

WINTER 2011

PCC

COMMUNITIES

College News
Community Education Schedule
Portland Community College

Community Education non-credit class schedule

Pages 9 – 63

Gateway to College Goes Nationwide

Page 6

**PCC Bond Program
Means Jobs Throughout
the Community**

Page 68

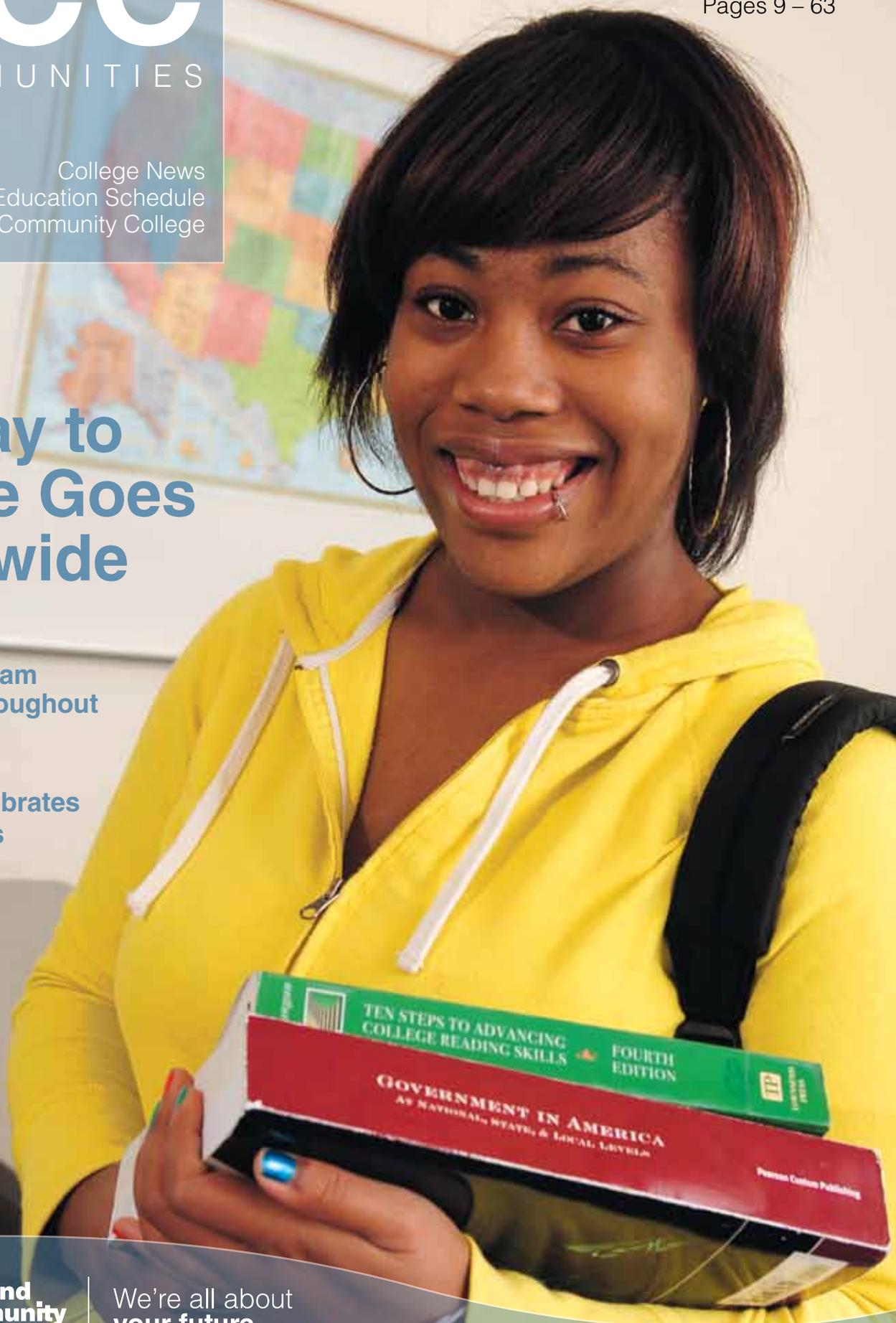
**The College Celebrates
Signature Events**

Page 66

Enroll now!
Classes starting
January – March



We're all about
your future.



Drive

We're all about that.

My wife and my family are my biggest inspiration for going back to school at PCC. Knowing my kids are looking up to me keeps me going.

Jesús

Future Solar

Manufacturing Technician



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Contents

PCC Communities Winter 2011

President's Column 4

Preston Pulliams discusses plans for the 50th anniversary of Portland Community College, as well as the exciting construction projects on all campuses and new centers.

Stepping Up...Again 5

After 16 years in elected office serving Washington County, PCC alumnus Andy Duyck was ready to step down. But local residents had another idea. In January he will be sworn into an even higher office as county chairman.

Happy Birthday Gateway 6

As the innovative program aimed at high school dropouts reaches a milestone, teens and their teachers reflect on Gateway to College's last 10 years. For many, this last-chance high school was exactly what they needed to find success.

Community Colleges Are the Answer 8

Enrollment climbs for the 13th straight term, and Oregon's congressional delegation turns to PCC for solutions.

Retired and Ready to Give 65

Evie Crowell and June Eggers continue to give back to the community by supporting the PCC Foundation.

Signature Events 66

PCC's largest events represent a variety of cultures and interests. Set on all three main campuses and Southeast Center, these events are organized by dedicated faculty, staff and students, and are open to the community.

A Handshake with Emerging Businesses 68

PCC is giving all construction firms — large and small — the chance to win bids for renovations and new building projects funded by the 2008 bond measure. And 20 percent of construction bids will go to minority, women and emerging small businesses across the region.

Prelude to the 50th 70

PCC is gearing up for its golden anniversary, and the college is looking for people to share personal stories and provide ideas for the 2011–12 celebration.

What's German for "Friendship"? 71

Friendly classmates became close friends while studying German through PCC Community Education. Over ten years, they've developed a tight-knit community of learners.

On the Cover:



Stephanee Wilson, 17, is a student in PCC's Gateway to College Program, which just celebrated its 10th anniversary. The program helps students complete their high school diploma requirements while earning college credit. Story on page 6.

Community Education Schedule pages 9–63

Creative Arts

- 12 Fine Arts
- 16 Performing Arts
- 17 Photography
- 18 Art of Writing

Home & Garden

- 20 Food and Wine
- 24 Green Living
- 25 Horticulture
- 25 Hobbies and Crafts
- 27 Home Improvement
- 28 Pets
- 28 Welding and Metal Work

Language & Culture

- 29 Educational Services
- 30 Languages
- 35 World View
- 36 Travel

Recreation & Wellness

- 40 Dance
- 41 Health and Wellness
- 43 Mind-Body Fitness
- 44 Sports
- 45 Work Out

Work & Life Balance

- 48 Careers
- 49 Computer Skills
- 52 Continuing Education and License Renewal
- 54 Job Search
- 54 Money Matters
- 55 Personal Paths
- 55 Resources
- 56 Transitions
- 57 Traffic Safety

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Assistant Marketing Manager

Jennifer Boehmer

Marketing Specialist

Jessica Dornfeld

Design

Daniel Soucy

Magazine Staff**Editorial Coordinator**

Christina Holmes

ContributorsDana Haynes
James G. Hill
Eloise Holland**Photography**Jerry Hart
Vern Uyetake
James G. Hill

"PCC Communities"
(USPS 001-624) Winter 2011,
Vol 24, No. 1,
is published quarterly by
Portland Community College,
12000 SW 49th Ave.,
Portland, OR 97219

Periodicals postage paid
at Portland, Oregon.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
"PCC Communities"
at P.O. Box 19000,
Portland, OR 97280-0990.

Visit the
Portland Community College
website at www.pcc.edu

Welcome to the winter issue of PCC Communities.

One of the biggest projects for us at PCC this year is the college's 50th anniversary. Don't get me wrong: This isn't that anniversary. That will be academic year 2011–12.

No, this is the planning year for the 50th. We kicked it off this fall with an event for all staff and faculty, known as In-Service. We've had brainstorming sessions on every campus and center. But we have so much more outreach to do. We want student involvement, of course, plus alumni, the business community and residents throughout the greater metro region.

How does one properly celebrate the golden anniversary of the largest institution of post-secondary education in Oregon? We're compiling ideas right now. If you want to help, go online to www.pcc.edu/50th. You can leave suggestions, see what others have offered and even comment on them.

There's also a place on the website to tell us your story; how has PCC affected you and your life?

One thing is for sure: We only get one shot to do the 50th right.

The other big task is figuring out how our successful 2008 bond measure will begin to redraw our campuses. Opportunities exist to get involved at each site. Meanwhile, off campus, we built the Willow Creek Center in Washington County, revamped the Downtown Center at Southwest Second and Yamhill (both of those are on the MAX Blue Line, by the way), moved to impressive new facilities in the Hillsboro Health & Education District, and began work on a Newberg education center, to open next fall.

Learn more about the projects, and how to get involved, at www.pcc.edu/bond.

The reason for so many projects is to address our outstanding enrollment growth. We have seen increased enrollment figures for 13 straight terms — that's more than three years. The reason is obvious: During the long recession and slow recovery, people turn to community colleges as a way to get through tough times. Every institution and state agency has challenges, especially with the down economy and painfully slow recovery. But at least at PCC, our challenges come with concrete solutions.

It's going to be a great term.

Sincerely,



Preston Pulliams
District President



PCC Alumnus **Andy Duyck** By Christina Holmes

Andy Duyck was ready to call it quits.

After serving 16 years on the Washington County Commission representing District 4 (a large portion of urban and rural land including Banks, Cornelius, Forest Grove, Gaston, Hillsboro and North Plains), Duyck announced last year that he intended to step down and concentrate on his machinery business.

His supporters, however, would have none of that.

They asked him to run for county chairman to which he half-jokingly responded, "If you start a grassroots movement then I'll run."

Within days constituents garnered 700 signatures, automatically placing his name on the ballot and recruiting him as a candidate.

At that point there was no other choice but to run. So he campaigned on maintaining a solid general fund while still providing services. In the May primary he earned 54 percent of the vote and won the seat outright.

A lifelong resident of Washington County who continues to farm, Duyck and his wife have seven children between the ages of 26 and 11, and two grandchildren. He's owned Duyck Machine Inc. in Verboort, which produces metal and plastic components, for nearly three decades. He credits PCC for giving him the training needed to run his shop.

"The education at PCC makes a much better employee because they understand basic principles and theory that we don't have the time to teach," said Duyck, 49.

Q. Why did you enroll at PCC in 1979?

A. I came from a farming background and a family with 10 kids. It was almost family business because there were few options to attend college. A teacher at Hillsboro High recognized my limited circumstances and saw that I had an interest in manufacturing. He nominated me for a Rotary scholarship, which I subsequently won. In those days, the \$650 I received was enough to put me through a little over a year.

PCC remains the most affordable option for those on a tight budget. I graduated from PCC in 1981 with a degree in machine technologies and we were in the midst of a recession much like today.

Q. What originally inspired you to run for office?

A. A friend suggested that I file for office just to see how many votes I could get. It started as a lark but after I interviewed with newspapers and spoke frankly about what I believed, it soon became serious. It was a four-way race for an open seat and I was the candidate with no experience. However, I quickly started to gain support as an alternative candidate and we realized that the race was winnable.

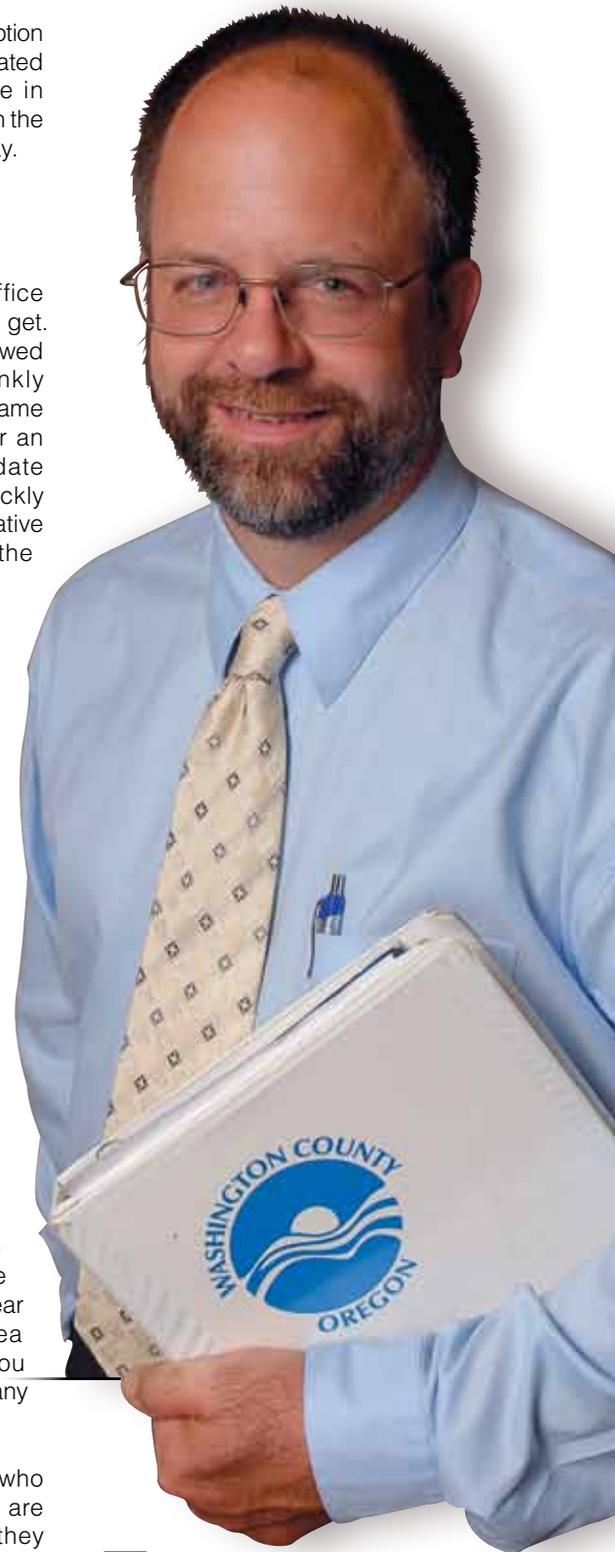
Q. What are your priorities for the coming years?

A. We're at a crossroad in the provision of urban services. It's unlikely that the urban growth boundary will expand as quickly as the population increases so we have to figure out a better way of providing basic services.

Q. Any advice for today's college students?

A. I'm a firm believer in not wasting money. College is an experience but primarily it's an education. Nowhere will students get more education for their money than at a community college. It may not be as glamorous to tell your friends that you go to a community college but it will serve you better in the long run. If you transfer to a four-year school, you will have a better idea about where you're going and you won't have the huge debt that so many other students carry.

I'd also like to add that students who are in their late teens to early 20s are unlikely to be the same person they will be in just five or 10 years. Life unexpectedly took me from farming to a manufacturing business to politics so consider your education as a launch pad from which you may head in many different directions. ■



Are you a PCC alum? We'd love to hear from you! Contact us at (971) 722-4607 and find us on Facebook and Twitter.

Gateway's First Decade

By James G. Hill



In the 10 years since it began, Gateway to College has become one of Oregon's biggest success stories in giving high school dropouts a second chance at completing their diploma and transitioning into higher education.

It challenges dropouts in the metropolitan region with rigorous, college-level curriculum and the opportunity to earn significant college credit.

The program started with three partner school districts and 19 students, but since then has served 1,983 students locally by using a network of eight school districts to identify at-risk students and pair them up with the educational program that will best serve their needs. These include students from Portland Public Schools, Beaverton, Tigard-Tualatin, Hillsboro, Lake Oswego, David Douglas, Centennial and Sherwood.

"We were a team of people trying to solve a student need," said recently retired program director Linda Huddle. "It has been 10 years of really hard work. But then there has been all of this achievement that the students have made as they have become active private citizens. They are overcoming great challenges in order to catch up and surpass their peers. That is one of the big things about Gateway students; they're not just getting credits for high school graduation,

but are getting these credits to move into a post-secondary career."

It was exactly the idea of earning a high school diploma and college degree at the same time that enticed Stephanie Wilson, 17, to check out Gateway earlier this year. The former Grant High School student has big career dreams of becoming a chef and later on hopes to work as a mental health therapist.

"At Gateway the teachers really want you to learn and they want you to be challenged. They don't care about cliques or what you're wearing or who you sit by. That doesn't matter," she said. "And the best part is that when I'm taking college classes they don't know that I'm a Gateway student. They just know that I'm there to learn."

Nationally recognized and replicated

It's no surprise that Gateway to College has flourished in Oregon, where an alternative education law mandates school districts provide additional options for high school students who are not benefiting from their general comprehensive service. Gateway spread when the Early College High School Initiative chose to copy PCC's successful

program nationwide. In 2008, the Gateway to College National Network spun off from Portland Community College to oversee this effort.

Nationwide since 2004, the Gateway to College National Network has served more than 7,000 students via 24 programs (three more programs began this fall) and 110 school districts.

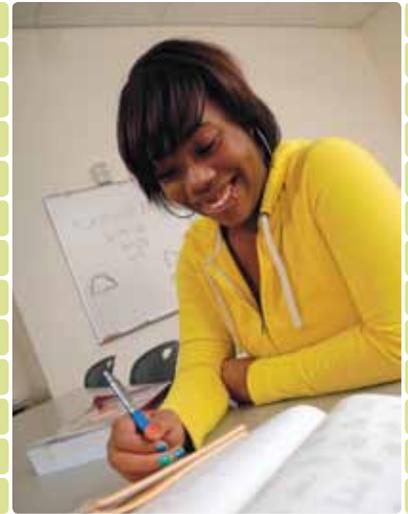
"There has been all of this achievement that the students have made as they have become active private citizens."

- Linda Huddle, former program director

In January, the national network garnered a \$13.1 million, three-year award to continue the expansion to additional programs. In total since 2003, the national network has earned about \$26 million in money from the likes of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Walmart Foundation, Carnegie Corporation of New York, The Kresge Foundation and the Open Society Foundations to replicate the model across the country, to pilot a new program that targets underprepared college students and to support current programs.

"Thousands of young people across the country are now benefiting from Gateway to College," said Laurel Dukehart, president of the Gateway to College National Network. "The original vision has resonated with all

From left to right: Students at the Gateway to College graduation; Rebecca Go Akers and Jayson Anderbrhan celebrate at the Gateway graduation party; Dylan Bartle and Rebecca Williams prepare for class; Sara Closson and Katelin Clark graduate from Gateway to College; Stephanie Wilson studies at Southeast Center.



kinds of communities. Nationally, about one-third of young people leave high school without a diploma, so this innovative program that reconnects high school dropouts with education meets a critical need."

"What started in Portland 10 years ago has blossomed into a national strategy working with well over 100 school districts in 16 states, and spawned a nonprofit group to coordinate the effort."

The results are notable. Students entering the Gateway to College National Network get high school diplomas at two to three times the rate of U.S. students who have dropped out at least once. Ninety-five percent of these graduates, who on average earn 41 college credits, plan to continue on to college after earning their diploma. But most important, Gateway students nationwide have an 87 percent attendance rate in their college courses.

Safety net for local dropouts

Rebecca Williams illustrates the second chance that the Gateway program has provided to so many students across the

country. In 2007, Williams was a junior at Madison High School and already a year behind her peers. She was looking at night classes and summer school to catch up.

Her school counselor mentioned Gateway as an alternative. After some starts and stops along the way that many in her situation go through, she got

back into the program last winter and is on target to get into PCC's nursing program.

"I like the college style of learning better than high school because there is less drama," Williams

said. "When I was in high school, I was failing most of my classes and now, since I've been here, I get A's and B's and I do really well."

"I didn't understand math at all when I was in high school. Since I've been here taking college math classes and with the way the teachers teach, I don't know, it just clicks. I've been learning a lot more since I've been in the Gateway program than I did in high school."

In 2008, Dylan Bartle was expelled from high school and, after being out of school for almost two years, he moved to Portland and enrolled in Gateway. He now wants to become a doctor and will apply to Portland State University to study pre-med once he finishes his transfer degree at PCC.

"It's my own responsibility to be here," Bartle said. "If I didn't want to be here they'd just drop me. Even though there is more homework here, I wanted my education more at Gateway because I'm treated as an adult."

Eddie Nakagawa hopes to study law within the next few years — a major change for the 18-year-old who regularly skipped classes and ultimately dropped out of Franklin High School. His grade-point average went from a 0.5 to a 3.85 after entering Gateway.

"This is no doubt the best high school completion program for anyone who doesn't like school and wants to get out," he said. "It's definitely not easy and it's a big step up from regular high school and I'm ready for it." ■



For more information about Gateway to College, visit www.pcc.edu/pccprep



An opening day crowd gathers at the business office at Sylvania Campus

THE ANSWER IS...COMMUNITY COLLEGES

By **Dana Haynes**

From the very highest echelons of government, it now is becoming obvious that community colleges are an integral answer to the nation's massive recession and slow recovery.

That was made clear when the White House, in September, announced the first-ever community college summit hosted by Jill Biden, the wife of Vice President Joe Biden and a professor at Northern Virginia Community College.

According to the White House, "The summit is an opportunity to bring together community colleges, business, philanthropy, federal and state policy leaders and students to discuss how community colleges can help meet the job training and education needs of the nation's evolving workforce."

Several members of Oregon's congressional delegation visited PCC campuses and centers this year. They shared their thoughts on the importance of community colleges in general — and PCC in particular — in the rehabilitation of the nation's economy.

U.S. Sen. Jeff Merkley toured the Cascade Campus in August, focusing on programs for public safety workers, apprenticeships and the Margaret Carter Skill Center.

"The good news," Merkley said, "is that community colleges are here for these students, right when they need them. The

bad news is: It's the economy that makes them need community colleges so much."

U.S. Rep. Kurt Schrader visited both the Sylvania Campus and the PCC CLIMB Center for Advancement this summer.

"Workforce training is the number one rule during a recession. And nobody does workforce training like our community colleges," Schrader said.

However, he added that the funding mechanisms for community colleges are a hindrance. "It's not predictable or reliable."

Statewide, research bears him out. The funding for community colleges in Gov. Ted Kulongoski's proposed budget for 2009–11 was \$2,648 per student. By the falling of the final gavel in the 2009 Legislature, that fell to \$2,002 per student.

Congressman David Wu, of Oregon's 1st District, co-chairs the Community College Caucus in the U.S. House of Representatives. This summer he visited the Rock Creek Campus and the CLIMB Center.

"The role community colleges play in down economic times is critical," Wu said. "As the nation comes out of recession, the economy is different. People's skill sets no longer match the job market. So to train people for the jobs of the new economy, we turn to community colleges." ■

BOOMING ENROLLMENT

By **James G. Hill**

Portland Community College is in the middle of its 49th year of serving the community and plenty is happening to make it a year to remember.

The fall term and school year begin in September throughout the PCC district. Tuition remains at \$76 per credit hour, which is a big reason many people are turning to the college for their education and training. PCC has grown for three straight years.

With the increase in enrollment, student services like the financial aid office are stressed from the deluge of student requests. Among colleges and universities nationwide, PCC ranks among the top-10 in percentage increase of financial aid applications. Earlier this academic year, the college received 41,565 financial aid requests via the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which is more than a 22 percent increase from the same time last year.

The college estimates more than \$122 million in financial aid and student loans will be handed out for 2010–11 to PCC students alone. ■

Exciting New Venues

Thanks to the successful 2008 bond measure, Portland Community College is getting ready to renovate buildings and add new construction at each of its campuses. But in the meantime, off-campus projects are popping up throughout the district.

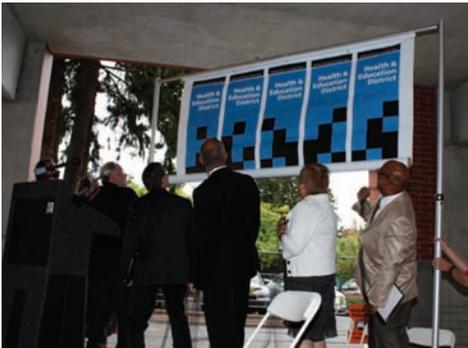
It started early in 2010 with the opening of the Downtown Center, a historic building at Southwest Second and Yamhill in the heart of Portland. That was followed by the opening of the Willow Creek Center at 185th and Baseline in Washington County.

The projects continued into the fall, starting with the grand opening of the new PCC Hillsboro Center, 775 S.E. Baseline St. The center is part of the Hillsboro Health and Education District, along with partners such as Tuality Hospital and the Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center.

Next up was the re-imagined CLIMB Center for Advancement at 1626 S.E. Water Ave., across from OMSI. Formerly known as the Central Portland Workforce Training Center, the site now houses a vast array of PCC programs designed to help employees, employers, managers and entrepreneurs grow their local businesses.

Finally, the college broke ground in October for the Newberg Center, south of Highway 99W on Fernwood Road. The facility, which will be open for students in fall 2011, offers classrooms and labs for a wide array of academic programs.

The larger construction projects – at the Cascade, Rock Creek and Sylvania campuses alongside the Southeast Center – are slated to begin later this year.



PCC President Preston Pulliams (right) and other partners ceremonially open the Hillsboro Health and Education District.



A large banner was raised to mark the official re-dedication of the CLIMB Center.



College administration and board members, along Newberg Public Schools Superintendent Paula Radich (far left), City of Newberg Mayor Bob Andrews (3rd from right) and City of Dundee Mayor Don Sundeen (2nd from right), break ground on the new PCC Newberg Center.

GRAD Plan

This October, credit students at Portland Community College were introduced to GRAD Plan, PCC's new online degree audit system. Students and advisers now can monitor progress toward degree or certificate completion through the website, which stands for Graduation Requirements and Academic Decisions.

With easy-to-read worksheets, students can see how completed courses count toward degree requirements and see courses still needed to graduate.

Cece Cutsforth, Graphic Design faculty adviser and department chair, has been using GRAD Plan with students since it first went live in April. Previously, PCC students did not have the online resources necessary to follow their degree progress.

"Advisers would have to painstakingly write out, by hand, students' previous courses in order to determine what courses they needed to take," Cutsforth said. "That's all a thing of the past now. We simply open up GRAD Plan and students' completed courses are all listed. We often used to tell students to give us a week so we could prepare a plan for them by hand. Now, students are amazed when they sit beside us and everything is clearly shown on the screen."

GRAD Plan lets students consider various "what if" or hypothetical scenarios for different degrees and certificates using their current academic history. Students are using this feature when they are undecided about their academic plan or when considering changing their degree option.

Dana Jean Maginn, Learning Skills Specialist at the Southeast Center, has been using GRAD Plan while advising students. "It has been very useful with students in showing them exactly their road-map to completion," Maginn said.

For more information about GRAD Plan, visit www.pcc.edu/resources/advising/grad-plan.



June Eggers (left, with a photo of her son, Thomas) and Evie Crowell (right).



RETIRED AND READY TO GIVE

Two women find creative ways to support the PCC Foundation

By **Christina Holmes**

Evie Crowell and June Eggers worked for decades in their chosen fields, becoming successful professionals passionate about their careers while providing for their families — at times as single parents.

Now retired, both continue to give back to their community. Both recently donated undeveloped property or money to the PCC Foundation to fund student scholarships.

“I know how appreciative these students are to receive a scholarship and it inspires me to do more,” said Eggers, who committed \$50,000 to the Foundation, the largest alumni gift received to date. The endowed scholarship will be open to all students and focused on academic merit. The first recipient will be named next year.

PCC has seen an increase in retiree donations, said Kim Kono, the Foundation’s director of development.

“Having worked directly with students, PCC retirees especially understand the challenges students face in pursuing their education and training,” Kono said. “Retirees are among the Foundation’s biggest supporters. Recently, the Foundation has received several significant retiree bequests to establish endowed scholarships, which will benefit students in perpetuity.”

JUNE EGGERS

Eggers’ story of giving comes from a heartbreaking tragedy. In 2009 her 56-year-old son, Thomas Eggers of Hillsboro, died of a massive heart attack. He left behind a wife, two children and five grandchildren. Devastated by his death, Eggers wanted her son’s generous spirit to be remembered.

Before Tom died he met a homeless man who asked for money. Tom gave him a sandwich instead and thus began a weekly ritual. Tom’s family did not know about this until the man came to the mortuary to pay his respects. The man didn’t know Tom’s name but recognized his face from a newspaper obituary.

“I was trying to figure out a way for people to remember my son and this idea just popped into my mind,” said Eggers. “I just want to help out someone who is trying to get an education.”

While raising a family, Eggers worked and took classes at PCC, eventually earning a degree in 1981. Her focus was management and supervisor development.

Tom married young, started working and never earned a degree. But he was in awe of his mother’s determination to finish school. Eggers hopes this scholarship will inspire others to finish college.

EVIE CROWELL

Evie Crowell’s donation comes in the form of undeveloped property near Sunriver. She purchased it more than 25 years ago with intentions to build a vacation home. The house never materialized and last year Crowell decided to donate the real estate to the PCC Foundation and Portland State University. At PCC, funds from the property sale will go toward an endowed scholarship in her name for African-American students.

“PCC is doing a good job of helping the city and helping young people and minority people,” said Crowell, adding that she wanted to give to both institutions because each offers a wide range of programs for students seeking either a bachelor’s or associate’s degree. “I’ve recognized the work both PCC and PSU are doing and I hope to fill a need that they have.”

Crowell spent 30 years at PSU where she was in charge of library services before retiring in 2002. Before that, she worked at Fisk University in Nashville and Linfield College.

Now her days are full as she travels and spends time with her two kids and five grandchildren. She continues to touch the lives of local residents through volunteerism, cultural activism and thoughtful philanthropy. ■



To learn more about the PCC Foundation, visit www.pcc.edu/foundation

Celebrating Traditions

By Christina Holmes

Grab your calendar, circle the dates below and plan on attending the five big-name cultural events that bring thousands of people to PCC each year

Playing host to a number of cultural and art festivals each year, PCC is proud to sponsor gatherings where community members are welcomed to the campuses to celebrate their traditions, ancestry and interests in art and film.

Each started with a handful of enthusiastic and dedicated faculty and staff members and students with the desire to bring attention to a significant event. Some have been around for nearly 25 years, others only five years. Months of planning and organizing go into each festival. Over time, as each event takes shape, it appeals to larger audiences and flourishes.

"It would be easy to mistake PCC for one big, homogenous college," said Dana Haynes, PCC public affairs manager. "In fact, each campus is unique, as is the Southeast Center. Each has its own history, its own neighborhood, its own dynamic. These signature events are a great way for each campus to show that off to the world." ■



Winter Powwow

Place: Sylvania Campus, 12000 S.W. 49th Ave.

What it is: Wacipi is a celebration of Native American culture and ancestry. The event features drum groups and dancers from across the region. It supports Native American businesses by offering vendor space. A portion of the proceeds go toward a Native American student scholarship.

History: Started in 2000 as a way to support and retain American Indian students as well as a celebration to enter the new millennium. This premiere event has helped create a pathway for the American Indian community to have access to the college and shows a true partnership between PCC and the major sponsors.

Quote: "More than 1,000 people come throughout the day. Our powwow attracts people from Idaho, Oregon, Washington, California and Montana. This is one of the largest powwows held on a college campus in this area," said Claire Oliveros, an event founder and the college's interim director of Affirmative Action and Equity.

Date: Jan. 22, 2011

Information:
www.pcc.edu/powwow



Cascade Festival of African Films

Place: Cascade Campus, 705 N. Killingsworth St., and other Portland venues

What it is: Free showings of feature and documentary films, a majority made by African directors, celebrating Africa's achievements, highlighting important issues and revealing the possibilities for a more hopeful future. The films represent African concerns that are political, historical and social.

History: Started by three literature faculty members, Linda Elegant, Mary Holmström and Michael Dembrow, all who wanted to give their students and the community at large a more realistic view of Africa. More than 240 films have been shown since its inception in 1991.

Quote: "When I taught I could reach a few people in my classes, but with the film festival we can reach so many more," said Holmström. "This festival gives people a different perspective of Africa. They will learn more and be touched in innumerable ways."

Dates: The month of February, held in celebration with Black History Month

Information:
www.africanfilmfestival.org



Asian New Year

Place: Southeast Center, 82nd Avenue and Division Street

What it is: A daylong festival honoring Asian, Chinese, Hmong, Japanese, Korean and Vietnamese cultures featuring ethnic dances, martial arts, games and activities for children, vendors selling items and food from nearby Legin Restaurant.

History: Started in 2002 by Trina Hing, Diana Quan, Loan Le and other volunteers, including student government leaders, to recognize Asian students, faculty and staff. The first year there were 45 participants; this year more than 450 people attended.

Quote: "This is the most significant holiday for these cultures and we want to share in the day," said Hing, who teaches English to speakers of other languages. "We want to bring educational awareness to everyone."

Date: Typically the third Monday in February (President's Day)

Information:
www.pcc.edu/asian-new-year



Semana de La Raza – Week of the People

Place: Rock Creek Campus, 17705 N.W. Springville Road

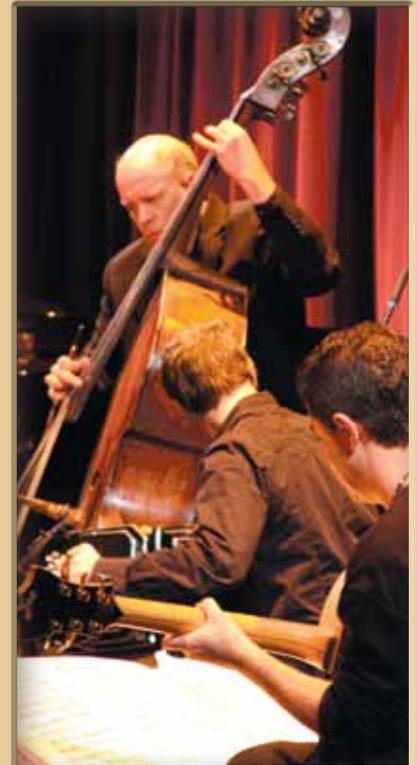
What it is: A week of Latino culture, advocacy and celebration.

History: Brenda Ivelisse, former coordinator of the Multicultural Center, began the program five years ago. As the Latino population in Washington County has grown, Semana has become an event that brings the college and community together. It is also popular at other colleges and universities nationwide.

Quote: "Each year we reach more than 1,000 people through dozen of events, from presentations by nationally known authors to the annual Cesar Chavez Evening of Excellence," Ivelisse said. "Without volunteers this would not be possible. It's their energy and commitment that makes the program bigger and better each year. We're now reaching out to Forest Grove, Beaverton and Hillsboro to create solid, positive collaborations."

Date: Typically the fourth week of April

Information:
www.pcc.edu/semana



Art Beat Week

Place: Across the district campuses and the Southeast Center

What it is: A weeklong festival honoring visual and performing artists (primarily from the Pacific Northwest) and their work.

History: Now in its 24th year, the event attracts dozens of artists who talk about their art (visual, theater, poetry, literature and music) and give some hands-on demonstrations. Organizers search far and wide to find the perfect mixture of high-quality artists and musicians.

Quote: "This is an amazing festival and our number one priority is to expose all of our students to new ways of seeing, hearing and thinking," said Charles Washburn, a ceramics instructor and lead organizer. "We want to bring them art and artists they may not normally see or stop to think about in our busy days. We want to bring in a lot of diversity so they have different ways of viewing the world."

Date: May 9–14, 2011

Information:
www.pcc.edu/artbeat

BOND PROGRAM PROVIDES



As new construction and campus renovations and upgrades are carefully planned for the next several years, PCC leaders are making sure that all businesses — large or small — have a chance to win bids and perform that work.

Thanks to voters, the 2008 bond measure will increase classroom space, technology, and academic programming across the five-county district. This comes at a time of a burgeoning student population. Over the last two years, PCC's enrollment has increased by 30 percent.

In addition to a new facility in Newberg and the recently completed Willow Creek Center in Washington County and the Downtown Center, every comprehensive campus and the Southeast Center will see capital project improvements.

Mindful of smaller companies that at times are overlooked when competing against larger firms, PCC has set an aspirational target: At least 20 percent of construction bids on these public sector projects will go to minority, women and emerging small businesses across the region. This target reflects the diversity found in the Portland metropolitan area.

PCC promises to recognize the economic importance of the bond program by actively hiring local businesses of all sizes, ensuring craftspeople have the opportunity to achieve journey level and using all reasonable measures to encourage creation and preservation of family-wage jobs.

PCC's goal to ensure that construction work is fairly distributed is similar to the policies of the city of Portland, Multnomah County, TriMet and the Port of Portland. To help in its efforts, the college reaches out to minority Chambers of Commerce (Hispanic, Filipino, African-American and Native American) as well as the Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs and the Minority Business Opportunity Committee.

"Our goal is pretty unique for a college," said John Persen, a bond program manager.

Thanks to outreach by Persen and Linda Degman, associate director of the bond program, small and medium-sized businesses will be a cornerstone of PCC's bond construction plans.

So far the college has awarded \$3.2 million in contracts to about 41 emerging small companies. For the 2000 bond measure, which was \$144 million, about \$15 million was awarded to emerging small businesses.

In Line Construction

In Line Commercial Construction, based in Aloha, is remodeling 4,000 square feet of the Student Services Building at the Cascade Campus. The renovations will accommodate the 20 percent growth in enrollment at the North Portland campus.

Founded in 1983 by President Dave Flint, who is Japanese American, In Line today employs about 50 people and is rated as the largest minority-owned business in Oregon, working on 250 to 300 projects every year.

"Through the 28 years since we were founded we have brought on some great people and we are continuing to grow the company and the client base we work with," Flint said.

"As a minority company, there are responsibilities that go with that. One is you want to perform at the very highest level. We are competitive with the best because we provide an outstanding service for our clients, not because we are minority-owned."

In Line works with companies in the health care, commercial, financial and education fields such as Portland State University, Providence Health and Services, OHSU and KeyBank.

BIDS ACCESS FOR ALL

By James G. Hill and Christina Holmes

The goal to award 20 percent of bond funded construction bids to minority-owned and smaller companies shows the college is mindful of emerging businesses



Left: Vice President/Senior Project Manager Todd Duwe, Senior Vice President Jeff Stanton and Founder and President Dave Flint from In Line Commercial Construction. Right: James and Elee Jen, owners of Energy Performance Engineering

Help us build PCC's future! PCC's new bond program website includes up-to-date information, a schedule of bond activities and opportunities to get involved. Visit pcc.edu/bond

LEEKA Architecture and Planning

Neil Lee, principal architect of LEEKA Architecture and Planning, admits he was skeptical when he heard PCC "talk the talk" about its goals to provide opportunities for minority, women and small businesses.

"Now I see them walk the walk," Lee said. "They did what they said they were going to do and I am impressed. The original Rock Creek proposal was too big for smaller firms like mine to take on. PCC managers and staff were quick to respond and break the scope down into smaller pieces so it could be spread out to smaller firms like mine."

Lee has worked with Barbara Linn, bond project manager for the Rock Creek Campus, to develop plans and finalize permitting to convert the first floor of Building 5 from administrative offices into much-needed classroom space.

LEEKA has a 30-year track record of doing business with various clients and projects. Listed as a certified minority business enterprise in the state of Oregon, LEEKA provides full architectural services including new building design, site investigations, land use planning, space planning, architectural programming and design, ADA compliance studies, renovations of existing buildings and tenant improvements.

Energy Performance Engineering

When PCC decided that its Newberg classroom facility would be built to meet nationwide standards for environmentally friendly construction, the news grabbed the attention of one family-owned company in town.

Elee Jen and her husband James Jen started their family-owned and operated company, Energy Performance Engineering, in 2005. Both became LEED-certified professionals in 2007. LEED stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, and it's the yardstick by which all green construction projects are measured.

The Jens diligently followed the PCC Bond Program's contracting process for more than a year. Last April, the Jens' hard work paid off when PCC awarded them a contract to provide commissioning services for the new facility. Their company will verify that installed building systems, such as heating, ventilation, plumbing and electrical, meet established design standards and PCC's needs. ■

Matching state grant make new buildings possible

By Dana Haynes

Voters said "yes" to Portland Community College's 2008 bond measure, and the very look and feel of the college district, campuses and centers will be forever changed.

But voters weren't the only ones who stepped up to support PCC. One of the college's most innovative buildings came about thanks to the Oregon Legislature.

In 2007, lawmakers OK'd funding for a series of buildings sprinkled through Oregon's 17 independent community colleges. That included \$7.5 million for PCC's Willow Creek Center.

The money came in the form of matching grants: the colleges had to match the state funds dollar-for-dollar. Thanks to the bond measure, PCC was in a position to accept the offer.

The Willow Creek Center in Washington County is 100,000 square feet and serves as the home for the Washington County Workforce Training Center. It also features classrooms, a testing center, four labs and a wellness room. Partners include TriMet, the Oregon Employment Department, Worksystems Inc. and Portland State University.

Willow Creek features one-of-a-kind innovations that include energy and atmosphere efficiency, recycled construction materials and — uniquely — a set of tall buoys directly outside the front doors that rise and fall, depending on the amount of collected rainwater being held in underground cisterns. ■

The first time | opportunities The best class I ever had
 My favorite place on campus My favorite student
 My first day at PCC I never knew I was walking to my office
 convenient focus Hillsboro partnerships I took the stairs dreams
 technical future LEED certification
 Hillsboro future Oregon
 skilled education creative value
 industry education creative value
 resources Cascade
 training Newberg
 classes
 My first day teaching
 Once upon a time
 I'll never forget
 The most rewarding experience
 support
 impact
 small business Oregon
 value skills
 distance language
 programs
 hands-on degrees
 outreach
 vision
 continuing education
 Semana de la Raza
 strengthen Sherwood flexible
 recycling renewable culture
 This one time
 It was a rainy day
 I remember
 CLIMB Center business
 resources 87,000
 vision dedicated Art Beat
 distance
 energy balance passion
 You'll never guess
 I took the shuttle
 The best-kept secret at PCC
 I was so proud
 The most memorable experience I'll never forget It all started when
 I learned a valuable lesson

Portland Community College is gearing up for its golden anniversary and we're reflecting on where the college has been over the last 50 years, where we are now and where we're headed.

As this important milestone approaches, you can help us by sharing your ideas about how PCC should commemorate 50 years of being part of the community. Visit www.pcc.edu/50th and let us know how you'd like to celebrate!

www.pcc.edu/50th



Instructor Anneliese Hellweg (third from right) with the students in her Keeping Up in German class

THE REGULARS' TABLE

PCC Community Education students have gathered to learn German and build friendships for 10 years

By **Eloise Holland**

For the past decade, students of Anneliese Hellweg's "Keeping Up in German" class have been getting together weekly for what's known as a *Stammtisch*, which loosely translates to "regulars' table." Students meet up after their class to practice what they've learned.

"I recall the first time that I spent an entire hour having a conversation in German during one of those outings," said public relations manager Jean Kempe-Ware, who has been taking the class for 10 years. "I recall feeling astonished and proud."

The meetings began at the urging of Hellweg, who encouraged her class to join existing conversation groups. Student Stephen Bachhuber, a retired anesthesiologist, had just come back from studying in Weimar, Germany, and found that a *Stammtisch* was invaluable to his learning experience there.

"By the end of the month," he said, "all the students who participated spoke German much better than those who did not."

Each term, PCC Community Education offers more than 100 classes in 20 different languages. Courses are held all over town and online, and some, like "Keeping Up in German," develop a life of their own.

Hellweg's students decided to start their own conversation group, and before long, it was a well-established tradition. They now meet even when class is not in session. Their dedication to each other and their studies exemplifies Community Education's mission to create communities of learners.

"Every opportunity they have to speak German, they will take," said Hellweg, who has joined the group for special trips including an all-German sailing excursion, dancing at the Deutsches Haus and Oktoberfest celebrations, to name a few.

When new students join the class, they are automatically invited to the *Stammtisch*. If novice speakers need to use an English word or two, that's fine. It gives the rest of the group a chance to think of the right word in German.

The ages of group members range from 20s to 80s, and they have interests that are just as broad. What they do share is a love of the German language and a great admiration for Hellweg, who has taught at PCC for 25 years.

"At 80 years old, she has incredible energy, devotion to teaching, and is a lot of fun," said professor of public administration Brian Stipak, who has been coming to the group for a year.

"She has become more than a teacher to us," agreed Kempe-Ware. "She is a mentor, a friend, a guide to living life well."

For many, an unexpected benefit of "Keeping Up in German" has been the discovery of lifelong friends and a community that values learning. In a decade of friendship, some of the members have rarely or never spoken English to each other.

Stammtisch
[shtäm•tish] noun
A table at which friends meet; the regulars' table

"We chat about everyday stuff, and sometimes start singing old German folk songs and beer drinking songs," said Holly Crichton who works as a translator.

"People know who we are at the bar and some ask 'Is this a *Stammtisch*?'"

"Our group motivates me to learn more all the time," said student Allison Brown. "My life is more cheery and enriched with Anneliese's friendship and guidance and my tight-knit group of German friends." ■



Find Community Education's complete list of language classes on page 30 or online at www.pcc.edu/community

PCC mails this schedule of classes to households four times each year to let you know about upcoming Community Education classes and share what's happening at PCC. It is printed and mailed for about 22 cents per copy and can be recycled. Because it is addressed "Residential Customer" we are not able to remove individuals from our distribution route. We hope you find it informative and enjoy the stories inside.

Project: YOU

with PCC Community Education

My Project:

Name: *Ann Baynton*

Occupation: *Human Resources Manager*

My Project: *Nurture my artistic side by learning to create original, handcrafted quilts.*

Class I Took: *Quilting for Beginners and Beyond*

And Now: *Less than three years after the class, I've made more than ten quilts and have ambitions to exhibit at the world-famous Sisters Outdoor Quilt Show. Quilting made me a happier person - who gives great presents!*

CommunityEducation

Make YOU the project!

If you can dream it, Community Education's hundreds of classes can help you achieve it. Go online to pcc.edu/community and get started on your own Project:YOU this winter.