Porterville College held their annual Vocational Nursing Pinning Ceremony on Dec. 6. Nineteen students were pinned and recited the Florence Nightingale Pledge at the event. The graduates included: Caselyn Almendares, Rona-Jane Ballesteros, Ashley Bonifacio, Dora Espinoza, Billy Etrata, Luz Gonzalez, Arlene Guinto, Yanet Ledesma, Heidi Minyard, Nerina Nunez, Jomayra Olivas, Liset Ortiz, Melissa Passmore, Maria Reyes, Sophia Robles, Jenna Sherrill, Patty Tapia, Trent Thalman and Sonya Vasquez.

The keynote speaker was Elizabeth Keele, R.N., B.S.N. Class representative speakers were Trent Thalman and Sophia Robles. Special awards were given to students Maria Reyes for Outstanding Scholastic Achievement and Yanet

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PC Fire Academy Graduates Receive Special Honors

Special recognition was given to several 2012 Porterville College Firefighter 1 Academy graduates on Nov. 15. Among them were Cadets Vince Cervantes and Toni VanGaasbeek who were recognized for serving as the class “Battalion Chiefs”. On top of completing all other training and study required of Fire Academy Cadets, the class Battalion Chiefs assume the additional responsibility of maintaining class decorum, lining the class up for inspection each day, assigning equipment set-up tasks, leading the class in all classroom and field training activities and assisting the instructional staff as needed before, during and after class activities.

Cervantes is a 12 year Navy veteran who, following his recent military discharge, has decided to pursue firefighting as a career. VanGaasbeek, has been a seasonal firefighter for CAL FIRE for several years, and is now attending college to prepare herself for a fulltime firefighting position.

Recognition was also given to four Cadets for serving as “Company Captains” under Cervantes and VanGaasbeek. They are Brandon Craig, Chris Sanchez, Steve Franks and Matt Patrick. Additionally special recognition was given to Cadet Cole Craw for his dedication to maintaining the Academy training trailers and related equipment throughout the course.

Graduation took place during Veterans Day week, and four Cadets were recognized for their recent military service. They are Vince Cervantes, Steve Franks, Sal Ibarra, and Josh Ellis. Ellis was further recognized by his fellow Cadets for having been seriously injured during his service in the Middle East and receiving a Purple Heart among other commendations. He was also given the class “Allegiance Award” for presenting the colors and leading the flag salute each day, as he also did during the graduation ceremony.

Each year, by secret ballot, the Cadets select a class member who they felt went “above and beyond the call of duty” in assisting others with hand-on skills practice, classroom study or in other ways during the difficult and rigorous 15 week Academy. Steve Franks was overwhelmingly selected for the “Class Leadership” award by his fellow Cadets.

Per State Fire Marshal rules, all Cadets in the SFM Accredited Fire Academy must score at least 80% on each written examination and there is much competition among Cadets to have the highest overall score at the end of the Academy. Receiving the “Top Score” award this year was Lyle Pope with an overall score of 97.55%.

Recognition/Award –
Class Battalion Chief – Vince Cervantes
Class Battalion Chief – Toni VanGaasbeek
Company Captain – Brandon Craig
Company Captain – Chris Sanchez
Company Captain – Steve Franks
Company Captain – Matt Patrick
Class Leadership – Steve Franks
Allegiance Award – Josh Ellis
“Can Do, Sir” Award – Cole Craw
Top Student Award – Lyle Pope

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Ledesma for Outstanding Clinical Performance.
Vocational nursing includes an introduction to the basic principles and theories of nursing, personal and community health; normal growth and development; normal aging processes and geriatric nursing; ethics and interpersonal relationships. Integration of these principles, including anatomy and physiology, provides a foundation in nursing upon which the student can build skills, knowledge and understanding in identifying nursing needs of patients with common disorders and disturbances of the body systems. The three-semester certificate program includes classes on the college campus with clinical training at approved hospitals within the area. Upon successful completion of the program the student is eligible to take the examination for licensure as a Vocational Nurse.

For more information about the PC Vocational Nurse program visit www.portervillecollege.edu/
Film Festival Fundraiser, LUNAFEST to come to PC Feb. 8

LUNAFEST, a fund raising film festival dedicated to promoting awareness about women’s issues, highlighting women filmmakers, and bringing women together in their communities, is coming to Porterville.

The festival is hosted by Zonta Club of Porterville, supported by PC’s Phi Theta Kappa, and slated for 6:30 p.m. Feb. 8 at Porterville College.

The unique film festival, now in its 11th year, consists of nine short films — ranging from animation to fictional drama, and covering topics such as women’s health, motherhood, body image, aging, cultural diversity and breaking barriers — highlighting women as leaders in society.

Seating is limited and pre-sale tickets are suggested.

LUNAFEST, created and funded by LUNA, a nutrition bar for women, has raised more than $456,000 for its breast cancer fund and more than $785,000 for other women’s non-profit organizations.

Tickets are $15 for general admission and $10 for students, and benefit the Breast Cancer Fund and Zonta Club of Porterville.

Doors open at 6 p.m., with the films beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Porterville College Theater at Porterville College, 100 E. College Ave.

For tickets or more information, call 359-6836 or e-mail, portervillezonta@cosnet.net.

PC hosts Art With Impact event

Porterville College hosted an Art With Impact event on Jan. 23 in the Student Center Conference Room (SCCR). The event was sponsored by the student club, Active Minds, whose focus is to reduce the stigma of mental health, suicide awareness and prevention.

The event was an opportunity for students to watch films about mental health, discuss them with their peers, and then ask questions to a panel of experts. The event concluded with snacks and time for one-on-one Q&A. This event was part of a series of events Art With Impact and the Mental Health Oversight and Accountability Commission run throughout the state of California.

Art With Impact’s mission is to connect people to global issues through art and media and provide opportunities to share their voices, time and talent in meaningful ways. They select and make available some of the best short films on mental health issues and then connect those films with educational resources and concrete volunteer opportunities through in-person events on college campuses. For more information contact Susan Lala, Disability Resource Center Program Coordinator at (559) 791-2326.

PC debuts official Facebook page

Porterville College can now be found on Facebook. On Jan. 2 the college debuted their first official Facebook page.

“We hope the page will be a valuable resource to students, staff, faculty and the community,” said Public Relations, Marketing and Development Manager Mo Montgomery. “From photos around campus to links to essential resources it will serve as an extension of PC’s Public Information office.”

The page can be found at http://www.facebook.com/pages/Porterville-College/485056701527189.

Links to the college bookstore, C.H.A.P. and links to student club pages are available on the page as well. Everyone is invited to visit and “like” the page.

“Social media sites like Facebook help us connect to students and the community,” said Montgomery. “We plan on continually adding content to the page and utilizing it as a means to promote events, classes, programs and PC as a whole.”

For more information call 791-2209.

Campus Calendar

February
1- DRC – Learning Strategies will be held at the Theater (CA-4) at 11:00 am to 12:00 pm.
15 - Lincoln Day Holiday - Campus closed
18 - Washington Day Holiday - Campus closed
22- C.H.A.P. event, 7:30-8:30 p.m.: “People of the Clouds” by Matt Black

March
8- C.H.A.P. event, 7-8 p.m.: “Obscene in the Extreme” by Rick Wartzman
9- Hall of Fame Induction Banquet at River Island Country Club. For more information or to purchase tickets to the event call 791-2319.
15 - C.H.A.P. Staff and Faculty review: “70s and Beyond Concert II” Time, TBD
22- Last day to drop semester-length course without a letter Penalty and receive a “W”
25-29 - Spring Recess
29 - Spring holiday - Campus closed
- To submit your event for the Campus Calendar email maureen.montgomery@portervillecollege.edu.
Karen Boriack says goodbye after 13 years as faculty and division chair

Longtime faculty member and alumna Karen Boriack is leaving PC after 13 years. She will be taking over as the Psychiatric Nursing Education Director for Cuesta College and Atascadero State Hospital. Boriack’s journey to PC began long before she became faculty.

“At the age of 18 I found myself a single mom with no high school diploma and little direction in life,” Boriack said. “Porterville College’s Health Careers Psychiatric Technician program offered to provide me with the training and security I needed for the future and amazingly brought me back many years later to the program where it all began for me.”

Boriack would go on to become full time faculty in 1999. She served as Division Chair of the Health Careers department from 2008-2009 and again from 2011-2012.

“I have to say the students have been my favorite part of this job,” Boriack said. “Especially running into former students who now have meaningful and successful careers in the healthcare industry.”

She said she hopes she left an imprint on her students.

“I would hope that my legacy reflects the deep passion I have for teaching and is one of true compassion and caring for the students we serve,” Boriack said. “I also hope that my former students will remember me as someone who cared about them and the impact they might have on others’ lives through the work that they do.”

For new staff Boriack recommends always remembering the big picture. “Remember that it truly IS all about student success,” said Boriack. “Each student comes to us with their individual hopes and dreams and we have an opportunity to make a huge impact on their lives. Make sure the impact you make is a positive one that leads them to a better and more successful future!”

The Porterville College Foundation will support Porterville College in developing activities, programs and facilities to the best interest of students; will actively solicit gifts, bequests and other income; and will demonstrate prudent fiduciary responsibility in the administration of those funds. To join the PC Foundation call 791-2319.

The PC Update is produced monthly by the Porterville College Office of Public Relations, Marketing and Development. The publication is distributed to the Kern Community College District Board of Trustees, Porterville College employees and retirees, local school administrators and counselors, PC Foundation board members and Porterville Chamber of Commerce. Issues are also available online using Acrobat reader.

To submit information to the next Update contact Mo Montgomery at (559) 791-2209 or email maureen.montgomery@portervillecollege.edu.

Porterville College is part of the Kern Community College District.
Here are some of the accomplishments of the Porterville College Foundation in 2012. We look forward to another great year in 2013.

1. Had a successful combined Athletic & Alumni Hall of Fame event

2. Received from the estate of previous PE Instructor/Coach, Marie Ellis, over $92,000 to establish an endowed scholarship in her memory

3. Foundation continued to support High School Senior Day covering the student lunches at $6,000.00

4. New scholarships: Lunstad Family Memorial Scholarship (Annual - 1 @ $500), Kenneth Loehner Memorial Scholarship (Annual 1 @ $1,000), Marie Ellis Memorial Scholarship (Endowed 2 @ $1,500)

5. Awarded over $117,000 to PC students at the Annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony

6. Upgraded the current MIP/Sage Software for Foundation accounting

7. Continued the successful operation of the PC Swap Meet that supports scholarships for students, programs, activities, and facilities to the best interest of the students and the campus

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our success!
The Porterville College Foundation will support Porterville College in developing activities, programs and facilities to the best interest of students; will actively solicit gifts, bequests and other income; and will demonstrate prudent fiduciary responsibility in the administration of those funds. To join the PC Foundation call 791-2319.

PORTERVILLE COLLEGE HALL OF FAME INDUCTION BANQUET

Featured speaker former NFL fullback
Lorenzo Neal

March 9 • River Island Country Club

Tickets are $50 each, $275 for a table of six, and $350 for a table of eight
Limited seating is available. For tickets call (559) 791-2319

Evening will feature inductions into both the PC Athletic Hall of Fame and Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame