

WINTER 2008

# PCC

COMMUNITIES

College News  
Community Education Schedule  
Portland Community College

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Classes starting  
January - March

## PCC's Future

Preparations begin for a possible bond measure in November

## Skill Set

Sen. Margaret Carter brought passion and political know-how to the Skill Center at Cascade

## INSIDE: Community Education non-credit class schedule

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## High-Energy Careers

Training tomorrow's  
high-tech workforce  
Page 73

# Inspiration

We're all about that.

*When I took a psychology class at PCC, it was the first time I didn't sit in class and stare at a clock. I thought, this is it! This is my calling!*

*Kristin*

*Psychology Major*

*Future Master's in Social Work*



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Community  
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Welcome to the winter issue of PCC Communities magazine.

Inside these pages you'll find the college's vast array of Community Education classes; literally thousands of offerings at scores of locations throughout the Portland metropolitan area, with classes ranging from art to technology, from investing to wellness, and from guitar to foreign languages. In fact, PCC offers more Community Education classes than almost any other community college in the nation.

This issue also features articles on alumni, staff and current students, as well as a feature on the Margaret Carter Skill Center at Cascade Campus. In October, we dedicated the center to state Sen. Carter, who was influential in making the program a reality.

We also take a look ahead at the challenges that face us in the future. The Portland area is expected to add 369,000 residents by 2020. Who will train this workforce? PCC will. As examples, inside this issue you'll find an article on the Electrical Engineering Technology program, and a piece on a business owner who benefits from the college's welding program.

Toward that end, the college's Board of Directors has directed us to put together a bond proposal to address population growth and workforce shortages. To inform that process, we're having conversations with key leaders in the community, with our faculty and staff, and with students, about how to fulfill our goals: filling those workforce shortages, helping to keep Oregon livable and attractive, maintaining our efforts for diversity and equity, and providing access and success to everyone in the five-county college district who wants an education.

PCC also recently received the National Equity Award from among all the community colleges in the nation, for our efforts to hire a more diverse workforce and to ensure opportunities for access to education for women and students of color.

That mission – providing access to all – got a boost in 2007 when the Legislature greatly increased the amount of financial aid money available in the Oregon Opportunity Grant and Congress boosted funding for Pell Grants. There soon will be more financial aid money available for more Oregonians than ever before. If, in the past, you were told you weren't eligible for financial aid, it's time to ask again.

Financial Aid Day runs from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 26. Come to any of our four major campuses, get free help submitting your federal financial aid form, find out about the additional state and federal funds available, and enter a prize to win a \$500 scholarship.

We like to say that PCC is all about your future, and it's never been more true than today. Whether you're taking classes to transfer to a four-year school, looking for that second career, getting the training you need in your current work, or looking to broaden your horizons through Community Education, we're all about that.

Sincerely yours,

Preston Pulliams  
District President

# PCC Alumnus Jeff Van Raden

By all accounts PCC alum Jeff Van Raden is the Welding Program's biggest proponent. He hires PCC grads, sits on the department's advisory board and the PCC Foundation board and donates equipment, money and his own time.

By Christina Holmes

Last spring Jeff Van Raden, one of several owners of Columbia Industries, again went to bat for the program as he testified before the Oregon Legislature about the proposed budget for community colleges. Van Raden explained that his company, which makes solid waste equipment and self-propelling systems for oil rigs, is expanding its business into China and Vietnam and will need to hire 20 additional welders to operate 20-ton cranes. More money given to community colleges would help expand the welding program and put more welders into the market. Without it, Van Raden said the lack of available welders would crimp his business. "PCC has helped us," he said. "This is a very critical institution for us."

**Q. Back in 1974, why did you chose PCC to finish your high school education?**

**A.** I left high school with the feeling that I really didn't belong there so I started taking classes at the Sylvania Campus. It was one of the best decisions I ever made.

**Q. When you were a student studying mechanical engineering did you ever think that some 30 years later you would be one of several owners of Columbia Industries?**

**A.** Not exactly. When I left PCC, I went to the University of Portland for two years and earned my bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering, thanks to the exchange program set up between the two schools. Soon after, I moved my family to Southern California where I worked with an oil field drilling contractor for two years. We then returned to Portland and I took a job as a plant engineer with a local roofing manufacturer. It was my connection with PCC that got me that job. My new boss was another PCC engineering alum. In 1985, I started working for my family's business, as a welder-fabricator. Today, I direct our Marketing Department and help manage the everyday challenges Columbia faces.

**Q. Do you remember any PCC instructors from your college days?**

**A.** The most influential instructor I had was Richard Wysong (who retired from full-time teaching in 1991 and retired as a part-time teacher in 1996). He was a true inspiration in all respects. He told me and everyone in his Engineering Department that we would all succeed if we were willing to work hard. It allowed me to see that I was the only one standing in the way of my own success. And he was right. Forty hours a week in class and about 40 hours a week of homework got me through with good grades and a strong foundation in mechanical engineering. I discovered I could achieve any goal I set for myself. I owe a lot to Richard Wysong.

**Q. What role do you think PCC plays in developing and strengthening the local economy?**

**A.** Columbia has been able to depend on PCC's Rock Creek Welding Department to provide high-quality, well-trained personnel for years. Today, about a third of our welder-fabricators are PCC alumni. Over the next year we have a lot of potential work heading our way, so I would expect to see the number of former PCC students grow considerably. Without PCC's welding department, our future would not be quite so bright. We know we can depend on PCC to be a strong partner today and in the future. Working closely with administration and faculty has helped to provide a supportive and collaborative relationship that benefits the students, the school and the local business community. I feel strongly that education is the best investment a community can make, and PCC is where you will find the biggest bang for your educational buck, no doubt about it.

**Continued on page 78**





# Preparing for the **F u t u r e**

PCC proposes November 2008 bond to  
provide more programs, serve more students

PCC student Katelyn Matson  
checks lab work.

By Dana Haynes

Faced with a rapidly growing community and increased demand for well-trained workers, the Portland Community College Board of Directors in October voted unanimously to consider a capital improvement bond for all four main campuses of the college.

PCC serves an estimated 86,000 students through transfer programs to four-year colleges and universities, workforce training, Community Education and professional and technical certification.

"This bond measure will give Portland Community College the ability to serve the ever-increasing number of students in our area," said Jim Harper, chairman of the PCC Board of Directors. "It also allows us to update and improve our curriculum in order to match critical workforce needs."

Preston Pulliams, district president, explained the need for a bond measure now. "It is PCC's role to serve the Portland area, to educate students, to train the workforce, to provide access to anyone who wants the services we have to offer. But as the community grows, so too must PCC,"

Pulliams said. "Existing facilities and programs will not be able to accommodate the influx of students without adding to the services, the buildings and the technology at our campuses."

He added that the Portland area is expected to grow by an estimated 369,000 people by 2020. Many of these newcomers will be college-aged, in need of professional training, seeking second

careers or hoping to start a business: all of which are missions performed by the college.

Pulliams predicted the college would add career-training classes throughout the district, which likely would include welding and first-responder training, as well as expanding health care programs to the Rock Creek Campus in Washington County. Other issues that could be addressed in a bond measure include increases in space for course offerings that prepare students to transfer to four-year schools,

as well as better student services at all four main campuses, improved technology throughout the college and safer, more modern infrastructure.

"These are the programs our students tell us they need," Pulliams said. "These are the programs that business and industry tells us they need to build the workforce of the 21st century. We already have workforce shortages in health care, engineering and construction trades. We must increase our capacity to provide these types of training opportunities if we are to fulfill our promise to support economic development and

increase access to high-quality education for residents of the PCC district."

Over the next several months, the college will hold conversations with community members, discussing ways PCC can address the needs of the Portland area to train workers, to keep Oregon attractive to new businesses and help Portland-area residents to pursue post-secondary education. ■

## By the Numbers

400 metro-area residents were surveyed in May-June 2007. Their responses ...

### Priorities for picking a school for further education or job training:

- 92% - Academic quality
- 77% - Developing skills employers want
- 72% - Cost of tuition and fees
- 72% - Convenience in class times and locations
- 66% - Small class sizes

### Rating Portland Community College:

- 73% - Operation and performance of PCC is "pretty good" to "excellent"
- 70% - Are familiar with the PCC magazine
- 56% - Have taken a PCC class

### Without prompting, most often describe PCC as:

- 79% - Providing students with skills to compete in today's economy
- 75% - Preparing students to do well in four-year schools
- 71% - Having a reputation for academic quality

## College Challenges

- > Many laboratory facilities at Sylvania are decades old and don't meet current industry standards.
- > Older buildings are not energy efficient.
- > PCC's Nursing program gets 800 applicants per year and can only accept 100.
- > Students cannot complete a degree at Southeast Center because there are no science labs, professional technical programs or library. There also are few college transfer classes.
- > No PCC health care programs are offered in Washington County, yet the metro area has a workforce shortage in various health care fields.
- > The PCC district extends beyond Newberg but the closest campus is Sylvania, more than 20 miles away.
- > Business demand for technical training programs such as nursing, welding and more is far greater than the number of students PCC can serve with existing facilities.
- > Technology needs to be upgraded at every campus to meet the needs of students and to prepare them for the 21st century workforce.
- > Enrollment has increased by 6 percent this fall at Rock Creek, by 5 percent at Cascade and 12 percent in the credit programs at the Southeast Center. Classes are at or near capacity throughout the district.
- > PCC offers no on-site child care at Southeast Center or Cascade, and only limited child care at Rock Creek. Lack of child care is a significant barrier to education for many students.

## How should PCC respond...

to the need to serve more students and offer more training programs? Send your feedback to [future@pcc.edu](mailto:future@pcc.edu)

State Sen. Margaret Carter, far left, was feted in October by, from left, U.S. Sen. Gordon Smith, his wife Sharon Smith, and Peter Courtney, president of the Oregon Senate. Many other dignitaries also took part.

# A Worthy Dedication

The Skill Center at Cascade Campus is named after Sen. Margaret Carter

By James Hill & Dana Haynes

From U.S. Sen. Gordon Smith to the president of the Oregon Senate, political stars lined up in October to honor Margaret Carter, lawmaker and a longtime champion of PCC.

The college honored the state senator and former PCC adviser by naming a program after her at the Cascade Campus. The Margaret Carter Skill Center has helped thousands of students learn the skills they need to enter the Oregon workforce.

Programs include classes in life-skill education, technology and computer literacy, employment exploration and applied office techniques, among others.

Carter, who serves as president pro tem of the state Senate, served as a councilor and faculty member at PCC Cascade and helped create the Skill Center. The naming ceremony in her honor, held Oct. 9 in the Moriarty Arts and Humanities Building auditorium, drew a standing-room-only crowd of legislators, government officials, educators and business leaders.

"Legislators, when you help me with the Skill Center you help the community," Carter told the cheering crowd. "I want everyone

who is breathing, and has legs and can work, to work! When you help me with the Skill Center you help those folks get back to work."

Speakers at the event included U.S. Sen. Gordon Smith and State Senate President Peter Courtney.

"She is one of the few (legislators) ever to be elected to the Senate as a nominee of both the Democratic and Republican parties in her district," Courtney said. "If I ever need somebody to cross party lines, I send Margaret."

For more information on the Margaret Carter Skill Center, call (503) 978-5450.



Courtney went on to list a litany of the many accomplishments and "firsts" in Carter's career as a lawmaker.

Smith served in the Oregon Senate with Carter and helped her obtain state money for the Skill Center.

"When Margaret Carter asks you to do something, I advise you to say 'yes,'" Smith joked. "She said that these kids

don't want a handout, they want a hand up. I took the phrase and I found a way as Senate president to fix her problem with the budget."

Later, as a member of Oregon's congressional delegation, Smith helped by securing federal money for the program.

Carter serves District 22 in North and Northeast Portland. She was first elected to the Oregon House in 1985 and moved to the Senate in 2001, winning re-election in 2005. She has played a pivotal role in the creation and long-term support of the Skill Center through her efforts on the House Education Committee, the Joint Trade and Economic Development Committee, the budget-writing Ways and Means Committee, and in her leadership position in the Senate.

"It is difficult to imagine what Portland Community College would be like had we not had this long, wonderful relationship with Sen. Carter," said PCC District President Preston Pulliams. "The senator has been an advocate and an ally, as well as part of the PCC family. She is one of the great champions of PCC's essential mission: to provide access to anyone who wants a college education." ■

# Electrifying Careers

## PCC Meets the Need to Train Future Engineers



By James Hill

For more than four decades PCC's reputable Electronic Engineering Technology program has produced job-ready graduates, supplying many local engineering companies with the employees needed to keep their businesses operating.

PCC's program is a balance of theory mixed with practical instruction by top-notch faculty, graduates say, making them well-rounded for the workplace. Students have found work with such companies as Intel, Axiom Electronics, Cascade, Microtech, Hewlett Packard, Oregon Public Broadcasting, Radisys and Tektronix.

Armed with an engineering degree, former student Alan Muench, landed a job at Maxim Integrated Products.

"The instructors are very knowledgeable and are accessible to the students. The students are a very close-knit group, too, almost like a second family," he said. "The instructors at PCC were instrumental in shaping my résumé and getting me the first interview."

The Electronic Engineering Technology program continues to forge partnerships with local companies. Industry experts sit on its advisory board to keep the

high-quality curriculum current. The program, based at the Sylvania Campus, offers a one-year certificate and a two-year associate degree and combines classroom instruction with hands-on experience in state-of-the-art laboratories.

"It is a strong program and has prestige among the industry," said Sanda Nedelcu, an engineering instructor and program chairwoman. "And a lot of our students who have graduated have come back to serve on our advisory board."

With an associate degree in hand, students can find employment in a variety of jobs, including circuits and system testing, product development, prototype construction and testing, circuit and systems modification, systems operation and manufacturing. Starting annual salaries with a degree are \$30,000 to \$40,000 and up to \$50,000 with experience.

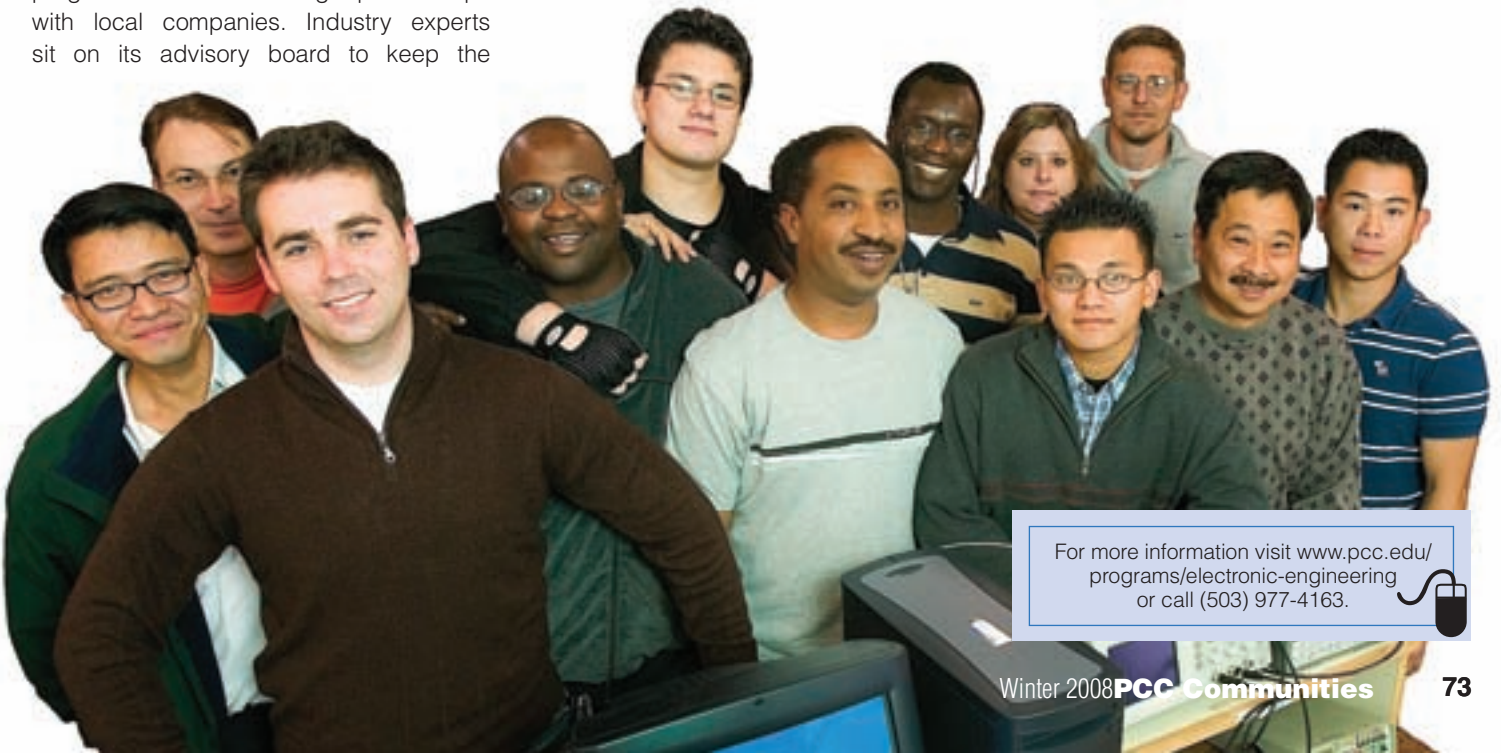
And beginning this fall, the EET program now has a new option to fill a need within the industry – another example of how PCC responds to the demands of the community.

The Biomedical Engineering Technology option has been approved by the state of Oregon and now is the only program option of its kind in the state. Biomedical technicians ensure that medical equipment is properly maintained and repaired to ensure every patient receives the best treatment possible.

It's still possible to get into the technology program for Winter Term.

"The whole biomed community is very excited at the opportunity of growing our own technicians in state," Nedelcu said. "We've received a lot of support from our local hospitals with curriculum development, equipment donations and specialized instructors."

"The need for experienced biomedical technicians will increase drastically in the next five to 10 years due to the combination of senior technicians retiring and much of the medical equipment becoming more technically advanced," said Gonzales, who served in the Navy for a decade as a biomedical technician. "Plus, it's a really good job." ■



For more information visit [www.pcc.edu/programs/electronic-engineering](http://www.pcc.edu/programs/electronic-engineering) or call (503) 977-4163.



## PCC Faculty to *France*

Instructor Stephanie Whitney-Bradley is living her dream in the South of France as part of a Fulbright Teacher Exchange

**By** James Hill

Last June, French instructor Stephanie Whitney-Bradley was at her computer reading through e-mails when she came across one from an overseas teacher introducing herself as her new partner.

Whitney-Bradley had an inkling that something wonderful was about to happen.

Before she was officially notified she received word from French citizen and college instructor Joëlle Lopez-Shadeck that she had been chosen for the prestigious Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program.

"It was actually quite a surprise, since I received an e-mail from Joëlle before I actually saw the acceptance letter, introducing herself as my exchange partner," Whitney-Bradley said from her condo in France. "I was excited yet nervous, especially since it would mean taking a very serious next step — my husband, David, quitting his job at Adidas. But once he heard it would be in the south of France just minutes away from the Mediterranean, he was much less nervous."

The J. William Fulbright Scholarship Board selected Whitney-Bradley for the program,

which allows her to teach college level English in a technical program – similar to the two-year technical certification programs PCC offers – in Montpellier, France for this academic year. The city, in the southwest region of France, known as Languedoc-Roussillon, is east of Marseilles and about 20 minutes from the Mediterranean Sea. It is about 460 miles from Paris.

For more information about language classes, turn to page 36 or visit [www.pcc.edu/communityed](http://www.pcc.edu/communityed).



She switched places with Lopez-Shadeck as they swapped classes and jobs for nine months. In fact, Lopez-Shadeck is staying in Whitney-Bradley's Portland area home and Whitney and her husband and 2-year-old son are staying in Lopez-Shadeck's parents' home.

Founded in 1946 by Arkansas Sen. J. William Fulbright, the program is operated by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. State Department as a way to promote mutual understanding between the United States and other countries. American teachers exchange teaching positions with

a counterpart in another country, teaching the same subject at the same level.

Whitney-Bradley is one of about 170 U.S. citizens currently traveling abroad through the program. Globally, more than 250,000 people have taken part in the program in the last 60 years, making significant contributions to their own countries and those where they travel abroad.

Whitney-Bradley missed the original deadline last October but she was allowed to submit a late application in February because the bureau didn't receive enough applications. She filled out forms, garnered reference letters and wrote an essay.

"I was approved in early June, which basically gave us two months to prepare for a year-long stay abroad, not to mention we were in the process of moving to a new house at the same time," she said. "In the meantime, I discovered that the visa process had changed in the last year, which would now require us to obtain a work visa rather than a visitor visa, and after weeks of frantic e-mails and phone calls, we finally got the necessary paperwork at the last possible minute."

**Continued on page 78**

# Uncork, pour, sniff & sip

Need help deciding which wine to serve this holiday season?  
Our Community Education classes dole out advice

By Christina Holmes

With the holiday season approaching, Oregonians are gearing up for plenty of festive meals and parties. Once the menu is set the next step is finding the perfect beverage. And that alone sends some party planners into a spiral.

Erin Marie Palmer, a wine connoisseur and PCC Community Education instructor, dispenses helpful information for everyone – from novice wine drinkers to serious oenophiles.

“Good wine is all about what you enjoy so you don’t necessarily have to spend a fortune. However, there are many things that go into determining how much a bottle of wine will cost,” said Palmer, owner of The Wine Cellar in Beaverton and Vino Vixens on Southeast Powell in Portland which opened last year.

Palmer, known as the “Wine Goddess” around town, knows the ins and outs of the industry and calls Oregon wines world-class.

## Easy Tips to Remember:

☞ Bringing wine to a party may not always be the best idea. Many hosts enjoy not only designing the meal but choosing the perfect wine to accompany it. Always ask what you can bring to contribute to the evening.

☞ If you are charged with bringing wine, the best one-size-fits-all wine is a red blend from Oregon or Washington. These blends have the best attributes of favorite red wines: they are big and bold like a cabernet, have bright fruit like a shiraz and have soft, silky tannins like a merlot.

☞ Good wine is all about what you enjoy so you don’t have to spend a fortune. Wines made using reputable farming practices by the loving hand of an artisan winemaker tend to begin at about \$10 for whites and

\$15 for reds. Given that a bottle holds four to five glasses of wine that’s only a few dollars a glass (much less than most people spend on a cup of coffee or bottled water).

☞ If serving a big, bold red, opening the bottle before dinner is a great idea. Pour the wine into a decanter or carafe about 30 to 60 minutes before guests arrive.

☞ After pouring the wine, swirl it in the glass for 30 to 60 seconds before smelling it. This helps blow-off the stinky smell of alcohol and will make the first impression of the wine a much more pleasing one. If there are chemical smells there is likely a problem with the wine.

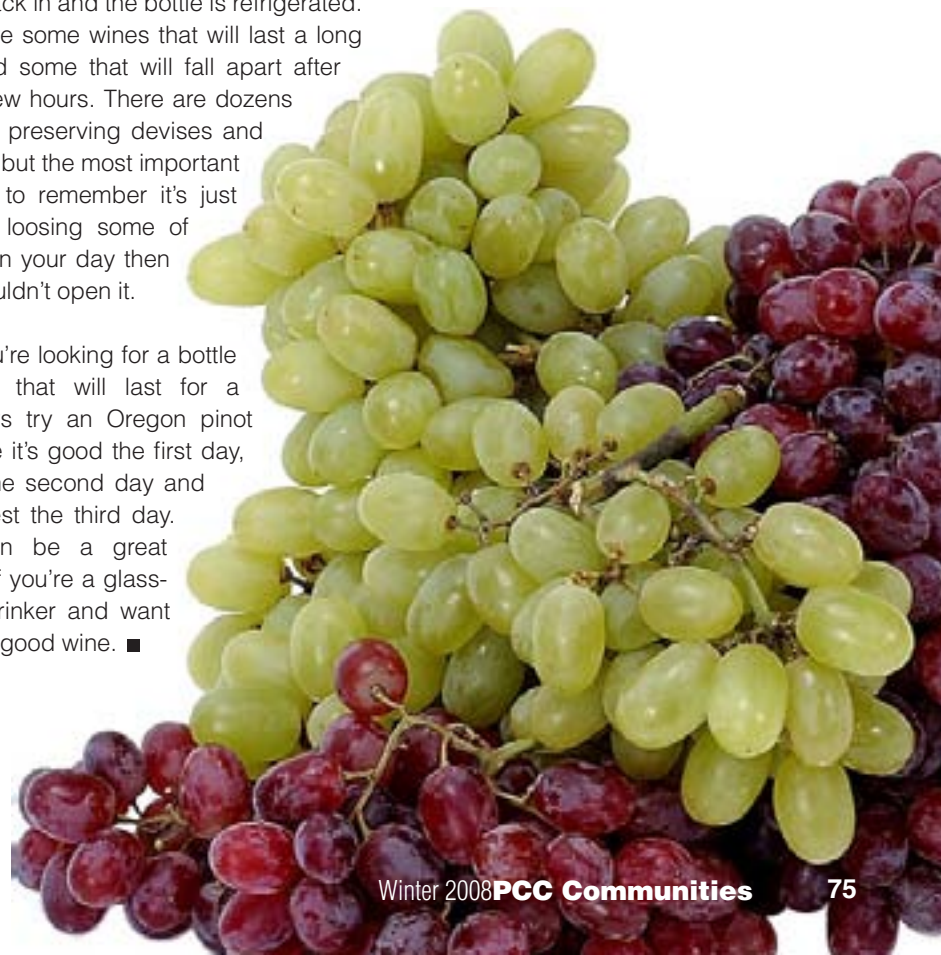
☞ If you don’t finish the entire bottle, most wines will be good the next day if the cork is put back in and the bottle is refrigerated. There are some wines that will last a long time and some that will fall apart after only a few hours. There are dozens of fancy preserving devices and theories but the most important thing is to remember it’s just wine. If losing some of it will ruin your day then you shouldn’t open it.

☞ If you’re looking for a bottle of wine that will last for a few days try an Oregon pinot because it’s good the first day, better the second day and often best the third day. This can be a great choice if you’re a glass-a-day drinker and want to enjoy good wine. ■

## Need help pairing wine and food? Try these recommendations:

Turkey: Dry champagne, dry rose, pinot noir  
Lamb: Amarone, ripasso, ruby port  
Prime Rib: Napa cabernet, California zinfandel  
Salmon: Oregon pinot noir, dry rose, grenache  
Halibut: Viognier, dry riesling  
Sushi: Dry rose, dry riesling  
Lasagna: Italian sangiovese, California red blend  
Duck: California pinot noir  
Goose: California pinot noir  
Tamales: Gruner veltliner, chenin blanc, dry rose

For more information about wine classes, turn to page 21 or visit [www.pcc.edu/communityed](http://www.pcc.edu/communityed). For more information about Palmer, visit [www.badgirlwines.com](http://www.badgirlwines.com)



# Donor helps students **REV** up their careers

Barbara Heitzman Benjamin hopes an annual gift in honor of her father will make it easier for students to stay in school

By Christina Holmes

Tom Heitzman started painting cars when he was just a kid, began repairing them in the family's garage at the age of 13 and ultimately opened his auto repair shop in 1937 when he was barely in his 20s.

Heitzman's strong work ethic and belief in always pleasing the customer proved to be a successful combination and he enjoyed his days overseeing Heitzman Body & Paint Inc. on SW Beaverton Hillsdale Highway in Beaverton.

"But my father had a limited education and he never finished the sixth grade," said Barbara Heitzman Benjamin, Tom's only child and now president and CEO of the company. "He always felt bad about that."

When the senior Heitzman died suddenly in 1971 of a massive heart attack, the family wanted to honor him and his legacy of treating his customers and employees with the highest levels of respect. The family contacted PCC and, after a couple of years of talks, created the Tom Heitzman Auto Body Scholarship.

For the last 34 years the Heitzman family has donated an annual scholarship benefiting a student in the Automotive Collision Repair Technology program at the Rock Creek Campus. The money helps pay for a student's books, tuition and fees.

Heitzman Benjamin knew a PCC scholarship was the exact place her father would want to direct a donation. While the family had no previous contact with PCC, the elder Heitzman more than once mentioned how impressed he was with the college and the excellent job the institution does in educating and training students.

"Our one requirement was that the money goes to a place where it touches the most

people and where it can help the most people," Heitzman Benjamin said. "He believed that PCC was the best place to get an affordable education and that was a major concern when we established this scholarship."



A scholarship in the name of Tom Heitzman has been given to PCC students for 34 years.

This scholarship, as well as scores of others, is handled through the PCC Foundation, the private fund-raising arm for the college. Scholarships range from the foundation's popular Service-to-Community student scholarship program – where students receive tuition funds for actively performing social service work in their communities – to a multitude of academic, merit and need-based scholarship awards.

It's donations like the Heitzman scholarship that allow students to further their education and find living-wage jobs so they can raise a family, said Betty Kendall, who taught at PCC for 17 years and later founded

the Automotive Department Scholarship Program.

"One of the college Foundation's mottos is to enrich lives and develop communities. Our donors help support students who might not otherwise get an education," Kendall said. "Our donors help these people contribute to the community. Our donors are of such value to the college because they carry out the college's mission."

This year's recipient of the Heitzman scholarship is Carlos Mercado, one of three children and the first in his family to go to college. The former Madras resident, now transplanted to the Portland area, is fond of cars and painting and drawing, and he and his father have long dreamed of opening an auto body shop.


Heitzman grew up in her father's shop. By the time she was 9 she was washing cars and running deposits to the bank. She laughs recalling how she was the "princess" of the shop.

Heitzman now manages the shop with 19 employees with her daughter and son-in-law, Lisa and Rocky Thomson. Over the years they've hired PCC grads and, in fact, one of their longtime employees is a former student who received the scholarship some 25 years ago.

"My dad was a wonderful man and he was very charitable," Heitzman Benjamin said. "Our philosophy was everyone who works for us is family and every customer means something to us." ■

For more information on scholarships, go online to [www.pcc.edu/foundation](http://www.pcc.edu/foundation) or call (503) 977-4382.



A photograph of two women, Barbara Heitzman Benjamin and her daughter Lisa Thomson, standing in a car garage. Barbara is on the left, wearing glasses and a black jacket, smiling. Lisa is on the right, also smiling, with her arm around Barbara's shoulder. In the background, a yellow classic car is visible.

Barbara Heitzman Benjamin, left, and her daughter, Lisa Thomson, have carried on the tradition of supporting PCC students.

“Our one requirement was that the money goes to a place where it touches the most people and where it can help the most people. He believed that PCC was the best place to get an affordable education and that was a major concern when we established this scholarship.”

Barbara Heitzman Benjamin, CEO, Heitzman Body & Paint Inc.

# New Directors Take Their Seats on the Board



By James Hill

Voters recently elected two new members to the PCC Board of Directors. Marilyn McGlasson takes over Zone 7 (western Washington County) and David Squire is the new board member for Zone 5 (southwest and southeast Portland).

McGlasson replaces Karen McKinney, who served on the board for 20 years before retiring this year. McGlasson, who lives in Hillsboro, is a retired school district superintendent who spent 33 years in various positions within the education field. She holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Portland State University. She has served on numerous advisory boards, including 22 years as a member of the Northwest Regional Education Service District Board of Directors (formerly

Washington County ESD). Currently a volunteer with the Washington County Elder Safe program, McGlasson is a third-generation Washington County resident.

"Portland Community College is such a valuable community resource and I'm honored to be a part of its future," she said.

Squire was elected to replace Doreen Margolin, who passed away earlier this year. Squire, a Beaverton resident, is president of the Entrepreneurs Foundation of the Northwest and the managing partner for The Tygh Valley Group LLC, a business development consulting firm. He has worked in the high-tech industry in the Portland area since 1969 and has held executive engineering and general management

positions at Tektronix, Lightware, InFocus Systems, Planar Systems and a number of smaller hardware and software start-up companies. He holds master's and bachelor's degrees in electrical engineering from Oregon State University.

"I've been involved in education, workforce development and economic development in the Portland area for a long time. The community college is where all of that comes together," Squire said.

In other board action, Jim Harper was voted as the 2007-08 chairman. Harper (Zone 4, encompassing downtown and portions of Columbia County) replaces Jaime Lim (Zone 6, east Washington County and southwest Portland), who served as interim board chair for half the year following Margolin's passing. The board also picked Denise Frisbee (Zone 1, Lake Oswego, Tigard-Tualatin and Sherwood), as vice chairwoman, replacing Harper. ■

For more information visit  
[www.pcc.edu/about](http://www.pcc.edu/about).



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**Q. Did any of your family members attend PCC?**

**A.** I have two brothers who earned their associate degrees in mechanical engineering at PCC. Over the years Columbia has had a total of six engineers who are PCC alumni, most with advanced degrees.

In our small business alone we have about 20 people who attended PCC at one time or another — that's about 40 percent of our employees! A few years ago, I went back to PCC to take some biology courses in the evenings to pursue my interest in the natural sciences. And I hope to continue taking classes at PCC for many years to come.

**Q. Any advice for today's college students?**

**A.** Pursue your dreams no matter how difficult or crazy they might seem. In today's ever-changing workplace, there is no substitute for a college degree. Get as much education as you can afford. Be a good example to your community and to your family. And challenge yourself! ■

*Continued from page 74*

A French instructor since 1999, Whitney-Bradley has a long history with PCC. As an undergraduate student, she completed what was called the "block transfer" program at PCC in 1990 and transferred to University of Oregon where she finished her master's degree in French literature, spending her entire senior year abroad in Lyon, France. Her mother, Patty Whitney, was a full-time French teacher at PCC for more than 25 years (from the 1970s to the 1990s) and her father, Eugene, taught English and writing for the college during the same time. Even her sister, Kim DeForest, an English teacher in Grants Pass, completed her associate's degree at PCC.

"Teaching at PCC has been a long-term goal of mine," Whitney-Bradley said. "Both of my parents were career teachers at PCC, and as a result, I literally grew up at PCC. From a very early age I learned to appreciate what a community college represents: affordable and excellent education for a diverse student population."

She adds: "I am a product of PCC and am proud to represent it as a teacher, especially while working abroad in France. I am hoping to share some of our more innovative teaching strategies with my new colleagues while learning about a different educational system and culture, which I can then relate to my own teaching back at PCC."

She hopes to establish some long-term connections between PCC and the Lycée Jean Mermoz, the school where Whitney-Bradley now teaches.

Part of this includes a pen-pal program between the classes this year. Eventually, she and Lopez-Shadeck would like to develop an exchange between the schools.

But first things first: Whitney-Bradley is just trying to adapt to her new surroundings.

"Overall the reception has been wonderful. The south (of France) has a reputation for being very friendly and laid back, and we are finding this to be true," she said. ■



# High School Happiness

Wilson High teen found her comfort zone at PCC where she earned a high school diploma and got a jump start on college credits

By Christina Holmes

Christina Lee rarely missed a class, turned in homework and attended all the assemblies during her three years at Wilson High School.

She met friends through marching band but by the time she was a junior she still felt like she didn't belong at the school.

"I loved Wilson and Portland Public Schools but there just weren't the opportunities to do the things I wanted to do," she said.

She wanted more academically challenging courses in classes with older students focused on a career.

Her mom started researching alternative high school options when Wilson Vice Principal Maude Lamont suggested Lee look at PCC to earn her high school diploma and fill the void she was feeling.

"I was excited because Mrs. Lamont brought it up," said Lee. "I wanted to leave high school early but she found something better."

Lee had just turned 17 when she began taking classes at PCC during the fall 2006 term. Feeling shy and a little anxious on the

big campus, she found a piano on campus and, during breaks, she would tap away at the keyboard. A talented musician who plays clarinet, piano, saxophone, flute, trumpet and the harp, she found peace in the music.

For more information visit  
[www.pcc.edu/prepare/head-start](http://www.pcc.edu/prepare/head-start)



Soon enough she made friends in her accounting, psychology, sociology and sign language classes.

"It's been wonderful because I've met people from all walks of life," said Lee, who carried a load of 17 credit hours during the summer term and has 23 credit hours this term. "I just started putting my foot in the door at PCC more and more."

Last June she completed her diploma requirements for Portland Public Schools. She took part in Wilson's graduation, a promise to her parents, John and Kathy Lee, that she would walk during the ceremonies.

More than 500 students per year enroll at PCC to finish high school diploma requirements through their school district

or to complete the Adult High School Diploma program.

PCC offers many opportunities for teens who want to be more academically challenged and get a head start on college, including hundreds of dual-credit courses taught at area high schools.

Add to that the hundreds of students who don't fare well in high school and who turn to PCC as an alternative and the college could be considered the largest "high school" in Oregon.

For Lee, the transition to college during her senior year of high school was perfect.

"PCC has been so wonderful and everyone there did so much for me," said Lee.

This term Lee is taking anatomy and physiology as part of prerequisites for the nursing program. She's also enrolled in classes for the Certified Nursing Assistant program and could find work in a nursing home or rehabilitation center while she attends nursing school. ■

# Project: YOU

with PCC Community Education

## My Project:

Name: *Katy King*

Occupation: *Government Relations*

My Project: *Write a nail-biting  
mystery novel set in the  
City of Roses*

Class I took: *"How to Get Published"*

And Now: *My first book -  
"City of Suspects" - and a  
review by the Statesman Journal:*

*"The best first mystery in the  
last five years or so."*

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OF  
SUSPECT**

**KATY KING**

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