



Pratt Community College
Monthly Newsletter

THE

The official newsletter of PCC

BEAVER

BUZZ

January 2022

Maximum Student Learning

Individual & Workforce
Development

High Quality Instruction
& Service

Community Enrichment

Call for upcoming newsletter content

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

>>> audrar@prattcc.edu

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Upcoming Dates

Board of Trustees Meeting	1/10
Spring Semester Begins	1/12
Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Campus Closed)	1/17

See next page for more important dates!

Happy New Year
IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE

SPRING 2022 SEMESTER STARTING SOON!

2021 was another year of challenges and growth, but the people of #BeaverNation emerged stronger and wiser with a long list of things to be proud of, which as it turns out, is just how we do things at PCC.

We remained cautiously optimistic and saw a big return of on-campus events from hosting the Miss Kansas competitions over the summer to an increase in spectators at Athletic events in the Fall, and the return of Tech Day and the College Planning Conference in between.

Faculty and staff are hard at work behind the scenes to welcome students back to campus, as we all work to get off to another safe and strong start to a busy Spring 2022 semester. It's a great time to make a positive change and build skills towards a #DamGoodFuture!

See pages 3-5 to take a look back some of Beaver Nation's highlights in 2021!

JANUARY

IMPORTANT DATES



Faculty Return on Campus

Jan. 5th, 6th & 7th

Residence Halls Open

Jan. 10th

Board of Trustees Meeting - Riney Student Center

Jan. 10th @ 6:00pm

Spring Semester - Classes Begin

Jan. 12th

Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday - Campus Closed

Jan. 17th

FEBRUARY + MARCH

A LOOK AHEAD



Academic Olympics - No Classes (Faculty Workday)

Feb. 28th

Performing Arts - Valentine Dinner & Show

Feb, 13th @ 6:30pm

Board of Trustees Meeting - Riney Student Center

Feb. 21st @ 6:00pm

Mid-Term Week

March 7th - 11th

Spring Break - No Classes

March 14th - 18th

Fall Early Enrollment Begins

March 21st

For more upcoming dates and information,
please visit prattcc.edu/calendar



LOOK BACK AT 2021



PCC HONORS TWO PHI THETA KAPPA ALL-KANSAS SCHOLARS

PCC held a ceremony on campus to honor two Phi Theta Kappa All-Kansas Scholars, Cydney Larson and Alexia Torres. The students were selected by PCC faculty to represent the PCC's PTK chapter at the state level. PTK Advisor Jason Ratcliffe notes that students are selected based on outstanding academic achievement as well as accomplishments and services rendered outside the classroom. They were awarded a scholarship and recognized for outstanding achievement.

PCC HOST FIRST-EVER INAUGURAL BEAVER CLASSIC

Pratt's Track & Field program christened the school's new track/soccer complex by hosting the first-ever Beaver Classic. Simply hosting an event of such a magnitude was a win for Pratt Community College, but the performances of the Beavers' track athletes elevated the day to further heights. 16 area teams competed in the Beaver Classic at the new facility, bringing numerous athletes and spectators to the Pratt community for the day.



SEVEN BEAVERS IN TRACK CLAIM ALL-AMERICAN STATUS AT NJCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS

PCC Track & Field program elevated its status not only in the KJCCC, but in the eyes of the nation as well. Seven of PCC's athletes saw their work pay off in All-American currency. Tebogo Maseema, Kashawn Baptiste, Marvin Jean-Francois, Mark Emillien, Jamaal Morris Jr., Zach McPhee and Greg Curry claimed All-American status during the NJCAA Championships.

WRESTLING AWARDED NINTH-CONSECUTIVE NJCAA ACADEMIC TEAM OF THE YEAR & WIN FIRST EVER KJCCC TITLE

History hung in the balance as the second-ranked Beavers were not only chasing the program's first-ever undefeated dual record, but wins over Colby and Labette also meant Pratt Community College would become conference champions, another first for the program. Approaching nearly a decade of consistent performance, the Pratt wrestling program was named the NJCAA's Academic Team of the Year, an honor bestowed upon the program with the highest team GPA in its respective sport.



PCC ANNOUNCES THE RETURN OF MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TENNIS AND A SUCCESSFUL FIRST SEASON

The return of the Men's and Women's Tennis program was announced in April 2021. Coach Jeret Johnson was named head coach soon thereafter, and the men's team began competing in Fall 2021. The Beavers finished a successful first season with two doubles teams ranked in the top 25 teams in the nation by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA).

CONTINUED..



CHEER WINS INTERMEDIATE SMALL COED OPEN DIVISION AT NATIONALS

The PCC cheerleading squad just brought home one of the prestigious awards in the program's history. PCC placed 2nd overall in the Intermediate Small Coed Open Division in Daytona, FL with a total performance score of 92.31. Coach Napier described what it took to get there, for herself and for her athletes. "It takes a special group to operate at this level all season and this team had its rough moments but put in the work even when they didn't feel like it and it paid off. They are one of the few teams that get to experience what it's like to place on the national stage. The feeling is indescribable, and the enjoyment is incomparable."

WOMEN'S SOCCER SETS TEAM RECORD FOR PROGRAM WINS, RUNNER UP IN KJCCC STANDINGS

The Beaver women's soccer team had an exciting season with well-attended competitions. The team won a program record of 12 wins, also finishing as runner-up in the Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference (KJCCC) for the second straight year. The league also announced the Division II women's soccer post season honors. Three players were named to the All-KJCCC First Team. Sophomores Amaya Meyers, Jada Lopez, and Svenja Arnold were all recognized. Three players were named to the All-KJCCC Honorable Mention including sophomore Quemberli Merida and freshman Natalia Richartz and Jade Massing.



ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AUCTION HELD VIRTUALLY

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, PCC held the annual Scholarship Auction as a virtual event. Auction sponsors and donors made this virtual event another success, with 100% of the money raised going back to the students. The auction goal was \$60,000 and PCC was able to raise \$55,804 which is 93% of that goal. PCC President, Dr. Calvert thanked Barry Fisher and Donna Meier Pfeifer for their hard work and dedication to this event.

Pratt Community College
33rd Annual
Scholarship Auction

ESPORTS BECOMES NJCAA SANCTIONED EVENT

Competitive, organized gaming, also known as eSports, got an upgrade. It is now an NJCAA-sanctioned activity at Pratt Community College under the Athletics department. eSports Head Coach Chris Nelson sees it as a welcome sign of the times, due to the unprecedented growth of the sport and its integration of the collegiate environment. They are a welcome addition into the Beaver Athletics family.



MISS KANSAS AND MISS KANSAS OUTSTANDING TEEN HELD AT PCC

Campus was bustling with excitement as the 2021 Miss Kansas and Miss Kansas Outstanding Teen competitions began this summer. Preliminaries and final competitions were held at the Dennis Lesh Sports Arena for Miss Kansas and Carpenter Auditorium for Miss Kansas Outstanding Teen. Congratulations to Taylor Clark, 2021 Miss Kansas and Grace Henderickson, 2021 Miss Kansas Outstanding Teen!

Picture Credit: Miss Kansas Organization



TRACK & SOCCER COMPLEX, LETTER TO THE COMMUNITY

The Track and Soccer Complex (TSC) Management Committee released a letter to the Pratt community regarding new facility funding, construction and use. The TSC Management Committee is comprised of representatives from Pratt Community College and the City of Pratt, appointed by the stakeholders of the TSC. The funding, creation, management and ongoing maintenance of the TSC is a project of great complexity and magnitude, with several moving parts. The joint statement was created for the purpose of disseminating accurate information to the community regarding the TSC.

PARTNERSHIP WITH BARTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOR ADN NURSING PROGRAM, LPN PROGRAM EXPANDS TO HYBRID FORMAT

The Kansas State Board of Nursing (KBSN) approved a proposal for Pratt Community College to partner with Barton Community College for the delivery of the Associate Degree of Nursing (ADN) program on the PCC campus. Final approval from the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) is expected in March 2022. PCC also obtained approval to expand the Practical Nursing (LPN) program into a synchronous-hybrid learning format for Fall 2022.



WOMEN'S FLAG FOOTBALL COMING TO BEAVER NATION

Pratt Community College was notified by the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) that it was awarded a \$10,000 grant towards establishing Women's Flag Football as a competitive sport. The grant is part of a major initiative sponsored by the National Football League (NFL) in promoting the emerging sport. The Board of Trustees approved the addition of Women's Flag Football for the 2022-23 school year and Zac Rambo was named head coach of the new program.

MEN'S SOCCER WINS REGIONAL VI CHAMPIONSHIP

The men's soccer program has won their first ever division two Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference (KJCCC) regular season championship with an overall record of 7-6 and a conference record of 5-3. In addition to winning the conference championship the Beavers clinched the first seed in the regional playoffs which secured home field advantage throughout the playoffs.



KBOR FILM CREW VISIT EPT PROGRAM

A Cox Media crew was on the Pratt Community College campus filming on behalf of the Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR) to showcase energy-related technical training and careers. PCC's Electrical Power Technology (EPT) program students were training on the "pole farm" with program Director Dave Campbell and instructor Jeff Hoffman. The promotional videos will be released by KBOR in 2022.

THANK YOU BEAVER NATION FOR MAKING 2021 ONE OF THE BEST YEARS YET!

PCC HONOR ROLL FALL 2021

PRESIDENT'S HONOR ROLL

Sharity Adams
Ian Akers
Kai Allen
Leah Baisch
Arius Burnett
Benjamin Burroughs
Evan Campbell
Brian Carbajal
Bryce Chavez
Jayden Crawford
Shelby Cunningham
Dayton Denton
Kawana Dias dos Santos
Colton Dillon
Gavin Djurovic
Forrest Dowell
Derek Drees
Mayra Estrada
Kaden Fox
Samuel Gatlin
Anthony Gideon
Hailee Harris
Miles Hartman
Rianne Hatcher
Kylie Hefling
Grace Hendrickson
Hayden Hunt
Sukesh Kamesh
Heston Kavanagh
Brayden Ketley
Kyle Kobold

Nicholas Kwiatkowski
Jonathan Lara
Jazmin Levario
Sidney Lewis
Heather Lord
Ingrid Maldonado
Connor McManus
Deston Miller
Jacob Mitchell
Ryan Nicholson
Ngozi Nyeusi
Ethan Paris
Konnor Pfeifer
Maris Quillen
Scott Radke
Tamara Radovanov
Guilherme Henrique Ribeiro
Moises Rodriguez
Cody Royer
Conner Ruff
Tyler Sabatka
Mitchell Scott
Dacoda Settlemyer
Zachary Seymour
Tucker Shadley
Jazmyne Shannon
Jackson Singleton
Alaina Strickland
Quinn Tocheniuk
Dillon Williams
Jaylon Wiltz
Cayden Winter



PCC HONOR ROLL FALL 2021

DEAN'S HONOR ROLL

Michael Acosta
Gregory Adelman
Samajay Alboyd
Brianna Aragon
Svenja Arnold
Teru Baker
Faith Bannister
Kailey Barnard
Connor Barnett
Dylon Baum
Braden Black
Nathan Boutilier
Jacob Brault
Sarah Briggs
Sierra Bryant
Ian Buckman
Jacob Carroll
Paden Cornelsen
Isiah Coronado
Zander Cupples
Hailey Curran
Chariah Daniels
Hunter Davis
Mason Dean
Jodi Demidio
Addison Devine
Sierra Dunlap
Devin Engelhardt
Kurtis Engroff
Brent Escareno
Ian Escoto
Chilotam Eziukwu
Seth Ferguson
Jessi Ferneau
Mason Fields
Aaron Fierro
Trevor Frederick
Bryana Gallagher

Oscar Gallardo
Tyler Gates
Beau Gilpin
Vitor Goncalves
Colton Gossman
Trevor Grasser
Maxime Guyon
Konner Habiger
Connor Hall
Parker Hamel
Jaycie Headrick
Grant Hebb
Nikolas Highsmith
Parker Hillis
Ira Hird
Auron Hoyer
John Hubbert
John Huelskamp
Jace Jenkins
Tia Jones
Karolina Juresiute
Stephanie Kerst
Peyton Koehler
Jeremy Kornelson
Jeremichah Krehbiel
Augustus Krier
Braydon Lemuz
Oleksandr Makarov
Cade McCracken
Alec Meier
Adolfo Mendoza
Alyssa Miller
Nathaniel Moore
Jordan Mullins
Grant Murray
Griseld Nano

Jared Nelson
Devon Nicholson
Shealee Paull
Morgan Pitts
Kayla Ponnagandla
Dayton Porsch
Samantha Pounds
Alexa Puerto
Natalia Richartz
Luke Rider
Maureene Robert
Jordyn Sanko
Lisa Scapini
Jordon Schmidt
Gabriel Seller
Kaden Shellito
Andile Sibanda
Ruth Sodipe
Chasen Sowell
Eryn Spangenberg
Clayton Stephenson
Quintin Talbot
Micah Tatro
Owen Thiel
Brooke Tholen
Blake Thompson
Lane Thompson
Mackenzie Trujillo
Collin Turley
Brielle Vandervoort
Tatianna Vincent
Audry Vorabouth
Kade Wahlers
Cassandra Wedel
Jacob Wegner
Andrew Wilson
Carson Wilson
Payton Woody



happy RETIREMENT

Retirement Reception Held for Lorraine Prosser

Lorraine Prosser spent 41 years with Pratt Community College.

During her time at PCC, she held positions in the offices of the Registrar, Admissions, Financial Aid, and was most recently always a friendly face at the Switchboard, also known as PCC's grand central station.

A retirement reception was held in her honor on campus to wish her well in her next chapter.

Lorraine plans to work on her health and spend time with family and loved ones.

Congratulations Lorraine on your years of great work and dedication! Beaver Nation wishes you every happiness in retirement!



MENTAL HEALTH MINUTE



Back At It – Workplace Mental Well-Being

The end of the holiday season brings us back to work, which is our next focus on mental well-being in my self-titled Mental Wellness series of the Mental Health Minute. As a brief reminder before diving right in, workplace well-being focuses on our abilities to pursue interests, values, and purpose in life to gain meaning and happiness, along with professional enrichment.

First, a statistic. One in four Americans describe themselves as being “super stressed out” because of feeling torn between juggling heavy workloads, managing relationships and family responsibilities, and squeezing in outside interests (Mental Health America, 2021).

It is easy for us to get in a rush to get it all done, whether that be at the office or at home. That can lead to the “super stressed out” spikes, which then leads to productivity interruptions. Yes, even for those who claim that they thrive in high stress environments or moments, stress spikes interrupt their productivity. Stress can, and often does, wipe out concentration, makes us irritable or depressed, and harms both personal and professional relationships. Over time, those stress moments will weaken the immune system which can make us susceptible to a wide variety of illnesses like colds, headaches, body aches, heart disease, and so on.

Yes, it is true, we need a certain level or amount of stress to push us and help us perform at our best. But, the key is to manage that stress in work and life with one special word = BALANCE. Achieving a healthy work-life balance is an attainable goal for everyone, but workers and businesses will see rewards when that healthy balance is achieved. When a worker is balanced in their work-life relationship, they are more productive, take fewer days off of work, and will more-than-likely stay at/in their job.

Here are some ways that we can take to help loosen the grip of stress and move toward balance at work.

- Set manageable (aka realistic) daily goals each day. When we meet priorities, we feel a sense of accomplishment. That accomplishment feeds our dopamine system – an internal reward system – and can improve our mood, make us feel good, and lighten the stress that could have come on.
- Be efficient with work time. We all procrastinate from time-to-time, even at work. But when we do, the task that we are pushing off often grows and grows until we feel overwhelmed. So when you have a big project or task to tackle, divide it into smaller tasks leading up to the final project deadline. Complete the first task before the second. The less time you spend procrastinating or doing things just to appear busy, the more productivity you can achieve and more time with outside interests, family or friends can happen.
- Take a break! Breaks, even though we all tend to think of them as bad, are actually good and should be encouraged by employers. Small breaks during the day, during projects, etc. will help clear heads, making a worker’s ability to deal with stress and making good decisions attainable.
- Tune in. Sometimes having your favorite music playing while you work can help with concentration, stress reduction, and even stimulate creativity. Even studies that date back more than 30 years show that music in our every day life can have essential benefits, including lowering blood pressure.
- Communicate effectively. Be honest with your coworkers or your boss when you feel stressed or in a bind. One thing to remember here – do not complain. Suggest alternatives that are practical and realistic.
- Finally, give yourself a break! No one is perfect. Allow yourself some grace...you are human...do the best you can.

Work will always be there in the morning. Home life will not and moments can and do get missed because we live in a world that has placed so much value on being the best at our jobs. And in order to be the best at it, we must work constantly. Balance is possible and very much needed for our mental wellness.



Amanda Wade
Licensed Professional Counselor

To schedule an appointment, email Amanda Wade
at amandaw@prattcc.edu or call 620-450-2263.

Pratt Community College

BEAVER ATHLETICS

2021-2022

Visit gobeaversports.com for schedules, rosters, statistics and more!



Beavers Give First Half Scare to Indy Pirates

The Beavers finished up their fall semester by traveling across the state to take on the Indy Pirates. The Pirates entered the game coming off a week where they dropped their first conference loss against Cowley College and dropped out of the NJCAA Top 25 ranking. Pratt was looking to end their semester with a win, but also a big upset over a previous ranked team.

The Beavers came out fired up and ready to play as sophomore Christy Wiebe keep the game close with several three point baskets in the first half. At the end of the first quarter Indy was only up by two points and held a four point advantage at the end of the first half 30-26. In the third quarter, the Pirates came out on fire and scored 23 points and then put up an addition 31 points in the fourth quarter. The Beavers couldn't keep up with the Pirates and ended up losing 84-49.

Wiebe lead the team with 19 points and had 6 rebounds. Sophomore Chariah Daniels had 11 points and 9 rebounds. Both sophomores Cassie Onwugbufor and Karolina Juresiute rounding out the Beavers scoring with 9 points. The Pirates had five players shot in double digits and outrebounded the Beavers 44-30.



Sports Continued...

PRATT COMMUNITY COLLEGE
MEN'S
BASKETBALL



Beavers Win First KJCCC Road Game

The Pratt Community College (PCC) men's basketball team had one thing standing in their way from winter break. That was a trip to Independence Community College (ICC) to battle the Pirates. Indy was coming off of a 20 point victory over Coffeyville at home. The Beavers entered the game on a two game win streak, but had yet to win a Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference (KJCCC) game on the road. The stage was set for a battle in the ICC Fieldhouse in front of a small, but mighty crowd.

The game started with both teams taking shots back and fourth in a very physical matchup. The Beavers started pulling away late in the first half and went into halftime with a ten point lead 41-31 over the Pirates. PCC had a 14 point lead at the 16:54 mark in the second half, but that did not stop the Pirates from roaring back into the game. Indy took a one point lead with 2:08 left to go in the game. As the case has been in the past four games, the Beavers won off of free throws late in the game 79-77. The Pirates outscored the Beavers 46-38 in the second half. The score was tied three times and the lead changed twice over the course of the game.

Freshman forward Cam Morris had 25 points and 11 rebounds in the game and went 6 of 9 from the free throw line. Sophomores Nasan Ayala and Harrison Eghan both scored over ten points for the Beavers. Ayala had 20 points and Eghan had 11 points including two clutch free throws down the stretch.

In addition, sophomore Tommy Thomas went 6 of 6 from the free throw line and ended the game with 8 points. For the Pirates, sophomore Jordan Clark lead the team with 21 points and had 8 rebounds.

The Beavers finish their fall semester on a three game winning streak and brought their conference record back to .500.



#DEFENDTHEDAM



JANUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Athlete Meeting

Guest Speaker - Behavioral Health

Jan. 10th @ 7:00pm - Beaver Dome

Residence Hall Meeting

Jan. 11th @ 9:00pm (Your Dorm)

Basketball vs. Dodge City

Jan. 12th - Beaver Dome

Women's @ 5:30pm, Men's @ 7:00pm

Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

Jan. 17th - Campus Closed

Squid Game

Jan. 18th @ 9:00pm - Beaver Dome



Wrestling vs. Cowley

Jan. 19th @ 7:00pm - Beaver Dome

Pratt After Dark

Jan. 21st @ 9:00pm - Benson Commons

Basketball vs. Hutch

Jan. 22nd - Beaver Dome

Women's @ 5:30pm, Men's @ 7:00pm

Sponsored by:



Basketball vs. Butler (80's Night)

Jan. 26th - Beaver Dome

Women @ 5:30 pm, Men @ 7:30 pm



Women's Basketball vs. Garden City

Jan. 24th @ 5:30pm

Trivia Night

Jan. 25th @ 9:00pm - Cafeteria



Craft Night: Motivational Dice

Jan. 27th @ 9:00pm - Woj Hall Lobby



CONNECT WITH PCC STUDENT LIFE

Take a look at what we do and stay up to date by downloading the monthly calendar or weekly newsletter.

If you want to get involved or have ideas for an activity or program, please fill out the Student Life Suggestion Box at

www.prattcc.edu/departments/student-life

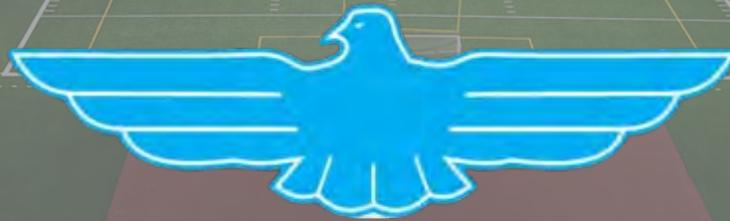
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COMMUNITY PARTNER

USD 438 SKYLINE SCHOOLS



Skyline Schools Become Community Partner for the Track and Soccer Complex

Pratt Community College (PCC) and the Management Committee (MC) of the Track and Soccer Complex (TSC) are pleased to announce the addition of USD 438 Skyline Schools as a Community Partner. This milestone means that Skyline Schools will be able to schedule events at the new Track and Soccer Complex located adjacent to the Green Sports Complex in Pratt.

Dr. Michael Calvert, President of Pratt Community College, stated, "We are extremely excited to have Skyline join the Pratt School District, Land and Water Conservation Fund and the City of Pratt as a community partner. The intent all along was for local and regional entities to become community partners. This is a community facility, and the support by community partners is crucial. The facility is now open for both school districts, Pratt City Recreation and PCC to host exclusive events."

Skyline Superintendent Becca Flowers commented "Skyline Schools appreciates the opportunity to become a community partner of the Track and Soccer Complex. Access to this facility will be a tremendous benefit to our students as they strive to build their athletic skills. Our students, staff and families will especially enjoy the opportunity that Skyline will have to host events at this high quality, centrally located facility."

Pratt City Commissioner and Management Committee Member, Zach Deeds noted, "This is a refreshing demonstration of civil discourse to address a challenge, both PCC and USD 438 should be commended for their commitment to community."

The Track and Soccer Complex Management Committee released a letter to the Pratt Community in July 2021 regarding the funding and use of the TSC, which can be viewed in its entirety in the press release on the Pratt Community College website.



Jan Hayes

SWITCHBOARD OPERATOR

PCC Staff Spotlight

Staff Senate is launching a new initiative through which the PCC employees and members of the community can get to know our staff better. Staff Senate hopes that this spotlight will help us get to know one another better and feel even more connected as a community.

What is your name, what is your role/position at PCC, and how long have you worked here?

My name is Jan Hayes! I'm a switchboard operator, part-time since 2020 and full time since April 2021.

What project, responsibility, and/or aspect of your position do you enjoy the most?

I enjoy all parts of the job, especially the people!

What do you consider your biggest accomplishment to date?

Learning how to interact with different people!

Before joining the PCC community, what was the most unusual or interesting job/ position you had ever held?

My most interesting job was working at Pratt Livestock in the office, learning about the cattle business.

What is an interesting fact about yourself that you believe your fellow staff members would either not already know and/or would be surprised to learn?

I am extremely shy!

What do you do or are involved in for fun/ relaxation outside of the PCC community?

I enjoy spending time with my children, grandchildren and friends. And walking with my dogs!

Do you have a motto, personal mantra, or favorite/ influential quote to share... Why is that important to you?

My personal motto is to listen to the whispers in my mind, they are usually right. It is important because it is so easy to overthink matters.



WELDING

Technology

High School Welding Students Earn Certifications in Kingman



Students in the Kingman High School Welding Program in conjunction with Pratt Community College, received their first round of certifications this semester.

They received certifications in OSHA 10, and Thermal Cutting (Oxyfuel, Plasma Arc, and Carbon Arc). They will also be receiving dual certifications with NC3 Lincoln Electric, and American Welding Society (AWS).

This is a great achievement for the students, as this will be a huge asset to them for future employment. The Welding Technology program at Kingman High School is led by instructor Jason Birkenbaugh.

Pictured left to right, Dylan Laughery, Cody Abott, Kelby McDorman, Gunnar Scripsick, Wyatt Hillman, Colby Bannon, Cole Watkins, Aaron Siemens, and Dalton Leis

Interested in learning more about how high school students can earn college credit? See more information about the Welding Technology pathway and a listing of other available programs on our College Start program page.

For more information, please contact:
Jason Birkenbaugh
Welding Instructor- Kingman CTE
jasonb@prattcc.edu



PRATT COMMUNITY COLLEGE CELEBRATE DIVERSITY TEAM

International Students Featured in New Pratt Publication

We are proud to have several of our International students featured in the new Destination Pratt publication along with other featured personalities to highlight our community! Each student was interviewed about holiday traditions they cherish and love the most. They shared favorite memories of friends and family, and one even shared snacks!

"The purpose of Destination Pratt is to inform residents and visitors of the activities, services, events and businesses available in Pratt. Every quarter we will be publishing a local magazine highlighting community stories and businesses."

The International students featured were: Svenja Arnold (Switzerland), Andile Sibandas (South Africa), Dante Despontin (Belgium), Jade Massing (Netherlands) and David Arrieta (Venezuela).

Read all about our International students in the December's Holiday edition by visiting www.DestinationPratt.com or find them on social media!

Take a sneak peek of one of the features!



5

HOLIDAYS AROUND THE WORLD

Pratt Community College Student Traditions

Article By: Marlena King

Five international students attending Pratt Community College (PCC) shared holiday traditions in their native countries. Let's take an overseas tour with them!

Svenja Arnold gave an interesting account of holiday customs in her native Switzerland. Christmas is an important holiday there. There is a tree, and there are presents as well. The whole family celebrates together, usually on December 24th. "It is all about the family, and of course, food!", she said. One of the main dishes she mentioned is Raclette. This is described online as cheese being heated and the melting part being shaved off onto certain types of food, such as meat, or vegetables. Apparently, sweets are not emphasized; the focus is on the main dishes. Laughing, she told us, "Of course, ice cream is always included!"

When asked about chocolate, more laughter ensued. She admitted that chocolate is a big thing in Switzerland, especially Toblerone. It's shape is thought to represent the Matterhorn Mountain. However, at Christmas, chocolate is thought of more as a gift to give, rather than eating it.

Christmastime weather is snowy- "real winter," as she says. From central Switzerland, in a valley area with mountains on both sides, Svenja does like it here, saying it's good to see something different. She does miss the mountains though!

This Swiss miss is majoring in Health and Physical Education and is on the PCC soccer team. She will go home for summer and winter breaks. When asked about homesickness, she replied that there's no time to be homesick, between school and soccer. "My team is like my family here... I'm in good hands here."

Destination Pratt ...

JOIN US!

CELEBRATE DIVERSITY TEAM

**EDUCATION | RESPECT
VALUE | CULTURE**

Contact Lisa Perez-Miller at lisam@prattcc.edu for more information.

PRATT COMMUNITY COLLEGE LEGISLATIVE *luncheon*

The purpose of the Legislative Luncheon on campus at Pratt Community College is to engage in conversations about important issues surrounding community colleges, and specifically PCC. The Legislative Luncheon is held annually in December, hosting area legislators, both Senators and Representatives, and other community officials.

Attendees at the December 2021 Legislative Luncheon included the PCC Board of Trustees, the college administrative team, USD 382 Superintendent Tony Helfrich, members of the USD 382 Board, USD 438 Superintendent Becca Flowers, and City Manager Bruce Pinkall.

Legislative guests were Senator Larry Alley (Winfield -District 32), Representative Kyle Hoffman (Coldwater-District 116) and Representative Brett Fairchild (St. John-District 116). Also attending and presenting the legislative priorities for Kansas community colleges was Heather Morgan, Executive Director of the Kansas Association of Community College Trustees (KACCT).

Pratt Community College President Dr. Michael Calvert, the Board of Trustees and the administrative team at PCC appreciate being able to meet and engage with area officials, and look forward to the opportunity to work together going forward.

