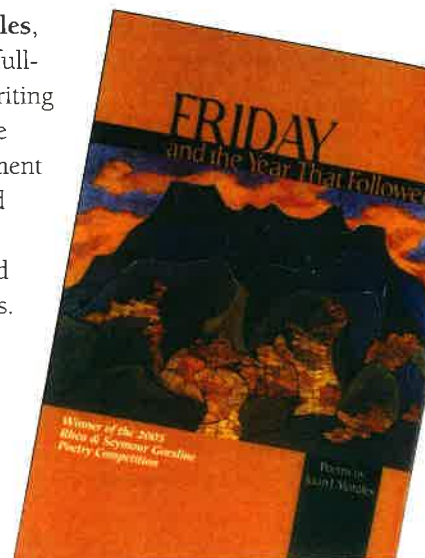
A course designed to give students hands-on experience in writing, acting in and directing serial-type programming is being conducted this semester on the Pueblo Campus. Students are learning to script and develop all segments of shows for broadcast on one of the PCC-operated cable television channels. The course was conceived by **Jean Fish-Davis**, an instructor in the Fine Arts and Humanities Department. ■

## Physical therapist chair appointed dean

**Cindy Mihelich**, who founded the Physical Therapist Assistant program in 1990 when she came to PCC as its chair/instructor, has been appointed Dean of Health Professions after serving as Interim Dean since late August following the retirement of **Judith Brodzeller**. She also supervises the Pharmacy and Phlebotomy Technician certificate programs and the Health Academy partnership that includes PCC, Pueblo City Schools (D60) and the two Pueblo hospitals. The Pueblo native was PCC's Faculty of the Year award recipient in 1998. ■

## English faculty gets published ▼

**Juan Morales**, who became a full-time creative writing instructor in the English department last fall, has had his first book of poetry published by Bedbug Press. *Friday and the Year that Followed* contains narrative



and free verse poetry that explore a myriad of folklore, mythical and historical topics originating in different parts of the world. Morales, 26, has been invited to read segments from his publication at numerous local venues. ■

## Community gets look at simulation technology ►

The Critical Care Education department opened its doors to the Pueblo community to showcase its four human simulators, virtual ambulance and emergency room on October 31. More than 200 guests learned how technology, made possible by more than \$700,000 in grants from the U.S. Department of Labor, is helping augment the training and clinical components required in the health programs. The event was organized by **Troy Salazar**, simulation coordinator and department instructor. ■



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

To request more information on opportunities to give, please mark your areas of interest, fill in your name and mailing address and return the form by mail or fax to 719.549.3333.

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Work Telephone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ I would like more information on the PCC Alumni Association

Please feel free to include a short bio that we can share with your classmates in a future issue. ☐ Please remove me from your mailing list.

**Thank you** for your tax-deductible gift. If you have questions, please contact the Foundation Office at 719.549.3303 or [diane.porter@pueblocc.edu](mailto:diane.porter@pueblocc.edu)



# A student testimonial...



by Janique Rizer

As an institution of higher learning, a community college is just that – a college for its community. It serves students fresh out of high school and senior citizens as well. I fall somewhere between those extremes – maybe a little closer to the senior end of the scale.

I am not your typical college student. It has been many years...decades...since I attended school. I graduated from high school in the mid-'70s and went to CU-Boulder to major in communications.

When I talked with my advisor about my career choice, he said there were job opportunities "but don't expect to actually work in radio or television." That did it! I thought to myself, "Oh yeah, I'll show you" and I quit school after just a year.

I moved to Green River, Wyoming where there were two stations – one rock and one country, and applied at both. At the time, women in radio were few and far between so, even though I didn't have much experience, I was hired at the country station as the token female. After only six months, I couldn't take it any longer.

I returned to Pueblo and worked at almost every station in town. Some of you might remember KPUB, KIDN, KYNR and the always familiar KDZA. I loved doing local news but eventually left this market to join the Business Radio Network in Colorado Springs.

I eventually left my broadcasting career to stay home and raise my daughter. Meanwhile, the industry moved into the computer age and

beyond my expertise.

To help pay the bills, I became an administrative assistant. And, even though I was quite successful because of natural organizational skills, my heart remained in communications.

Last year, I made the decision to give up my job at a local law office to go back to school. My lack of funds, however, was a major stumbling block. One of the partners recommended that I apply for foundation scholarships and even wrote me a letter of recommendation.

Because of the two scholarships I received, I am able to attend school at Pueblo Community College. Your generous gifts give people like me the opportunity to fulfill dreams and correct misguided decisions – like quitting school in the first place. The foundation doesn't say you have to measure up in order to apply. You just have to have a need, a desire and the will to succeed. I fit the criteria.

When I complete my graphic arts degree, I want to give back to the community I have loved all my life. I am determined to have my work publicly displayed and I will always say it was because of the education I received at our own excellent community college that I have succeeded.

You contribute a wealth of experience, encouragement and funds to this school. I appreciate that and hope I can someday be sitting where you are – as a successful member of the community, giving back to future successful members of the community. ■

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

|   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>                             |                     |
| Current Assets                            | \$ 747,847          |
| Receivables                               | 420,334             |
| Investments                               | 5,206,239           |
| <b>Total Assets</b>                       | <b>\$ 6,374,420</b> |
| <b>LIABILITIES</b>                        |                     |
| Accounts Payable                          | \$ 15,675           |
| Deferred Revenue                          | 3,290               |
| Rental Deposits                           | 3,202               |
| <b>Total Liabilities</b>                  | <b>\$ 22,167</b>    |
| <b>NET ASSETS</b>                         |                     |
| Unrestricted                              | \$ 1,112,458        |
| Temporarily Restricted                    | 4,686,380           |
| Permanently Restricted                    | 553,415             |
| <b>Total Net Assets</b>                   | <b>\$ 6,352,253</b> |
| <b>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</b> | <b>\$ 6,374,420</b> |

## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

|   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| <b>REVENUE</b>  |                     |
| Contributions/Fundraising/Inkind                      | \$ 955,108          |
| Investment Income                                     | 244,120             |
| Realized & Unrealized gain/loss on investments        | 105,402             |
| Miscellaneous   | 41,230              |
| <b>Total Revenue &amp; Support</b>                    | <b>\$ 1,345,860</b> |
| <b>EXPENSES</b>                                       |                     |
| Program expenses                                      | \$ 618,553          |
| Scholarships  | 221,514             |
| Management & general                                  | 146,506             |
| Fundraising expenses                                  | 112,401             |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>                                 | <b>\$ 1,098,974</b> |
| Change in Net Asset Value                             | \$ 246,886          |
| <b>Total Expenses &amp; Change in Net Asset Value</b> | <b>\$ 1,345,860</b> |
| <b>Net Assets - June 30, 2005</b>                     | <b>\$ 6,105,367</b> |
| <b>Net Assets - June 30, 2006</b>                     | <b>\$ 6,352,253</b> |

**PCC  
FOUNDATION  
ANNUAL  
REPORT**

Year ended  
June 30, 2006



**FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:** These four individuals – Robert Harrington, treasurer of the SIEC Board of Directors, Harry Bruell, executive director of the Southwest Conservation Corps, Paulette Church, executive director of the Durango Adult Education Center, and Dr. Dan May, PCC Southwest Campus dean and SIEC board secretary – get credit for tenacity. They and their respective organizations have been working on the educational hub concept for more than 5 years.

## PCC instrumental in creation of regional education center

The PCC Southwest Campus has been a key component in making the dream of a full-spectrum educational center a reality in Durango. On February 9, papers were signed to complete the sale of the former Federal Building to the newly-formed *Southwest Institute for Education and Conservation* (SIEC). The building is Pueblo Community College's current – and continuing – address.

The Durango Adult Education Center and Southwest Conservation Corps (which works with *AmeriCorps* to provide higher education scholarships), joined in forming the SIEC to make the purchase. However, it was PCC's long-term lease commitment for 33 percent of the space that provided the financial assurance to secure the necessary financing.

Both the Center and the Corps will relocate to 701 Camino del Rio. The University of

Denver, Fort Lewis College and the American Red Cross are additional tenants. The plan is for the six entities to become a hub for lifelong learning.

In one location, students of all ages can be educationally-enriched – completing a high school diploma, going on to college or vocational training and pursuing adult & “just for fun” classes. It will extend study opportunities to the entire Durango community.

The new and very innovative concept also encompasses the idea of shared space. Possibilities include a student lounge with a coffee bar, a faculty resource room, a high-tech conference room, a kitchen, multi-use computer labs and a day care center. Sharing such resources will be very cost-effective.

The SIEC board is currently working to come up with a building name that will convey the attitude that “the sky is the limit.” ■

## New high school welcomes PCC classes

PCC's Fremont Campus began offering college-level classes at a new site this spring – the recently completed Florence High School. It is a win-win situation.

Instructors are gladly using the school's state-of-the-art classrooms and fitness equipment to teach courses ranging from conversational Spanish and physical education to introductory sections of sociology, algebra and computer information systems.

The high school students are receiving dual

credit (high school and college) for the course work they undertake. And the classes – which are offered from late afternoon into the early evening – are also open to the public.

The partnership arrangement has already identified two future growth areas – aviation technology and culinary arts (the cafeteria kitchen is fabulous!). Potential also exists for the addition of a variety of career and technical classes, based on requests from students and area employers. ■

## NewsBite

### Cañon City Chamber assists Fremont Campus student

*Jeanette Bickelhaupt, a business management major who is attending the Fremont Campus, has been awarded a \$1,000 scholarship from the Cañon City Chamber of Commerce's Education Committee. A non-traditional student with two children, Bickelhaupt carries a 3.7 GPA. She is scheduled to graduate in May 2008, after which she plans to seek employment as an events manager for a major convention center.*





## ALUMNI UPDATES

### 1940s

**Ralph M. Anglea** '40, Northridge, CA, attended PJC from 1939 – 1940. He retired from the government in 1977 and started a second career in Savings & Loan, but is retired again.

**James F. Sudduth** '47, Pueblo, is a retired dentist; 6 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild.

**H. Eugene "Gene" (Peachy) Wilcoxson** '47, Pueblo, is the owner of Wilcoxson Buick-Cadillac-GMC. They have four grandchildren.

**Herbert Wolf** '49, Pueblo, worked at CF&I for 33 years. He has published and enjoys writing poetry books, two of which are titled *The Hawser* and *Poetry for Advertising*.

### 1950s

**William F. Mattoon** '50, Pueblo, is an attorney with the law firm of Petersen and Fonda, P.C.

**Lawrence D. Walter** '50, Salt Lake City, UT, received his BA from Stanford in 1953 and Ph.D. from Berkeley in 1965.

**Warren B. Curtis** '53, Pueblo, was recently elected to the SunWest Educational Credit Union Board of Directors and is a member of the PCC Foundation Board of Directors.

**Harvey (Sandy) Hilvitz** '53, Pueblo, is the owner of Hilvitz/Hansen, Inc. and is on the Colorado State University-Pueblo Foundation Board of Trustees. He is an active member of Pueblo Crimestoppers, Inc.

**Elizabeth A. Morgan** '57, Pueblo, retired in May 2006 as a faculty member in the Department of English/Communications at Pueblo Community College.

**Carl G. Bongirno** '59, Pueblo West, is a retired CEO of Walt Disney.

### 1960s

**Sam A. Cortese** '60, Pueblo, who was student body president of Pueblo Junior College in 1961, is a retired educator with 33 years of service with District 60.

**John Giarratano** '60, Pueblo, graduated from SCSC in 1975. He retired from the Pueblo Army Depot after 30 years with the government. He retired again from PCC on January 2006. John has 10 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren.

**Ralph A. Williams** '61, Pueblo, went on to get his BA in Political Science from CSU-Fort Collins in 1963 and obtained Chartered Property Casualty Underwriters (CPCU) designation in 1969. Currently, he is President and CEO of SCA Insurance.

**C. Dennis Maes** '63, Pueblo, is a Judge with the 10th Judicial District in Pueblo, CO.

**Harvey G. Herzog** '67, Pueblo, is a self-employed accountant with Herzog Financial Services. He has 5 grandchildren.

### 1970s

**Jerry (Bernadine) Geiger** '70 (Diesel Mechanics Technology) and '72 (Industrial Technology Engineering), Pueblo, is a part-time instructor for the Business & Industry Workforce Training Department at PCC.

**Gayle A (Dave) Pettinari** '75, Beulah, was recently named controller at PCC.

### 1980s

**Nancy A. Artus (Nardin)** '80, Pueblo, is a faculty member and founder of the Ultrasound Program at Pueblo Community College.

**Karen Kissell** '80, Pueblo, is the Certified Nursing Aide Program Coordinator at PCC.

**Joseph A. Ribaldo** '82, Alamosa, is Associate Dean of the Industrial Technology Program at Trinidad State Junior College.

# 1990s

**Juanita S. Fuentes** '90, Pueblo, is Director of the Community Education and Training Department at Pueblo Community College.

**Pat Pifko** '90 (Business & Office Technologies), Pueblo, started working for Pueblo Community College in August of 1993. She is currently the Administrative Assistant II for the Math and Science Departments at PCC.

**Delia Lechtenberg** '92, Pueblo, is a faculty member and Coordinator for the Respiratory Care Program at Pueblo Community College.

**Shanda Vidmar** '92, Pueblo, is a faculty member in the Science Department at Pueblo Community College.

**Barbara A. Drake** '93, Lafayette, works as a mammographer at the new Exempla Good Samaritan Hospital. "It is an excellent job and I am so grateful for my PCC education. A special thanks to my instructors, Pat Halus and Larry Bontgager, who assured all of us that someday 'the light will go on' when talking about X-ray physics. It did!"

**Heather Thompson** '94, Pueblo, is general manager of the Pueblo Hampton Inn and was recently named Ambassador of the Month for the Hampton Inns chain.

# 2000s

**Troy Salazar** '00, Pueblo, is a faculty member in the Critical Care Education Department and Coordinator of its simulators program at PCC.

**Amanda A. Ackerman** '01, Trinidad, is a Project/Resource Coordinator for the Business & Industry Workforce Training Department at Pueblo Community College.

**Barbara Simms** '01 (Biology), Pueblo, is a part-time instructor in the Math Department and instructor/tutor in the Learning Center at Pueblo Community College.

**M.D. "Butch" Batchelder** '02, Pueblo West, is PCC's Student Employment Advisor. He is also involved with the Pueblo West Chamber of Commerce and serves on the board of the Pueblo West Metropolitan District.

**Ryan S. Griego** '03, Pueblo West, is a Financial Advisor with UBS Wealth Management and a member of the Pueblo Community College Foundation Board of Directors.

**Connie Armenta** '04, Pueblo, got her Business Administration degree from the University of Phoenix in 2007. She is currently the Administrative Assistant with the HSDP/Community Education and Training Department.

**Denise Spaccamonti** '06, Pueblo, is the Administrative Assistant for the Title V grants at Pueblo Community College.

## MARRIAGES

**Christianna A. Rusher** (Claby) '05, Pueblo West, married Mark Rusher on December 15, 2006.

## IN MEMORIUM

**Dolores Castillo** '79  
**David A. Cobb** '82  
**Kenneth D. Cox** '70  
**Janene H. Davis** '79  
**Andrew Dorazio** '42  
**John Dorland** '55  
**Marvin F. Even** '95  
**Robert F. Fitzgerald** '55  
**Robert L. Grant** '04  
**Robert L. Hawkins** '55  
**Frank J. Herold** '04  
**Dan Jaramillo** '55  
**Judith A. Jordan** '04  
**Gary W. Kerlin** '55  
**Andrew O. Maestas** '81  
**Cynthia A. Robida** '81  
**William G. Stewart** '65  
**Gordon A. Sullivan** '46  
**Kenneth F. Thomas** '47  
**Harold H. Wolf** '65

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*If you wish,  
 please send updated  
 alumni information to  
 diane.porter@pueblocc.edu  
 or call 719.549.3303*



# Thank you

to all the  
generous  
donors who  
supported  
Pueblo  
Community  
College  
from

July 1, 2005  
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Herbert and  
Bernardine Wolf

# G?ESS WHO!

This cute couple married while they were attending SCSC in the early 1970s. He was nicknamed "The Rock" because he was in great physical shape.




## Need a clue?

Whenever costumes are requested, he fills the bill—whether Ben Franklin, Austin Powers or Elvis himself.

## Last issue was...


Betsy Morgan. She recently retired after 15 years on PCC's English faculty.

G?ESS WHO! is a regular feature of LEGACY. If you would like to be the next "WHO," contact the Foundation at 719.549.3303 for consideration.




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