



CERRO COSO COMMUNITY COLLEGE COYOTE HOWLER

January-February 2018

Cerro Coso Kicks Off 45th Anniversary Celebration



In 2018, Cerro Coso Community College will celebrate its 45th Anniversary. On Thursday, January 25th, the Ridgecrest campus community launched its yearlong 45th Anniversary celebration with a group photo in the quad in the shape of 45. Something new is planned every month to commemorate the mission and accomplishments the college has made over the past 45 years. “Our students have filled our halls and our hearts, giving us purpose and passion,” said President Jill Board. “Our vision is to continue to elevate each student and every community we serve, no matter what.” **DIRECTED, FOCUSED, NURTURED, ENGAGED, CONNECTED, AND VALUED.**

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Four Recipients of CCCC Excellence Award

Four classified staff members received recognition for their leadership and contributions in developing and implementing a Classified Mentor Program at the college. Julianne Maikai (Alternative Media Specialist), Ashlin Mattos (Job Development Specialist), Nikki Gardepe (Assessment Assistant), and Paul Kuttig (System Support Specialist II) were acknowledged for their leadership in developing a mentor program. The program provides trained mentors who serve as guides, facilitators, role models, and allies for new classified staff to help them successfully integrate into their new positions and the college culture. The Classified Mentor Program has an oversight committee that meets formally once a semester to review new mentor applications, arrange training and orientations for both mentors and mentees, troubleshoot problems, and discuss ideas for improvement based on the results of exit surveys conducted at the end of the program. In effect since spring 2017, the program has been institutionalized and integrated into the Human Resources on-boarding processes. The results of this work has been increased understanding and knowledge of the classified role in participatory governance, CSEA, as well as new employees having someone to ask questions of when they arise. Excellence is the gradual result of always striving to do better. **CONGRATULATIONS! Happy employees help students**



Classified staff members l to r: Paul Kuttig (System Support Specialist II), Julianne Maikai (Alternative Media Specialist), Nikki Gardepe (Assessment Assistant), and Ashlin Mattos (Job Development Specialist).

stay DIRECTED, FOCUSED, NURTURED, ENGAGED, CONNECTED, AND VALUED.

How Will They Transform the World?

Cerro Coso nursing students celebrated their graduation by participating in a Pinning and Capping Ceremony on the afternoon of Friday, December 8th. The students lit lamps, recited pledges and received caps and pins as symbols of their preparedness to serve as compassionate caregivers. Family and friends filled the College Gymnasium to witness the ceremony and support their loved ones as they celebrated the completion of the highly respected and rigorous vocational nursing program at CCCC. The thirteen nursing students honored were: Briana Dawson-Wright, Alyssa Griffin, Veronica Hepker, Rose Jones, Alexis Mullins, Kara Olson, Kourtney Pott, David Sweeney, Kimberly Tanner, Sonia Torres, Christine Tracy, and Amy Tylosky. The capping and pinning ceremony signifies the official initiation into the brotherhood and sisterhood of nurses. It is a proud



2017 Vocational Nursing graduates front row l to r: Kara Olson, Briana Dawson, Amy Tylosky, Kourtney Pott, Veronica Hepker, Rose Jones, Alyssa Griffin, Sonia Torres, Alfie Mullins. Back row l to r: Kimberly Tanner, Alexis Moore, David Sweeney, Christine Tracy.

moment for the students as they are welcomed into the nursing profession. The next step for these students is to take the Nursing Certification Licensing Exam (NCLEX), and upon passage, the graduates will have earned the credential of Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN). Matt Wanta, Director of the Nursing Program, challenged the college's newest nursing graduates to become advocates for health care at the conclusion of the ceremony. "Go forth and use the education you've received at Cerro Coso to not only provide compassionate and

skilled care to patients and families but to also give voice to health-care needs in the community." ***Congratulations on the success of these students who were DIRECTED, FOCUSED, CONNECTED, AND VALUED.***

Campbell New Director of ACCESS Programs

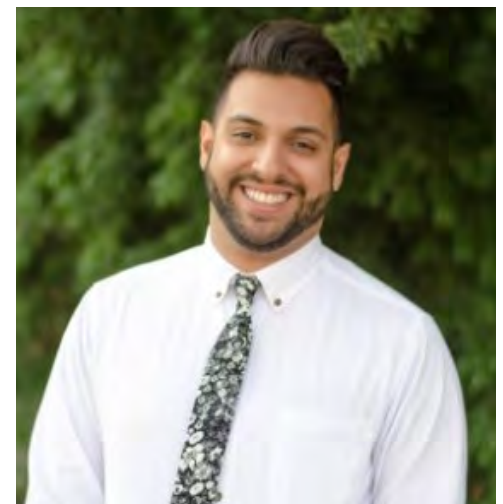


Congratulations to Pam Campbell on her recent position change to Director of ACCESS Programs. Pam started working at the college as an adjunct Counselor in 2005 for Special Services (now known as Access Programs). She has served in a number of positions over the years including

Interim Director of the Lake Isabella campus, and Director of Student Life and Outreach. She holds a B.S. in Social Work from the University of Mary in North Dakota, an M.A. in Clinical Psychology from Azusa Pacific University, is a License Marriage and Family Therapist, and is a 2013 graduate of the Kern Community College District Leadership Academy. ***Congratulations Pam! In her new role, Pam will assist students in staying DIRECTED, FOCUSED, NURTURED, ENGAGED, CONNECTED, AND VALUED.***

Meneses - Adventurous and Motivated

New Education Advisor Fabian Meneses comes from the seaside community of Marina Del Rey, CA. Though he no longer has the view of the sunny shores, he admits that peace, quiet, and lack of traffic of Ridgecrest has eased his stress. The recipient of many awards



and honors, Meneses attended both El Camino College and Santa Barbara City College. He holds a B.A. in Communication Studies with an Education Minor from UC Santa Barbara, and a Master's in Education in Guidance and Counseling from Loyola Marymount University. Meneses brings to Cerro Coso a very passionate drive to empower students to believe in themselves. Two mottos he likes to live by are... "Negative thoughts are distractions. Stay focused" –Lalah Delia and "Real integrity is doing the right thing, knowing that nobody's going to know whether you did it or not" –Oprah. ***WELCOME Fabian! His primary role will be to help students stay DIRECTED and FOCUSED on their educational goals.***

Angel Tree Brings Joy and Laughter



Student Brittiany Brown's children pose for a photo with Santa: Brooklyn (2.5), Aaron (5), and Juliette (4 mos.).

Over the course of finals week students usually have two goals: to do well on exams, and to keep stress to a minimum. Students can be spotted late at night in the library, double-fisting caffeinated beverages, munching on sugary snacks, shuffling around papers and books to find a place to lay their head, and it is not uncommon to sleep as much in a week as one would in a single night. The holidays can be stressful alone, but add finals to the mix and they can be even more stressful for college students. Access Programs' Angel Tree event brings joy and laughter to the students and their children during this stressful time of year. Every year the Student Services United Club hosts the Angel Tree event for students in the program, providing an afternoon away to enjoy some fun and activities with their families. With compassionate hearts and selfless acts of kindness, Cerro Coso staff and friends donated gifts for every child in attendance, recognizing the sacrifices children often make when parents pursue an education. Santa Claus sat next to his trusted Elf handing out gifts as the children waited patiently and squealed with glee. Joy and laughter filled the air as children made holiday crafts, and listened to festive music. Greatness is not found in what we have. It is found in what we give! **Taking time away from their studies helps these students stay FOCUSED, NURTURED, ENGAGED, and CONNECTED.**

Oh What Fun!

The tree was up, the lights a-glow, it was time to take a break and celebrate with folks we know. Always one of the most spirited and lively times of the year, staff and administrators gathered for a day of Staff Development and a Holiday Potluck on Wednesday, December 30th. The California



L to r: Katie Bachman, Jessica Kawelmacher, and Jaime Broussard demonstrated their artistic abilities by drawing a snowman on a paper plate on their head during the Holiday potluck.

Community Colleges Classified Senate (4CS), a classified professional organization, presented on the history of the organization and the role of classified in participatory governance. Following their informative presentation, everyone gathered to mix and mingle and enjoy the culinary delights of the season. Then they tested their art skills by drawing a snowman on top of their heads, (which is harder than it looks), and took photos in the themed photo booth. There was lots of laughter, smiles, and even a few tears as everyone congratulated Jennifer San Nicolas on her retirement. **Traditions are important and celebrating the hard work of our staff after finals is one Cerro Coso holds dear in their efforts to help students stay DIRECTED, FOCUSED, NURTURED, ENGAGED, CONNECTED, and VALUED.**

2018 Student Government Workshop



KCCD Chancellor Tom Burke and Interim Chief Financial Officer Deborah Martin (center) pose for a picture with Student Government leaders from all three campuses in the district and their advisors during the 2018 Student Government Workshop held in Porterville. The workshop is held once a year to assist student leaders across the district in obtaining and strengthening their leadership skills in conflict and risk management, communications, teamwork, time management, proactive event planning, goal setting, and risk taking. They also gain understanding of their role in the participatory governance process. A popular event, the workshop allows students from across the district to share new ideas, current trends, and facilitate solutions to common concerns. **The workshop ensures students are NURTURED, ENGAGED, CONNECTED, and VALUED.**

San Nicolas Retires After 17 Years

Director of Admissions and Records and Financial Aid Jennifer San Nicolas has retired after 17 years. Jennifer began her career at the college in 2000 as the Child Development Site Supervisor in California City and spent 25 years in the Child Development field. "I was one of those re-entry women who went back to school after I raised my family and wasn't really sure what I wanted to do. I love working with children and child development just fit with my passion and experience." Her career path went a different direction when she took on the position of the Director of Admissions and Records and Financial Aid in 2013, where she spent the next five years helping create ways to increase student access to programs that contribute to their success. She will miss interacting with the students and staff every day the most. "Especially our Veteran students who have served us all," said San Nicolas. A veteran, military



dependent, and a re-entry community college student, Jennifer understood the challenges that many Cerro Coso students face. She served 3.5 years in the Air Force and continued to live the military life until her husband Ed of 36 years, retired in 1997. That is how this Mississippi woman ended up in California. Jennifer and Ed will be returning to her roots in Mississippi sooner than originally planned, but are looking forward to spending time with family and friends. They have a son in the San Francisco area and expect to return to the West Coast often. Jennifer was honored for her years of service at the staff holiday mixer in December. ***We will miss your laughter, sense of humor, inspiration, and leadership that you gave to so many at Cerro Coso. Thank you Jennifer. She was an important person assisting students in staying DIRECTED, FOCUSED, NURTURED, and VALUED.***

Cowley Promoted to Custodian II



Our congratulations to Michael Cowley on his promotion to Custodian II. Michael joined the Maintenance and Operations staff in 2013. Prior to that, he was a student worker in M & O while taking classes. Mild-mannered and carefree, Michael has been a tremendous asset

to the college helping to maintain facilities, setting up and tearing down for events, responding to physical plant emergencies, and keeping our working environments clean. ***Thank you Michael and Congratulations on your promotion. Michaels hard work helps students to feel NURTURED, ENGAGED, CONNECTED, and VALUED.***

Nary - While I Breathe I Hope

Welcome new Executive Secretary in Career Technical Education Angela Nary. Previously from Oklahoma, she has lived in California since 1998, and currently resides in Tehachapi with her 13-year-old twins Chloe and Mason. A former employee of Antelope Valley College, Nary studied Business



at Lassen Community College in Susanville, CA, and Business Management at Western International University. She lives by her ancient family motto "Dum Spiro Spero" which is Latin for "while I breathe I hope." Salve Angela! ***She will play a major role in keeping students DIRECTED, CONNECTED, and VALUED.***

President's Day Holiday - Feb. 16 & 19 (College Closed)

New Scholarships Established in Memory of Two Students

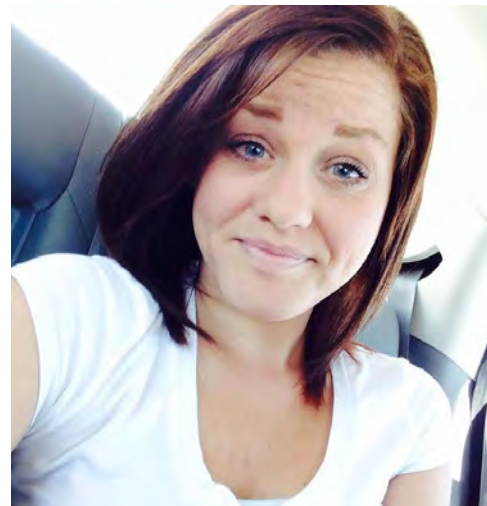


Patti Keith

The CCC Foundation announced the establishment of two scholarships in honor and memory of former Cerro Coso students Jessica Schrader and Patti Keith. Patti entered the Business Office Technology Program at the college via an Introductory Excel class. She was a very enthusiastic student, returning to school in her 40's after trying other careers. After her studies were complete Patti went to work in the Maintenance and Operations Department as an Administrative Assistant.

She also assisted faculty in the Business Office Technology area, and attended advisory meetings and the California Association annual conference as a student. Unfortunately, Patti succumbed to illness and passed on January 20, 2017. Established by Professor Karen O'Connor, the scholarship honors Patti's dedication and inspiration returning to school to find skills for a new career path and the friendships she made at CCC.

A full-time student at the college working on her degrees in Kinesiology and Liberal Arts, Jessica Schrader played on the Cerro Coso Soccer Team. She was diagnosed with Alport's syndrome at the age of 8, a hereditary disorder, and went through complete kidney failure at the age of 14. Jessica received a kidney transplant in May of 2009, while in high school. Unfortunately, she went into double rejection and her body started fighting against the transplant kidney in 2011. In 2013, her doctors decided to remove the kidney that was making her ill. Jessica did not allow her condition to dampen her enthusiasm for life, started taking classes at the college, and even joined the college soccer team, all while on dialysis. Sadly,



Jessica Schrader

Jessica lost her courageous battle against kidney disease on September 19, 2017. The scholarship was established by Professor John Stenger-Smith in memory of Jessica's enthusiasm for life and determination to fulfill her dreams despite her illness. The college continues to mourn the loss of these intelligent women and dedicated women. **Scholarships help students stay DIRECTED and FOCUSED on their educational goals.**

Hunger FREE CCC



The college has established a Hunger FREE Campus program at all CCC locations. The program seeks to address nutritional deficiencies and food insecurities among college students. The CCC

Foundation has established a fund for monetary donations and staff members are generously signing up to donate through payroll deduction. Non-perishable food donations were collected and distributed in December at the Ridgecrest campus and efforts are underway to form partnerships with local food distributors, food pantries, businesses, and county programs. A taskforce has been formed to create awareness campaigns, collection and distribution strategies, collaborate with outside resources, and impact change at all CCC campuses. **Stamp out hunger for student SUCCESS!!**

SAVE *the* DATE
MARCH 16, 2018 | 5:00 PM

45TH ANNIVERSARY
1973
2018
GALA

Cerro Coso Community College Foundation, Inc.

FOUNDATION FEATURE

Scholarship Luncheon



CCCC Foundation Scholarship Chairman Anthony Damiano presents Alexandra Credico with an SCE STEM scholarship while President Jill Board and Foundation Board Member Derrick Hu congratulate her.



L to r: Anthony Damiano, Ryan Richards, Jill Board, and Derrick Hu. Ryan is the recipient of an SCE STEM scholarship.

The Cerro Coso Community College Foundation Scholarship Luncheon was a heartwarming affair for scholarship recipients, staff, and board members who attended the event on Thursday, November 30, 2017. The annual scholarship luncheon offers recipients the opportunity to meet and thank the board that works hard to expand access and encourages college completion through scholarships. The CCCC Foundation awarded \$62,200 in scholarships to Cerro Coso students in 2017 to help students get the most of their education and build better lives for themselves and their families. Special thanks go out to all of the donors and community members who invest in the future of Cerro Coso's hard-working students. **DIRECTED. FOCUSED. NURTURED. Scholarships allow students to achieve their goals, stay on track, and lets them know that we are here to help them succeed.**



BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE
CERRO COSO COMMUNITY COLLEGE
PORTERVILLE COLLEGE

About this Publication

The Coyote Howler is a publication of Cerro Coso Community College.

For more information about the stories in this publication, or to include information in this publication, contact Natalie Dorrell, Public Information Manager, at 760-384-6260 or email ndorrell@cerrococo.edu.



CERRO COSO COMMUNITY COLLEGE COYOTE HOWLER

March 2018

#CoyotePride45 Anniversary Photo Contest



A spirited photo submitted by the staff, faculty, and students at the Tehachapi campus

If there is one type of media that fits into the high-sharing and fast-moving media category in an age of social networks, it is photos. The College's 45th Anniversary Photo Contest aimed to capture the essence of college life at all Cerro Coso campuses. Facebook, Instagram, Twitter... staff and students at all campuses were invited to show their coyote pride during the month of February by uploading photos taken around campus to social media with the hashtag #CoyotePride45.

All were encouraged to impress with their photography skills and chosen photos will be used throughout this memorable 45th anniversary year for promotional material, with appropriate credit given to the submitter. Prizes, compliments of the Cerro Coso Community College Foundation, will be awarded to the top two submissions, with winners determined by the college president. Photos will be judged on the degree of fun and creativity displayed. **Keeping students ENGAGED and CONNECTED.**

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A view of the sunset from the Ridgecrest/IWV campus main parking lot submitted by Madison Bowdridge.



Typical day on campus by student Sami Ann.

Comedian, Actor, Writer Greg Edwards

Greg Edwards, known for his distinctive voice, one-liners, awkward views, and social



commentary, spoke at Cerro Coso on February 8, 2018, in the College Library. A comedian and actor widely famous for his appearance in the YouTube web series Thug Notes, Greg stars as "Sparky Sweets PhD" whose self-styled "gangster" approach to education is bringing books like Jane Eyre and To Kill a Mockingbird to new audiences. Sparky Sweets PhD invites his viewers to join him as he gives the lowdown on the great and the good of literature, urging his Twitter followers to, "Educate yo'self, son", by using his Thug Notes. Dr. Sweets delivers literary summaries and analysis in his "original gangster" style, in a way that he hopes will both entertain book nerds and educate and enlighten those who are not into their literature. A fearless comedian from the state of Virginia, Greg currently resides in Los Angeles and hosts the monthly comedy show "Blame Social Media" at the Hollywood Improve Lab. The event was funded by the Student Development Fund. **Motivational speeches like Greg Edwards assist students in feeling NURTURED and VALUED.**

Leadership Academy Hits the Capital



CCCC President Jill Board, Technical Support Specialist Michael Barrett, and Assessment Assistant Nikki Gardepe joined the KCCD Leadership Academy in a January visit to legislators' Sacramento offices to advocate on behalf of students. The Community College League of California's 2018 Annual Legislative Conference provides a unique opportunity for Academy participants and leadership to connect with other advocates and learn the latest news on higher education in California. The group learned about new members of legislative committees, legislative proposals affecting community colleges and student learning, and advocacy strategies for the current legislative year. The opportunity to travel to Sacramento is a regular part of the KCCD Leadership Academy program. The Academy is an internal, grow-your-own leadership development program for administrators, faculty, and classified employees. Learning comes from doing, and Leadership Academy participants engage in plenty of hands-on learning along the way. **Great Leaders keep students FOCUSED, DIRECTED, NURTURED, ENGAGED, CONNECTED, and VALUED!**

Movie Showing Celebrates Black History Month



Benson—Your Focus Determines Your Reality

A welcomed addition to the Outreach and Student Equity Departments at Cerro Coso, Kari Benson, the new DA II, enjoys working with such a close-knit group. Driven by her passion to see students follow their dreams, Benson enjoys working in an educational setting. She previously worked with over 3,000 employees at Valencia College in Orlando, Florida. Born and raised in Ridgecrest, Benson spent a year in Argentina exploring the gorgeous landscape and culture before settling into Florida. She holds an Associate's Degree from Valencia College, and is currently studying for an AS-T Degree in Business Administration. **Kari role's at the college assists students in staying DIRECTED, FOCUSED, ENGAGED, CONNECTED, and VALUED.**



The Cerro Coso Umoja Program hosted the movie "Loving" to celebrate Black History Month at the Ridgecrest/IWV campus on February 22, 2018. The Oscar-nominated movie tells the story of Richard and Mildred Loving, a couple whose arrest for interracial marriage in 1960's Virginia began a legal battle that would end with the Supreme Court's historic 1967 decision. The movie concluded with a discussion about the impact of the film. The community was invited to attend the screening and discussion for FREE. **Movies like Loving expand knowledge and understanding and meet students need to be NURTURED, ENGAGED, CONNECTED, and VALUED.**

Spring Break - March 26-30
Spring Recess Holiday - College Closed March 30

Early College Awareness



A day of fun and exploration for area 5th graders who come to the Cerro Coso Ridgecrest/IWV campus to learn about the different programs and services, I'm Going to College Day is held every year to inspire young people to pursue a college education. The two-day event, held February 14th and 15th, included 493 fifth-graders from ten local elementary schools, who enjoyed a fun-filled day of activities that included demonstrations from the college's Health Careers Program, Mad

Libs by the English Department, Welding, and many other engaging department demos. Student Ambassadors, athletes, and SGCC Representatives interacted with the children, providing tours of the campus and sharing what the day in the life of a college student is really like. Not every elementary student is bound for college, but there is no reason that every child, particularly in the elementary school years, should not at least consider it. Cerro Coso takes this time every year to focus on making college more familiar and accessible to students. "A day like I'm Going to College Day is a true testament to the excitement students possess for learning and the excitement our faculty have about being teachers," said College President Jill Board. "Enthusiasm coupled with education gave almost 500 elementary students a new educational experience." ***Programs like I'm Going to College expose youth to the NURTURED nature of college and helps them FOCUS on the possibility of going to college.***

Gutierrez—Opens His Heart to Life's Possibilities



Gabriel Gutierrez has returned to Cerro Coso to serve as the Department Assistant II in Financial Aid. Gutierrez began attending the college in 2015 and worked as a student worker in the Counseling Center before earning his Liberal Arts Degree in Social and Behavioral Science and Arts and Humanities. After graduating, he went to work for Navy Federal Credit Union. His passion for education led him back to the college and his new position

in the Financial Aid Department, where his goal is to help students and benefit the college and the community any way he can. Gutierrez believes in being open-minded and openhearted to all things and all people. ***Welcome Back, Gabriel. Financial Aid allows students to stay DIRECTED and FOCUSED.***

Coffee with Counseling



Santiago—Love of Fate



Pedro Santiago is the new Financial Aid Technician to the Cerro Coso Promise in the Financial Aid Department. Santiago earned an Associates of Arts and Humanities and another in Social and Behavioral Sciences at Cerro Coso, before transferring to UC Riverside where he earned his Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy/Law and Society with a minor in Religious Studies. His goal is to one day earn a Ph.D. in Behavioral and Social Neuroscience. Currently, his focus is training to get back into powerlifting, as well learning more about how and why money moves throughout our society. His motto in life is "Armor Fati" which is Latin for "Love of Fate". ***Welcome Santiago! Pedro's position lets students know the college cares about their success and they are NURTURED and helps them stay FOCUSED on their goals.***

Many important conversations in life happen over a cup of coffee. Every semester the Counseling Department at the Ridgecrest/IWV campus invites students to meet with them over a cup of coffee in an informal atmosphere to talk about topics of interest, obtain information about classes, general education patterns, programs, and much more. In a culture growing more and more digitally connected the Counseling Department seeks to connect with students over a cup of great coffee. ***DIRECTED and FOCUSED.***

Coyote Athletes Ready to Compete



The College held their spring Athletic Orientation for student-athletes in January for specifics on how to be successful both in the classroom and on the field. Although student athletes spend a lot of time with their coaches and teammates, they were also encouraged to stay involved with the entire college community. Coaches and advisors were on hand to answer academic and eligibility questions, and to share all the resources available to help them succeed. **GO COYOTES! Orientation is important in keeping students DIRECTED, FOCUSED, NURTURED, ENGAGED, and CONNECTED.**

FOUNDATION FEATURE

College to Host 45th Anniversary Gala

MARCH 16, 2018 | 5:00 PM

45TH
1973
2018
ANNIVERSARY
GALA

The Cerro Coso Community College Foundation (CCCC Foundation) will host the 45th Anniversary “Denim & Diamonds” Gala for education on Friday, March 16, 2018 at the Kerr McGee Center. This is a memorable year for Cerro Coso Community College as they celebrate 45 years of serving the higher education needs of the community. The 2018 Denim and Diamonds event will bridge the gap between casual and formal attire that will provide a unique atmosphere for dinner and dancing. The fun begins at 5 p.m. with a social hour, followed by dinner, and a program debuting the new Cerro Coso Promise and President’s Circle, along with a silent auction, raffles, games, and dancing.

“The Gala will be a true celebration of our past, present, and future,” stated College President Jill Board. “It’s an opportunity to honor those who helped establish the college in 1973. It is a chance to acknowledge those who built on that foundation to what we are today. It is an occasion to take a

glimpse into our future and deliver a charge to those who will help us influence future generations.”

Dedicated to their mission to support access, success, and excellence at Cerro Coso Community College, this event brings the community together and puts the FUN in fundraising.

“Fundraisers like the Denim and Diamonds Gala along with the support we receive from individuals and local businesses is critical to our mission to provide educational opportunities and services to the rural communities we serve,” stated Cerro Coso Community College President, Jill Board.

The Denim and Diamonds Gala is a signature event for the CCCC Foundation, a nonprofit organization formed to help students take advantage of education opportunities and achieve their potential at Cerro Coso Community College.

With college students faced with high costs of college tuition and expenses, the first thing to seek out is some form of financial aid, primarily in the form of scholarships and grants. Last year the CCCC Foundation awarded more than \$62,000 in scholarship to CCCC students. “This would not have been possible without the generosity of our community,” said Board. “Every donation makes a significant difference in the lives of Cerro Coso students. I personally invite the community to join us for a wonderful evening of great food and fun and help us support student success locally.”

Tickets for the red carpet affair are \$45.00 per person for 45 years of educational excellence and are available from the Ridgecrest Chamber of Commerce, Red Rock Books, Maturango Museum, and the Cerro Coso Business Office.

“Dress in your jeans, formal attire, or a combination of both and be prepared to have a great time,” concluded Board.

The work of the College Foundation is driven by all of the student success factors: DIRECTED, FOCUSED, NURTURED, ENGAGED, CONNECTED, AND VALUED.

CERRO COSO
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

KCCCD
KERR COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE
CERRO COSO COMMUNITY COLLEGE
PORTERVILLE COLLEGE

About this Publication

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Students Form New Computer Technology Club

CCCC students have formed a new Computer Technology Exploration Club (CTEC), a highly interactive group dedicated to education and exploration of computers. “All majors will use technology in their chosen field so we encourage all students to come”, said Valerie Karnes, Club Advisor. CTEC officers are Thomas Worden (President), Henry Palacios (Vice President), Emily Seals (Secretary) and Paula Ash (Treasurer). All are welcome! Their first meeting and activity was held on Saturday, February 24th, at the Ridgecrest campus. Students talked about what they wanted to explore followed by a hands-on, interactive activity. The focus for February’s activities was basic computer hardware (taking apart computers,



using tools, connecting devices) and troubleshooting basic problems. All local computer adjunct faculty attended (Chris Harper, Keith Bennett, John Bradley, Kevin Hise) to meet with students and guide them through the hands-on portion of the meeting. Lockheed Martin Ridgecrest Manager Michael Ronan also attended and answered questions about jobs in the field. The mission of the new club is to explore technology by discussing and reviewing new products and videogames and learning about new technology as it is being introduced into the market. Students benefit from the structure of the club, the social interaction, and the emphasis on teamwork.

Stuffed Animal Drive Aims to Help First Responders Comfort Kids in Emergencies



L to r: Mike Stickely, Stacy Elliott, Shyana Elliott, Professor Debra Rundell, Christine Dochterman and Kimberly Dochterman.

Students in Professor Debra Rundell’s Human Services class collected 48 teddy bears for Kern River Valley first responders to offer comfort and stability to children during crisis situations. Students benefit greatly, both academically and emotionally, from volunteering their time to make the

community and world a better place. Community service projects, like the teddy bear drive, help students develop real-world skills that will help them succeed in school and life. They practice leadership, problem solving, collaboration with others, time management, and communication. Most importantly, students learn that the work they do can make a real impact in the world.

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Haynes New Director of A & R and Financial Aid



Longtime district employee Tiffany Haynes from Porterville College has been appointed Director of Admissions and Records/Financial Aid at Cerro Coso. “Tiffany is both well qualified and respected in her field and has 16 years of progressively responsible experience most recently serving as the Assistant Director of Financial Aid at Porterville College,” said Vice President of Student Services Heather Ostash. Haynes fills the position left vacant by the retirement of the previous director, Jennifer San Nicolas, in January. A community college graduate, Haynes values the students she works with each day and enjoys doing what she can to make their college experience pleasant. Born and raised in Porterville, Haynes and her husband moved to Ridgecrest in February with their five children. Her motto in life is “characterize people by their actions and you will never be fooled by their words.” Haynes is also a graduate of the Kern Community College District Leadership Academy.

East Kern Team Returns from San Quentin

The Prison University Project San Quentin hosted a statewide education and training conference for practitioners of in-prison higher education, as well as others who are interested in learning more about the field. The East Kern team had the opportunity to visit the college program inside San Quentin State Prison,



L to r: Peter Fulks (with glasses); Alec Griffin; Nikki Gardepe; Lisa Stephens, and Nicole Griffin

facilitated by the Prison University Project, and met with formerly incarcerated students and representatives from leading local reentry organizations. Training topics included establishing core values for in-prison higher education programs: excellence, inclusivity, standards, and accountability; what teachers and staff need to know about the prison environment; navigating prison rules and procedures related to materials, supplies, and equipment; and decoding CDCR policy and practices related to printed materials, films, etc. The President’s Office, CTE, and Student Equity made it possible for the Cerro Coso team of administration, faculty, and classified to attend.



Salarda—One Person Can Make a Difference

Although he is new to Cerro Coso, Laboratory Technician I Loy Salarda has been with the Kern Community College District since 2006. He started as a student worker at Bakersfield College, earned his A.A. in Business Administration in 2008, and served as a part-time teaching assistant for the distance learning iTV classes and the BIOL/CHEM labs at the BC Delano Campus. In 2010, Salarda worked as a testing proctor for CConline. He served as a Hospital Corpsman in the US Navy Reserves

from 2009 – 2015, never stopping to improve and educate himself. Salarda’s mottos for life are: “One person can make a difference”, and “Keep FAILing! (First Attempts in Learning).”

**Open Registration Begins for 2018 Summer/Fall Semester
04/18/18 to 04/20/18**



Tres Vidas (Three Lives) Celebrating Diversity through Chamber Music Theatre

On Thursday, March 1, 2018, the Core Ensemble performed the chamber music theatre work *Tres Vidas* at the Ridgecrest campus. This unique performance format developed by the Core Ensemble features a marriage of theatrical narrative to chamber music performance. Rosa Rodriguez portrayed multiple characters while interacting with the onstage musical trio of cello, piano, and percussion. *Tres Vidas* celebrates the life, times, and work of three significant Latin and South American Women: painter Frida Kahlo of Mexico, peasant activist Rufina Amaya of El Salvador, and poet Alfonsina Storni of Argentina. Storylines included Frida Kahlo's dramatic and passionate relationship with painter Diego Rivera, Rufina Amaya's astounding singular survival of the massacre at El Mozote and Alfonsina Storni's lifelong challenges as Argentina's first great feminist poet. With a script written by Chilean poet/writer Marjorie Agosin, *Tres Vidas* offered powerful portrayals of each woman and included the singing of traditional Mexican folk songs as well as Argentinean popular and tango songs made famous by Mercedes Sosa and Carlos Gardel. Additional music by Astor Piazzolla, Orlando Garcia, Pablo Ortiz, Alice Gomez, Carlos Sanchez-Gutierrez, Michael DeMurga and Osvaldo Golijov rounded out the musical score. The event was organized by the International Club and funded by the Student Development Funds Committee and Student Equity.

Meet Sam—SGCC President



Samuel Kelley, President of the Student Government of Cerro Coso (SGCC), is studying Kinesiology with a career goal of being a Physician's Assistant. Starting as a noble Senator, Sam has served in the SGCC for 3 years, rising through the ranks to become President of the Senate/Vice President and is now serving as President for the 2017-18 school year. Some of Sam's goals

for the SGCC are to serve the students of the college. "I believe the best way to do that is to facilitate a positive, holistic learning environment through promoting physical health, mental health, and intellectual diversity. With this approach, I hope to provide a collegiate experience that helps us students in all areas, not just academic." If you see Sam around the Ridgecrest campus, give him a shout out! *Follow Sam on Instagram @samckelley

Meet SGCC Vice President Hire

Currently the Vice President of the Student Government of Cerro Coso, Kelsey Hire is a Political Science major at the college. She has been an active member of the SGCC for 2 years since Fall 2016, and served as a senator, moved up to be the Region IX

Representative, and was elected as the SGCC Vice President and President of the Senate for the 2017-2018 school year. "Now that's commitment, go Kelsey!" She says she enjoys "the camaraderie among the E-Board and Senate the most. It makes planning and hosting activities so much more fun. Everyone is friends with each other, so it feels like one big family. We have each other's backs no matter what. I'm going to miss it when I leave!" Kelsey's future plans include transferring to a UC campus. She has applied to 4 UC's and is patiently (and anxiously) waiting to hear back. Her #1 choice is to attend UCLA to earn her bachelor's degree in Political Science. After that, she wants to attend law school and become a public law attorney or prosecutor. Having lived in Portland, Oregon her entire life, Kelsey moved to Ridgecrest her senior year of high school. Follow Kelsey on Instagram @thelegalgladiator



Celebrating Milestones

It is easy to get caught up in the day-to-day noise of deadlines, meetings, and endless emails. However, no matter how busy we are, it's always important to take the time to get together, meet new employees, and celebrate workplace milestones over lunch. We appreciate the hard work and dedication our employees give to our students every day, and our Meet and Greets give us the chance to have some fun, give a shout out for personal and work achievements, and enjoy each other's company while reaffirming our commitment to the future.



FOUNDATION FEATURE

45th Anniversary Gala—a Great Success!



Partygoers were more than delighted as they participated in Cerro Coso's 45th Anniversary Gala at the Kerr McGee Center on Friday, March 16. Guests enjoyed a delicious meal of tri-tip, chicken, or

vegetable lasagna prepared by Todd McKinney and RidgeProject volunteers, after a 'red carpet' entrance complete with photos by Sierra Photography. Among the many distinguished guests of the evening were KCCD Chancellor Tom Burke and wife Tina, Porterville Interim President Bill Henry and wife Gina, Dr. Mary Retterer, retired President of Cerro Coso, Mayor Peggy Breeden, and Aaron Falk from Congressman Kevin McCarthy's office. Chip Holloway, former Foundation President, was the Master of Ceremonies and introduced the speakers for the evening. Cerro Coso English Professor Matt Crow served as the auctioneer for desserts, raising more than \$1,400 from eight donated desserts. Mayor Peggy Breeden congratulated the college on its 45 years of service. A former trustee with the Kern Community College District, Congressman Kevin McCarthy sent a congratulatory video message followed by a reading by Field Representative Aaron Falk of the Congressional Record presented by Congressman McCarthy in the House of Representatives on Wednesday, March 14, 2018, to commemorate the 45th

Anniversary of the College. College President Jill Board debuted the Foundation's new President's Circle that supports the students and work of the college along with the new Cerro Coso Promise Scholarship. The evening's festivities ended with dancing to great music provided by Ted Lemon of Sound Waves. It was an evening wonderfully spent, and all involved are now resting up for the next anniversary in 5 years when the College will celebrate its 50th. "A big thank you to a lot of people who made Cerro Coso's 45th Anniversary Gala and benefit auction a resounding success in support of the great work of the college," stated Foundation President Deidre Patin. "Your generosity and hard work will help the Cerro Coso Community College Foundation in its efforts to help build better futures for students, their families, and their communities."

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About this Publication

The Coyote Howler is a publication of Cerro Coso Community College. For more information about the stories in this publication, or to include information in this publication, contact Natalie Dorrell, Public Information Manager, at 760-384-6260 or email ndorrell@cerrocoso.edu.



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Coyote Howler

The *Coyote Howler*, Cerro Coso Community College's monthly newsletter provides information regarding the interesting events and accomplishments that have occurred at the college, as well as announces upcoming events and promotions at the college. (Please note that the Coyote Howler does not take outside advertisements at this time.)

The *Report to the Board*, the monthly report sent to our Board of Trustees that provided information regarding the interesting events and accomplishments that have occurred at the college and the forerunner of the *Coyote Howler*, is also archived here.

2018

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2017

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Cerro Coso Community College
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Ridgecrest/IWV Campus
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