

August 2017

Become a PC Pirate in a Day
August 15 & 16, 2017
9:00 am - 4:00 pm
AC 126

Fall Classes Begin
August 19, 2017

Child Development Program Open House
August 29, 2017
5:30 - 6:30 pm
in the SCCR

Health Fair
October 4, 2017
10:00 am - 1:00 pm

A Night Under the Stars Dinner & Silent Auction
October 14, 2017

College Fair
October 16, 2017
11:00 am - 1:00 pm
in the PC Quad

Annual Hall of Fame Event
February 3, 2018
River Island Country Club

Story by Deekay Fox

Rosa Retires

Dr. Carlson announced she is retiring after 11½ years as President of Porterville College.

"It is with mixed emotions that I announce my intent to retire from Porterville College (KCCD) in September of this year, 2017. This was not an easy decision, however, after nearly 40 years in education, it is time to move to the next chapter of my life and spend quality time with my husband and family," she wrote in an email. John Corkins, a local businessman and a member of the Kern Community College Board of Directors, called her decision, "A great loss to the college."

"I have been part of the PC family for 11½ years and truly have enjoyed my time in serving as your colleague and as your President. We have gone through many ups and

downs together, we have lost family members and we have gained new family members. What is consistent and needs to remain this way is "our focus on students." I have planned this retirement very strategically to make sure that PC will not suffer any consequences. I also had no intentions of being a "lame duck". I wanted to go out representing each of you at Porterville College to the very end."

I will ask that everyone continue to contribute to offering the best quality education to our current and future students and most importantly work as a team to move the college forward. I will miss being part of PC and will miss each of you; but for now, I am not moving away and will be aware of what you are doing."

"I sincerely wish each of you a productive and meaningful life at PC. Give your all to Porterville



College students, so that when you look back on your career in education you will know that you made a difference in the lives of many students. Trust me, time flies and you will someday be talking about retirement too, so enjoy every minute of your career in education."

Carlson said she was the eighth president of Porterville College and will retire as the third-most tenured with nearly 12 years. Orin Shires served as college president for 21 years and Paul Alcantra for 15 years.

She will be missed!

*This PC Update was written and organized by:
Deekay Fox and Dolores Meurer*

For future article or photo submissions email: cbrown@portervillecollege.edu

Bill Henry to Handle PC Duties

Story by Liz Juarez of the Porterville Recorder, Photo by Rick Elkins

July 8, 2017 • Long-time administrator now interim president

A few months ago, Porterville College President Rosa Carlson announced she would be retiring this coming fall. In her absence she will be leaving a familiar face in charge before the search for a new president begins.

Although a contract is yet to be signed, more than likely the responsibility of making sure PC continues to run smoothly in the wake of Carlson's departure will fall in the hands of long-time faculty member, and VP of Academic Affairs Bill Henry.

"She knew I was thinking about retiring, and she came to me and said look if I leave will you stay? And there was absolutely no way I was going to let her down, and tell her no," said Henry. *"So I agreed, we want to make sure we get the right fit, that is very important, the right fit for the campus, the right fit for the community."*

Henry has been with PC since 1998 after working in law enforcement for almost 24 years. He served 3 years with Kings County Sheriff's office and 20 years with the Bakersfield Police Department before leaving for medical retirement. Henry was already teaching part-time at the Kern Community College and soon took a position teaching in the administration and justice program

at PC for several years before moving on to administration roles.

"My plan had always been that when I retired from law enforcement, I would teach part-time, and that would just kind of give me something to do," said Henry. He holds a bachelor's in Criminal Justice Management and earned a master's in Education.

After holding the VP position for some time now, Henry has a good idea of what to do to help PC run smoothly. *"We think we've got a pretty good plan. Dr. Carlson took some time, thought it out, there has been a lot of discussions with the administration team, with her and myself to make sure that it is a very smooth and easy transition here on the campus,"* said Henry. *"I want to make sure that our partnership, and our connection with the community stays as strong as it is now."* For now, the college's biggest concern will be the accreditation process that occurs every 4 to 6 years.

John Corkins, Porterville representative of the Kern Community College Board of Trustees, said PC has never had a problem with accreditation, and has full confidence that both the college and Henry will be able to take that on. *"I think he is an*



VP of Academic Affairs at Porterville College, Bill Henry talks about his interim president role.

outstanding fit, he knows Porterville College, he knows the community," said Corkins. PC will have its accreditation visit in the fall of 2018.

Henry will remain interim president for at least 18 months, as the board looks to find a permanent replacement.

The college will also have to look for someone to hold the position of vice president, while Henry takes on PC's presidency. On the process of looking for a new president, the college will do a national search, bring in candidates who might be a good fit for the job. A committee made up of board of trustees, community members, faculty and staff will all have a say in who becomes the next president of PC.

Henry will follow in Carlson's footsteps and retire as soon as they get a full-time president in place. *"My intentions are to continue the good work that she (Carlson) has started. I want to keep going in the same direction that she is going,"* said Henry, who has 44 years of public service.

David Hensley Tenure

Story by David Hensley

"As I conclude my tenure at PC on July 31st, I thank those of you who have supported our music activities with your presence. While I do not know whether or not my successor will continue this program of bringing off-campus performers to our campus, I encourage you to support whatever performances he or she does present. My goal in bringing so many concerts to the campus has been to facilitate the needs of our Music Appreciation students and also foster some cultural development for our community. That we have always seen large, enthusiastic audiences at these performances is testimony to the need this fills for continued artistic performance here in Porterville."



Ground Broken on PC Veterans Memorial

Story by Leo Ocampo, Photos by Chieko Hara

July 18, 2017

Porterville College staff, students, and administrators, along with the Porterville Rotary Club and members from the community came together this past month for the long awaited Groundbreaking Ceremony.

Previous Rotary Club President



Greg Meister, Steve Schultz, Dr. Rosa Carlson, Cole Karr and Dennis Townsend break ground for the new memorial

Greg Meister made the opening remarks and reflected on the many mishaps and hurdles that had to be overcome throughout the journey. He gave a whole hearted thank you to former Veterans Counselor Steve Schultz, who was the first to suggest the idea of a Veterans Memorial project, and to Vice President of Finance and Administrative Services Arlitha Williams-Harmon, who he said was always there willing to roll up her sleeves and help when times got tough.

Among the golden shovel holders who broke ground were Greg Meister (previous president of the Rotary Club and US Navy Veteran), Steve Shultz (previous Porterville College Veterans Counselor and US Army Veteran), Dr. Rosa Carlson (Porterville College President), Cole Karr (representing Congressman Kevin



Greg Meister, Previous Rotary Club President, gave opening remarks

McCarthy), and Dennis Townsend (Townsend Architectural Group).

The memorial will consist of a flag-pole and engraved bricks with the names of veterans from all branches of the US Military. Construction of the memorial began the last week in July, with the official dedication scheduled for the week of Veterans Day in November. There is still room for approximately 2,000 bricks. To order memorial bricks go online to www.fundraisingbrick.com/portervillerotary.

S.M.A.R.T. Lab back at PC for Summer

June 26, 2017

Donning red shirts and safety goggles, fourth-through sixth graders enjoyed their first day at the SMART Lab at Porterville College by starting a handful of projects.



Alize Palomares, 8, and Kitana Ramirez, 9, wear their protective goggles and blow into their straws to make some bubbles at the SMART Lab

Denise Goodman taught the lab for four days with the first session from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Monday and ran until Thursday. Other sessions started July 10 to July 13, and again on July 24 through July 27.

Science, Mathematics and Resources Technology Labs is put on by the Porterville College Foundation and has been providing classes to students for almost 18 years. This is Goodman's 15th year teaching at the SMART Labs, and this year they were able to acquire a newly built trailer for PC. "It's a fun-filled week of life, physical health, and earth science for kids," said Goodman.



Ayden Ceballos, 11, tosses the airplane he made in the PC SMART Lab up into the air



**Reserve your spot
in the
Commemorative
Book today!**



PORTERVILLE COLLEGE *Stories*

The PC Stories Project offers all members of the Porterville College community the opportunity to record, share, and preserve personal stories relating to their or family's experience with the College. The Porterville College community has thousands of graduates, former employees, and alumni living and working around the country, each with a story to tell.

Whats Your Story?

**Contact PC College at 559.791.2316 or e-mail us at
cbrown@portervillecollege.edu with information
on notable staff and student alumni!**