

December 2016

2016 Porterville Chamber of Commerce Award Recipient - Dr. Rosa Carson

November 18, 2016

Written by MYLES BARKER
mbarker@portervillerecorder.com,
Recorder photo by Chieko Hara



Celebrating the community and those who make it better was the overriding theme of Friday night's Chamber of Commerce awards banquet. Dr. Rosa Carlson was honored as Woman of the Year.

Well over 300 people attended the banquet at the Veterans Memorial Building which also saw honors given for Man of the Year (*Robert Keeley*); Male Youth of the Year (*Robert Leyva*); Female Youth of the Year (*PHS student Caitlin Kelley*); Volunteer of the Year (*MHS student Alex Larson*); Community Service Project of the Year (*Knights of Columbus*); Small Business of the Year (*The Flower Mill*) and Large Business of the Year (*Bank of the Sierra*).

Dr. Carlson, President of Porterville College, was happy with the award, but like the others honored stated, she felt there were more deserving people in the community.

Carlson, who was the first in her family to obtain three post-secondary degrees - a bachelor's degree in foreign languages and minor in classical studies, a master's degree in educational administration and supervision from California State University, Fresno, and a doctorate in educational leadership from the UC Davis/CSU Fresno joint doctoral program - has nearly 40 years of experience in education in the Central Valley.

She has served as a member on numerous boards such as on the Fresno Chaffee Zoo Board of Directors, Hanford Community Medical Center and Porterville Chamber of Commerce.

"In this community, we work together as a team and we are where we are today and we see as many people because everywhere you go in this community we work together," Carlson said. **"We did this as a community so I am very honored, thank you."**

The PC Update is written and organized by
Deekay Fox, Manager, Marketing, Communications & Development (PIO) for Porterville College
For article or photo submissions email: deekay.fox@portervillecollege.edu

Spring Semester Starts
January 17, 2017

C.H.A.P. Coming Events

Christopher Buckley, Poet

Marking Me Home: 35 Years of Poems from California

February 9, 2017
11:30 am - 12:30 pm

Carol Firstman, Author

Origins of the Universe and What It Means

February 24, 2017
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Kathryn Davis, Chair of Studies & Professor of Environmental Studies

March 10, 2017
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Amy King, Curator Tulare County Museum

Preserving Our Culture and Heritage

March 31, 2017
11:30 am - 12:30 pm

1st Annual PC Salutes Our Veterans

November 10, 2016

*Story by Maria Roman,
Photos by Deekay Fox*

In observance of Veterans Day, Porterville College came together for a ceremony honoring all those who have served and are currently serving our country.

We had Veterans, students, community Veteran organization representatives, college administrators, faculty and staff attend the first annual "Porterville College Salutes Our Veterans" event. Ribbons were hung throughout the campus in show of

left to right: John Anthony; Ed Gallardo; Travis Aldridge; Matt McCallister; Kayla Kilburn; Robert Cooksey (in the white t shirt); Steve Cha (standing up)

support during Veterans Day week. Porterville College has a rich history of serving Veteran students. Currently, Porterville College serves more than 120 Veterans each year. It was a day of honor, remembrance and reflection.



Vietnam Veterans Panel at C.H.A.P. Event

November 9, 2016

Story by Maria Roman, Photo by Deekay Fox

Each year, in honor of Veterans Day, it has been a tradition at PC to host a panel of local veterans. These panelists share their experiences with our students and community members, and also take questions from the audience.

The event was sponsored by the Porterville College Student Veterans Organization (SVO). The theme of this year's Veterans Day Parade is "**Vietnam Plus 50 Years.**" In keeping with that theme, the panel is comprised of men and women who served in Vietnam. These panel presentations



left to right: Larry Stoneburner; Nancy Chadwell; Clarence Ogans; and Greg King

are always thought provoking, and often times very moving. It is an opportunity for our students to interact with individuals who represent "living history."

**"Education is the most powerful weapon
which you can use to change the world."**

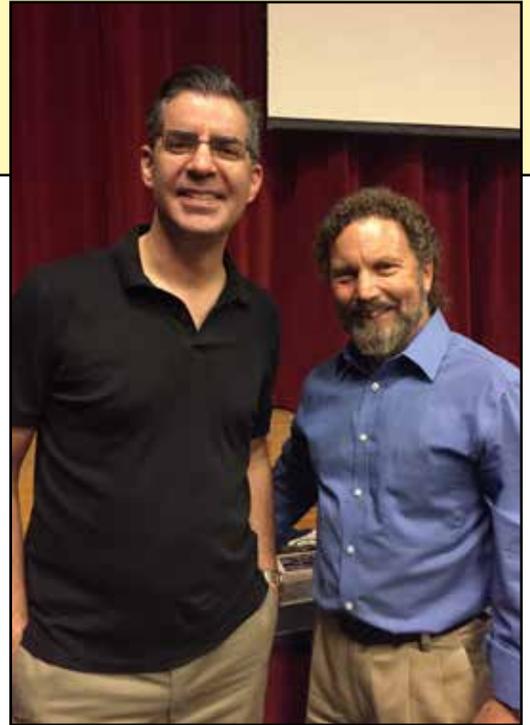
--Nelson Mandela

Professor Marco Meniketti Speaks at C.H.A.P. Event November 4, 2016

Photo & Story by Dr. Robert Simpkins, Professor of Anthropology

C.H.A.P. hosted guest speaker Anthropology Professor Marco Meniketti as this year's Distinguished Speaker in Anthropology. The Distinguished Speaker in Anthropology series began in 1996 under the supervision of now-Professor Emeritus of Anthropology and C.H.A.P. founder Richard Osborne.

Each year an Anthropologist of note is selected and invited to present an overview of their research to the Porterville College community. Dr. Meniketti's presentation was titled "**The Archaeology of Sugar Cane, Slavery, and Environmental Change in the Caribbean**". C.H.A.P. coordinator, PC Anthropology Professor Robert Simpkins was a colleague of Prof. Meniketti at SJSU for several years, and believed Prof. Meniketti's twenty years research in the Caribbean and use of a variety of innovative methods in archaeology would be entertaining and an enlightening look at modern archaeology for the PC audience. Here the two pose in the theater, reunited for the first time in over four years.



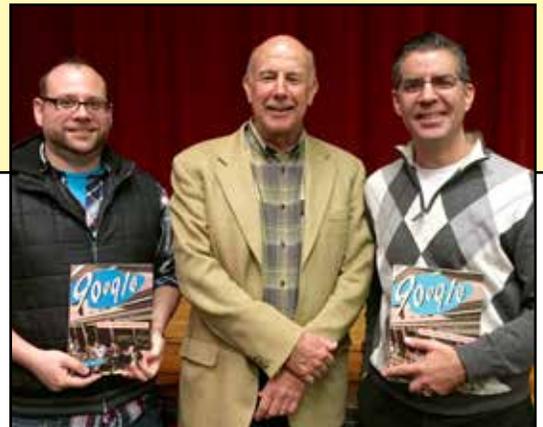
left to right: Dr. Robert Simpkins - PC Anthropology Professor; Professor Marco Meniketti - Anthropology Professor

Alan Hess Speaks at C.H.A.P. Event November 18, 2016

Photo & Story by Dr. Robert Simpkins, Professor of Anthropology

C.H.A.P. held its last event of the semester with another packed house in the theater featuring guest speaker and noted Architect and Preservationist Alan Hess who spoke on the topic of "**California as Muse: Modern Architecture in the Golden State.**"

After the event, the Anthropology Club sold copies of some of Mr. Hess' many books on Modernist 20th century architecture as a club fundraiser and Mr. Hess signed the books and spoke with some of the attendees. In the picture left, PC bookstore manager Nic Orizaga and C.H.A.P. Coordinator and Anthropology Professor Robert Simpkins, stand on each side of Mr. Hess while both hold their newly autographed copies of Hess' first book "Googie: Fifties Coffee Shop Architecture", chronicling the history of the so-called 'Googie' style of architecture so common across the city streets and highways of California.

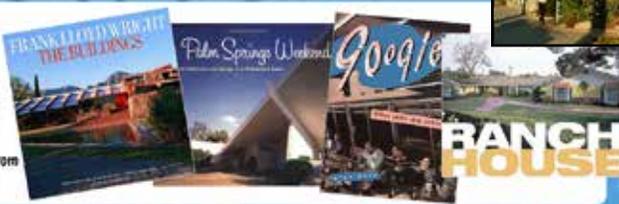


left to right: Nic Orizaga - PC Bookstore Manager; Mr. Hess; Dr. Robert Simpkins - PC Anthropology Professor



Get a SIGNED copy of a book by Alan Hess!

A limited number of used (but good condition) hard-to-find Alan Hess books on California architecture will be sold after the talk by PC's Anthropology Club to raise funds for student field trips and activities. (Additional donations also welcome) A list of available books and prices can requested in advance from chp@portervillecollege.edu - pre-talk sales by arrangement!



Our Friend Will Be Missed

It is with a heavy heart and great sadness that Porterville College lost a precious family member.

Diane Thompson stated the following insights about Melba Aguirre:

“Melba joined the Student Services team as an Educational Advisor earlier this year. Her beautiful smile, soft-spoken voice, heart of gold, and desire to serve students quickly made her one of the favorites among students and staff. She never turned down a project and always tried her best to do the right thing. She was a true champion to everyone who worked with her.”



Melba Aguirre - Educational Advisor, DRC

Educational and/or Professional Background: This is my 14th year providing services to students in an educational setting through public and non-profit organizations. I started as a tutor advisor/mentor for the Educational Talent Search at the CSU, Bakersfield. Then I joined the Americorps Program and was involved in community projects and support services to assist diverse students. As a member, I volunteered for the Habitat for Humanity where we assisted the applicants in building their own home, which was a memorable experience. I also provided assistance to students at the high school level as a Bilingual Instructional Assistant, then as a Guidance Technician in order to help them with college planning and needed resources to graduate. As a clinician in Behavioral Mental Health, I provided services to families and children who experienced significant impairment in one or more aspects of their life due to a mental illness. I collaborated with a team of psychologists, psychiatrists, and other clinicians in order to provide the most effective treatment for clients. I received my Bachelor's degree in Sociology and my MA in

Educational Counseling; MS in Counseling Psychology from CSU, Bakersfield.

Fun Facts About Me: I enjoy trips to the beach and spending time with my family. I once went snorkeling in Cozumel, an island in the state of Quintana Roo. It was beautiful to see the brightly colored fish. Then I climbed to the very top of El Castillo, a massive 98 foot step pyramid. It created such an exhilarating feeling to finally reach the top. I also had the chance to ride an elephant at a fair in Orange County.

What I Feel I Will Bring to PC: I love working with students and helping them with their career and higher education goals. I feel it is a privilege to be part of Porterville College, and I look forward to collaborative work and great opportunities to share my passion alongside many professionals in this setting.

In fact, yesterday, she received an acceptance email from the State Chancellor's Office inviting her to attend Learning Disability (LD) Training which would allow her to help more students.

Using Humor to De-Stress

Story & Photos by Nic Orizaga

The closing weeks of the term can be extremely challenging for students, especially with final exams on the horizon. The PC Bookstore helped ease their stress with our De-Stress Fest program, an event where students were able to take a short break from studying and unwind with fun activities and more. Last Spring, we put a Star Wars spin on De-Stress Fest and the events were a hit!

This year, we had two events, College Con in October with “Buy any 2 Graphic Novels, Get the 3rd Free” as well as coloring contests and #FanArt Fridays where students were able to draw their favorite characters and enter to win prizes, such as posters, B&N gift cards and graphic novels! We even had a photo booth where participants could enter to win free comics just by wearing their favorite comic book shirt!

For De-Stress Fest, we went with a Harry Potter theme to coincide with the release of the new **“Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them”** film. We had a Seeker's Hunt where an item was hidden somewhere on campus and clues to find it were given out each hour on our facebook page. (*The golden*



snitch was found hidden in the PC Library!) We also had free pizza, frozen butter beer, raffles and exclusive coupons. We also gave away copies of the **“Fantastic Beasts”** screenplay, and an **“Inside The Magic: The Making Of Fantastic Beasts”** film book. The winner of our “Dress Up” contest received three Pop! vinyl figures from the world of Harry Potter!

Pop Tabs to be Donated

*Story & photo by Karen Ball, Program Manager
Child Development Center*

Pictured right are the Child Development Center (CDC) children around 2 large bins of 'Pop Tabs' the CDC has been collecting for the past 2 years. Karen Ball, CDC Program Manager reported staff and students on campus, retired employees, Sierra View Medical Center staff and others who have heard from word of mouth, have donated to this cause.

The Ronald McDonald Pop Tabs Program was started approximately 4 years ago. 'Pop tabs' are high quality, pure aluminum and are more valuable than the can itself. 'Pop tabs' are easier to store and a whole lot less mess than keeping the whole can. The collected tabs are taken to the Ronald McDonald House at Valley Children's Hospital in Madera, CA. The money generated from the tabs is used for many things at the House but the most important is it provides housing for a family of a critically ill child that has been admitted to Valley Children's. Families are allowed to stay at the Ronald McDonald House for as long as their child's stay. The value of a one night stay is approximately \$110 but the families are only asked to pay \$15. It takes about 190 pounds of 'pop tabs' to cover the costs for a one night stay at the house and it takes 1,200 'pop tabs' to equal one pound. And as you can see from the picture we have collected A LOT of POP TABS!

At the Child Development Center we feel it is important to teach young children the gift of giving. We teach



them that we are collecting the 'pop tabs' for children that are really sick and can't go to a preschool to play and learn and that the families want to stay close by their child that is so sick. The children really enjoy getting the opportunity to be a part of something that they can relate to. It is a simple, easy way to help families in their time of need.

We will be taking the 'pop tabs' next week to the Ronald McDonald House and then our totes will be empty and ready to start collecting again!

Sandra Serrano's Last Board Visit to PC - November 10, 2016

Every year Kern Community College District (KCCD) Board conducts their monthly board meeting at one of three colleges that make up KCCD. November 10th the Board of Trustees came to Porterville College where a nice pre-luncheon was provided before the board meeting. During the luncheon, Porterville Unified School District (PUSD) Pathways Coordinator, Cindy Brown, provided highlights of the 8 years partnership between PC and PUSD. She presented how the partnership has grown and the proven benefits to high school students preparing for the next step in their academic careers – COLLEGE.

At the beginning of the board meeting PC President Dr. Rosa Carlson; Academic Senate President Stewart Hathaway; CSEA President Vern Butler; CCA



left to right: Kyle Carter; Sandra Serrano - chancellor; Jose Herrera - PC student; Dennis Beebe - board president; John Corkins

Representative Ann Marie Wagstaff and KCCD Student Trustee, PC student Jose Herrera, presented our soon-to-retiree Chancellor Sandra Serrano, a beautiful glass sculpture as a special thank you from PC for her years of service to KCCD.

Children Donate to Mike's Pass

*Courtesy of Steve Schultz
VRC Coordinator/Counselor*

Something happened August 28, 2016 that I just have to share with each of you, but first a little bit of history. About a year and a half or so ago I read an article about an effort that Cuesta College started for its veterans called the "Mikes" program. The inspiration for this program was a student at Cuesta College named Mike Mihalikis. While enrolled at Cuesta, Mike's Army Reserve unit got called to active duty in Iraq. As he was getting close to the conclusion of his tour of duty, Mike enrolled back into Cuesta and then emailed one of his previous instructors and asked him to "save him a place" in his class because his unit would not be returning until shortly after the start of the term - and Mike did not want to get dropped from his class. A few weeks after receiving the email, the professor learned

that Mike had been killed in action in Baghdad.

As a way to remember Mike and to support all of their veterans, the instructor started what he called "Mikes passes" which are basically free parking passes for their veterans. When I read the article about the program I thought we could do something similar for our veterans at Porterville College. So I contacted the instructor and the family of Mike and asked permission to adopt the program here, calling it the same name, and they all agreed that would be a wonderful gesture for our veterans, too. We are tweaking the program somewhat here at PC in that all new veterans will receive a "Mikes pass" as part of their welcome to PC but then they have to earn a second one. They can earn a "Mikes" by being active members of our Student Veterans Organization (*the veteran campus club*), joining



Trent Lindsey with the kids

a local veterans' service organization such as the American Legion, VFW or AMVETS, and/or participating in community service projects or other activities the Veterans Resource Center will be participating in each year. And for your information, the "Mikes" are paid strictly from donations I have received, and continue to receive, and not from the college budget.

We have donated 2 passes since Steve started this program in the Fall of 2014. So far the last 5 semesters we have donated enough money for 10 parking passes (\$200).

Food Drive

Look at all the donations for the Food Drive by Faculty and Students. Makes your heart swell with PC pride.

We plan to make this an annual PC tradition!



EXCLUSIVE

WE GUARANTEE YOU KNOW...

An extraordinary PC Alumni

Contact PC College at 559.791.2209 or e-mail us at deekay.fox@portervillecollege.edu with information on notable staff and student alumni!

Spots available in our 90th anniversary commemorative book, highlighting our outstanding alumni.



Veteran Memorial Fundraiser



Story by Maria Roman, Photo by Deekay Fox

The Porterville Rotary Club is spearheading the construction of a Veteran's Memorial on the Porterville College campus. It has been approved by the State of California-DSA Department. The memorial slated to be constructed during the Spring 2017 semester.

To raise the funds for the construction, the Rotarians are selling bricks to veterans who would like a brick embedded in the cement within the memorial. Each

brick will have the veteran's name, branch and year of service engraved for a cost of \$110.00; this sale price is through January 1st then will increase to \$150.00. There are seven hundred and forty-one bricks available for sale; the balance from the construction will be donated to the PC Veteran's Resource Center (VRC).

How to place an order online:

<http://www.fundraisingbrick.com/portervillerotary> or stop by the PC-VRC in AC116 to pick up the form.

Buying a brick is a great gift for a veteran in your family to honor them for their service and sacrifice in serving our country.

Operation Christmas Child

Photo & story by Theta and ASPC

Phi Theta Kappa and ASPC want to thank you for a hugely successful Operation Christmas Child. Seventy four boxes were sent off to children around the world (*most of whom are orphans*).

Everyone had a great time and shared a Thanksgiving-themed dinner together to top off the festivities!



We plan to make this an annual PC tradition.

Happy Holidays to you and yours and thanks again for your support!



Getty Villa Visit - November 12, 2016

Story by Dr. Robert Simpkins, Professor of Anthropology, Photos by Jesika Bowker

On November 12th, the Anthropology Club traveled to the Getty Villa in Malibu, a museum of ancient Classical art planned by J. Paul Getty as a replica of a Roman villa.

The club received a tour of collection highlights and explored the gardens on a day with perfect coastal weather. Club member and professional photographer Jesika Bowker was inspired to take a photo of the club on the staircase, reflected in the koi pond below, as well as in front of the museum entrance as the group waited for their tour guide to arrive.



PC Men's Basketball announces six sophomore signings

The Porterville College men's basketball program has announced the signings of all six of its sophomores from the 2015-16 Pirates squad to continue their academic and athletic careers. Davy Baltus is headed to Livingstone College, Travis Flagg is off to Tuskegee University, Leonard Herring is moving on to Jarvis Christian College, Dale Kirkland is transferring to Bethel College, Tyler Roberts will leave for York College, and Matt Zorn will continue on at Northland College.

"It's been an honor coaching these guys the past two years," said Porterville head coach Rob



left to right:

Davey Baltus; Travis Flagg; Leonard Herring; Dale Kirkland; Tyler Roberts; Matt Zorn

Haynes. "Each one of these guys are very deserving of moving on to the next level. For one athlete to get a scholarship is a challenge

itself so for six of these guys to get scholarships shows how "Hard Work Always" pays off.

Porterville College Softball transfers four on to next level

Porterville College Softball head coach Vickie Dugan has announced that four members from her Pirates squad has signed on with four-year colleges to continue their academic and athletic careers. Briana Bamber is headed to Urbana University in Ohio; Danielle "Nelly" Jimenez and Alyssa Benally are both transferring to Blue Mountain College in Mississippi; and Destiny Garcia will take her talents to Transylvania University in Kentucky.

"It is no surprise that athletes from our softball program are able to transfer to four-year schools," said Porterville College Director of



left to right: Briana Bamber; Danielle "Nelly" Jimenez; Destiny Garcia; Alyssa Benally

Athletics and Student Programs Joe Cascio. "Coach Dugan and her staff do a great job of preparing student-athletes for success on and off the field. Coach Dugan is one of the best in the business,

especially when it comes to stressing the importance of academics. Her teams are always among the state leaders in GPA. I am very proud of these student-athletes and their accomplishments."

Upcoming Events

• Men's Basketball Games in the new gym

First Home Game, PC vs Reedley January 7, 2017, 5:00 pm
Home Game, PC vs Cerro Coso, January 11, 2017, 5:00 pm
Home Game, PC vs Columbia, January 18, 2017, 5:00 pm
Home Game, PC vs Merced, January 25, 2017, 5:00 pm
Home Game, PC vs West Hills Coaling, January 28, 2017, 5:00 pm
Home Game, PC vs Sequoias, February 8, 2017, 5:00 pm
Home Game, PC vs Fresno, February 15, 2017, 5:00 pm

• Women's Basketball Games in the new gym

First Home Game, PC vs Reedley January 7, 2017, 7:00 pm
Home Game, PC vs Taft, January 18, 2017, 7:00 pm
Home Game, PC vs Merced, January 25, 2017, 7:00 pm
Home Game, PC vs West Hills-Lemoore, January 28, 2017, 7:00 pm
Home Game, PC vs Sequoias, February 8, 2017, 7:00 pm
Home Game, PC vs Fresno, February 15, 2017, 7:00 pm