

Pratt Community College Monthly Newsletter

# The official newsletter of PCC BEADER APRIL 2017

# Call for upcoming newsletter content

If you have information, ideas for new content, fun facts, or PCC trivia, send them to Megan for inclusion in the next newsletter!

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#### **Upcoming Dates**

Apr 7
Apr 7
Apr 8
Apr 12
Apr 14
Apr 17
Apr 17
Apr 26
May 2

### PCC 2017 Boyd Davies Executives-in-Residence

On Mar. 30, Pratt Community College recognized their 29th Boyd Davies Executives-in-Residence, the owners and operators of Parsons Jewelry, Wayne and Flo Parsons and Steve and Susan Parsons.

The Boyd Davies Executive-

in-Residence program was implemented in 1988 by the Accounting and Business Department to give the students at Pratt Community College the opportunity to interact with a business person or persons from the area and learn about his/her experiences. Nominees come from a large background of fields, exhibit a long and successful career in business, and are willing to share that knowledge with our college community.

"Each year we look for a person or persons who are the epitome of a successful business owner and member of the community," said Carol Ricke, business instructor. "The Parsons family were chosen because they are a true family business running in a small rural area and they have managed to operate their business successfully for many years. They are a wonderful part of our community."

Parsons Jewelry is a family owned and operated business that has served the Pratt community for more than 50 years. Wayne Parsons, a watchmaker and repairman, and his wife Flo have owned the jewelry store since 1959 when they moved to Pratt with three children, one of which, Steve, has worked and managed the store for just over four decades alongside his father and mother. Wayne, is now 91-years-old, and still works and repairs jewelry at his store every day.

Parsons says that building relationships within the community and our surrounding area on a foundation of honesty, integrity and trustworthiness is of the upmost importance to be successful. Another component to their success.



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# PCC Celebrates Women's History Month

In celebration of March Women's History Month, Pratt Community College LINDA HUNT MEMORIAL LIBRARY and PCC instructor Rhonda Westerhaus' EDU 277 Children's Literature class hosted guest speaker Michaeline Chance-Reay from the Kansas Council on the topic of "The Harvey Girls" on Mar. 16.



Fred Harvey, a "British

Gentlemen<sup>'''</sup> came to America as a ship's mate. The experience as a kitchen worker helped land him a job in St. Louis, then another job on as a mail clerk on the Santa Fe Railroad. His interest in quality food and the void of it along the Santa Fe stops inspired him to make a "Gentleman's Bargain' with the Santa Fe Railroad. This handshake led to a chain of 20 hotels, 30 restaurants, and 50 newsstands along the same rout.

"Though the McDonalds chain is celebrated as the first fast food chain, Fred Harvey really had a system figured out long before," said Chance-Reay.

Reay, who teachers women's Studies and Education at Kansas State University entertained her audience with facts, anecdotes and advice all to be learned from Fred Harvey and his 100,000 waitress employees tied across more than six decades of Harvey Houses.

When asked if anyone in the audience had a connection to Harvey Girls, Carolyn Heaten, noted that her twin aunts were both Harvey Girls in Syracuse, Kan.

"Co -curricular events such as these are so important to the total education of any young person, but especially tomorrow teachers," said Westerhaus. "Like Harvey, these young teachers will need to connect to available resources in their community."

This project brought in a PCC students and Club 62+, the children's author, Carolyn Meyer, two libraries, K-State University, the Kansas Humanities Council, our local PEO chapter, and local book club.

"It does not get much more "Co-Curricular' than this", said Westerhaus.

# Performing Arts: Alumni Concert

Pratt Community College performing arts is bringing back more than 50 alumni to unite with current students for an end of the year concert.

The concert will be held Sunday Apr. 9 at 2:30 p.m. in Carpenter Auditorium. Admission is \$5 for community, students and PCC staff and faculty.

Performing arts instructor and show director, Misty Beck, says there was an irresistible demand from alumni and the community to put on a show featuring students and community from years past.

"Last summer when we had 40+ students and alumni in town to sing for Doc Hunter's funeral, several people said we needed to have an alumni concert," said Beck. "I thought that was a great idea so JJ and I started working to put this together. We will have alumni from about the last 20 years here but not all years represented. The last six years will be heavily represented!"

Beck says there will be a lot of good music including favorites from the last six years of shows.



# **Business Students Practice Mock Interviews**

Business men and women from the Pratt area came to Pratt Community College to help students gain experience with resume building and interviewing skills.

On Mar. 1, 18 Business Communications students attended mock interviews coordinated by PCC business instructor, Jennifer Wahrman. The goal of the exercise is to prepare students by creating a resume and cover letter, applying for jobs and having a successful interview. After successfully completing the interviews the students would gain an evaluation with constructive criticism on how they can improve.

Wahrman coordinated for members of the Pratt business community to facilitate mock interview and give the evaluation of students. Interviewers consisted



of Alan Hanson, Hanson & Jorns, LLC, Lynn Loffus, Edward Jones Financial, Caroline Phelps, High Plains Farm Credit, Kerry VonSchriltz, The Peoples Bank, Scott Smith, The Peoples Bank and Kelly Richardson, TR Services.

PCC student Ryan Seidel from Clark, MO said that he found the exercise very valuable.

"It was awesome receiving feedback on my resume, cover letter, and how I was in my interview," said Seidel. "I will use the feedback which I received to make improvements to my resume and cover letter. I also found the experience to be great being able to feel how nervous I would be during a real interview and how to not feel as nervous for future interviews."

Wahrman says that the feedback from the students as well as the volunteer interviewers was positive.

"We definitely want to continue this project next year," said Wahrman. "The students are learning what it takes to not only land an interview but

also be able to articulate in that interview their skills and why they deserve the job they are applying for."

# Ag Power Instructor Retiring After 18 Years at PCC

Pratt Community College Agriculture Power Technology Instructor, Rod Stewart has announced his retirement effective at the end of this academic year.

Stewart has worked in the agriculture industry for 30 years. In that time he has culminated relationships with dealerships and industry professionals across Kansas to help his students gain hands-on experience and learn in the real world.

In 1998 Stewart helped establish the PCC Ag Power program and form into what it is today.

"This program is kind of like a child to me," said Stewart. "I've had many great years and many great students that I will never forget.



Stewart says he wants to see the Ag Power program continue to thrive.

"This program and the graduates who come out of it are vital to our community farmers and surrounding areas," said Stewart. "We [PCC] supply their future technicians."

PCC is preparing for the transition after Stewart leaves. They've hired Steven McKennon who joined the faculty staff on Apr. 3. McKennon is working with Stewart during these last few months and will be assuming responsibilities after this semester.

### PCC Student Leadership and Organizations on Exhibit for April



Pratt Community College's Delmar Riney Art Gallery will feature current PCC student clubs and organizations with photos of their current members and activities.

Ranging from career driven organizations to honor and passion driven activities, these PCC student clubs and organizations highlight the broad variety of activities and extracurricular educational opportunities available for students. The clubs and organizations included are; Association of Nursing Students – Winfield and Pratt, Beavers in Action, Beavers on Stage, Block and Bridle, Collegiate Farm Bureau, Club International, Kappa Beta Delta, Peer Educators, Phi Theta Kappa, Post-Secondary Ag Students, Rodeo Club, Shooting Sports and Student Admissions Representatives.

"This exhibit is a great way to visually see what amazing things our students are doing through their respective organizations. It also shows the diversity in the interests of our students," said Kristina Archambeau, Coordinator of College Relations. "It's really interesting to see how students can have fun but also feed their passion through student organizations and activities. Being new to the college, it also helps to actually see our students and what they have been doing."

The exhibit will be on display through the month in the the Delmar Riney Art Gallery located in the Riney Student Center, open Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Friday 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

If you would like to be considered as a "Featured Artist of the Month" in the Delmar Riney gallery, send your name, contact information and a brief description of your artwork to Pratt Community College, Vice President of Students/EM, 348 NE SR 61, Pratt KS 67124 or lisam@prattcc.edu.





## PCC Trustees Support Using Local Vendors

#### Article by Gale Rose, Pratt Tribune

More local vendor bids will be considered for Pratt Community College projects after a change in bidding policy. The PCC Trustees voted March 20 to increase the vendor bid range from five percent to seven and a half percent of the low bid to be accepted for college projects, said PCC President Michael Calvert.

About a year ago, PCC voted to change the bid policy for local vendors. The policy used to be if a local vendor was higher than an out of town vendor on a bid, the college would give them the opportunity to match that bid.

But PCC wanted to give local vendors a better option so the Trustees changed the policy. If a local vendor was within five percent of the lowest bid, the Trustees could accept the local vendor higher bid.

After reviewing that policy year later, PCC decided

it up that level and the Trustees agreed. The level the Trustees could consider for a local bid was raised from five percent to seven and a half percent above the lowest bid.

"We want to by local whenever we can," Calvert said.

To better accommodate the Trustees, faculty, staff and public, Trustees meetings will now start at 6 p.m. Meetings will continue to be the third Monday of each month with some exceptions as necessary.

# PCC Hosts Distracted Driving Awareness Presentation and Simulation on Campus

Pratt Community College teamed up with Miss Kansas, Kendall Schoenekase and Cherokee County Sheriff's Office Corporal Justin Noel's The SEAT to show students the effects and dangers of distracted driving.

On Mar. 15 PCC and three other Kansas community college's launched a campaign contest in conjunction with the Kansas Insurance Department to promote and share the message of texting while driving.

"Bringing these valuable resources to campus was something that the College Relations team thoguht would really give students an insight to the dangers of distracted driving," said Megan Eaton, PCC marketing communications coordinator.

The SEAT is an educational bus equiped with a driving video simulation inside. Office Noel sets students up to drive on a digital country road while texting their phones. Students have to multi-task driving

texting their phones. Students have to multi-task driving and texting and try not to crash.

PCC invited Schoenekase to give her presentation for her personal platform, Stay Alive Don't Text and Drive. Schoenekase spoke to students about her personal experience, national statistics and a powerful message about what distracted driving can do.

The community college contest will go through Apr. 17. As of Apr. 3 PCC is in sencond place with pledges from students, staff and community. To show your support take the pledge by texting the word PRATT to 50555.





## PCC Men's Basketball Alum Making an Impact at TCU

Pratt Community College men's basketball alum Vladimir Brodziansky is representing the Beavers on the basketball court. Since graduating from PCC, Brodziansky has become a powerful post presence for NIT Champion Texas Christian University.

This season at TCU, Brodziansky has been recognized several times for his accomplishments on and off the court. In late February, he was named first team Big 12 All-Academic. To be selected to the first team, a player must maintain above a 3.20 GPA.

Brodziansky ranks 10th in the Big 12 with 13.6 points per game. He has the second highest shooting percentage with 57.7 percent of his shots falling for points, as well as 65 blocks this season, which is fifth-most in TCU single season history.



These accomplishments on the court led to more accolades for Brodziansky. He has been selected to the All-Big 12 second team and the Big 12 All-Defensive team for his play this season.

Congratulations to Vladimir Brodziansky for his accomplishments this season for TCU and for representing PCC beyond his playing time for the Blue and White.

### Devon Andrews Earns All-Conference & Region VI Honors

Devon Andrews had a great 2016-17 season for the Pratt Community College men's basketball team and the accolades keep coming in for the freshmen guard. This off-season, Andrews has been recognized as a first team all-conference player, a Region VI first team all-region player, and freshmen of the year in the KJCCC.

"Devon had a great year for a freshman in a terrific conference in the NJCAA," said PCC men's basketball coach Max Good. "You really have to earn your stripes to gather such lofty honors in the Jayhawk Conference."



Andrews was one of two freshmen to be named to the first team all-conference team and the only freshmen named first team Region VI. He was also named as NJCAA and KJCCC player of the week this past December. Andrews averaged 22 points per game and six rebounds per game with a 50.7 field goal percentage and made 74.5 percent of his shots from the free throw line. In 31 games this season, Andrews made 682 points and had 60 assists. He also brought down 194 rebounds, had 29 steals and 26 blocks. All of these totals earned Andrews the 2016-17 KJCCC freshmen of the year.

"Devon's transformation as a man from August until now is nothing short of a minor miracle," said assistant basketball coach Sean Flynn. "Devon now trusts the rewards of hard work and doing the next right thing a day at a time. If Devon holds onto a blue-collar mentality, then he will see incredible gains on and off the floor. I am so happy for Devon and his mother, Christine. This award means a lot to them. However we are all looking forward to May of 2018 when Devon leaves Pratt with an associate's degree."

#### PCC Track Ends Indoor Season at NJCAA Nationals

On March 3, the Pratt Community College indoor track and field team competed in the NJCAA national championship indoor meet.

On the first day several of the Pratt runners were competing. Aaliyah Brown ran the 60m dash with a time of 7.85. This was just .02 seconds slower than the time she posted at the Region VI meet. Christopher McEnery broke his own school record in the 400m dash. He ran a 48.65 and broke his record by .01 seconds. Clifford Porter ran a career best in the 400m dash posting a time of 49.04 seconds. Anthony Paul followed in the 200m dash. He ran a time of 21.98 seconds.

Day two saw the men's 4x400 relay break more school records. The team of Juvens Pierre, Paul, Porter, and McEnery ran a .46 and broke their own school



record from earlier this season. This time placed them seventeenth at the national meet.

Coach Josh Harden was pleased with the results and looks forward to building on the success of the PCC track and field team as they shift to outdoor competition.

"I'm proud with how we came out and performed," Harden said. "I think the group we had on the track represented PCC well. For them to be new to running indoor track, they learned quickly and made no excuses. They have set the bar high. We are looking to carry it over to the outdoor season and to get more runners to the outdoor national meet this spring."

### **Rodeo Prepares for End of Season**

The Pratt Community College rodeo season is coming to an end with only three competitions left in the season. PCC rodeo competes in the Central Plains Region of National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association (NIRA). PCC rodeo has competed in seven rodeos this season. Currently PCC rodeo is ranked 9 in our region with several PCC rodeo students holding their own in indiidual and team categories;

#### Team Roping - Header

4th Daniel Durkes

Tie 14th Kobe Kastl

#### Team Roping – Heeler

12th Kell Parker

14th Cole Quaney

#### **Barrel Racing**

10th Natalie Berryhill



The rodeo team travels to Southwestern Oklahoma State University Apr. 6-8 next where 15 students will be competing.



















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