



Pratt Community College

Monthly Newsletter

The

The official newsletter of PCC

# THE BEAVER

December 2016

Buzz

## 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!

>>> [megane@prattcc.edu](mailto:megane@prattcc.edu)

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## Upcoming Dates

A Christmas to Remember	Dec 2-4
Final Exams	Dec 6-8
Faculty Work Days	Dec 9-12

## PCC Closed

The PCC campus will be closed Dec. 23 - Jan. 2 for winter break.

## Patterson Captures Fourth Steer Roping Gold Buckle

For the first time in Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) history a world champion was crowned in Kansas and it went to a Kansas native.

Pratt Community College Head Rodeo Coach, Rocky Patterson, won his fourth world championship at the 2016 Clem McSpadden National Steer Roping Finals in Mulvane on Nov. 8.

"It's big," said Patterson, 50, about his latest accomplishment. "It isn't as easy for me to get out there and practice as it was 25 years ago. It probably has not sunk in yet, but this is big."

Patterson has now won gold steer roping buckles in 2009-10, 2012 and 2016. For winning his latest world title, Patterson also received a Polaris RANGER.

Patterson's National Finals Steer Roping (NFSR) performance vaulted him to the world championship with a single-season steer roping record of \$141,350, surpassing the previous record of \$121,112 by Trevor Brazile last year.

Although Patterson came into his latest NFSR – the 22nd of his decorated career – with a \$15,481 lead, he couldn't celebrate until the completion of Round 10.

Entering Round 10, Patterson held a \$21,905 lead over Cody Lee. The key was Lee was first in the average, while Patterson was third in the average after nine rounds.

In the final round Patterson responded with an 11.1-second run to grab the coveted gold buckle.

PCC's Rodeo Program is a vital part of the college's Agriculture Department. The team participates in the Central Plains Region of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association. The program lends scholarships to the top competitors. It also has some of the top facilities in the region with an indoor and outdoor arena, stalls and runs, and supplied livestock.



# PCC Hosts Tech Day for High School Juniors and Seniors

Pratt Community College was pleased to host and welcome approximately 80 junior and senior high school students, their parents and high school officials to campus on Nov. 16. for Technical Program Education Day.

PCC's Tech day gives each student the opportunity to participate in four technical program rotations, learn about the program and meet our technical faculty through hands-on demonstrations in a small group environment.

Spread the word about PCC's next Technical Program Education Day for high school freshman and sophomore's which will be held February next year. A final date will be posted in the coming weeks.

Students can register to participate in Tech Day on our website at [prattcc.edu/TechDay](http://prattcc.edu/TechDay).



## PRATT Community College TECHNICAL PROGRAM EDUCATION DAY



High School Freshmen & Sophomores  
Feb 2017  
9AM - 1PM

REGISTER ONLINE  
[prattcc.edu/TechDay](http://prattcc.edu/TechDay)



# Former Student Lends Credit to PCC Years

A Pratt Community College former student gives credit to the foundation that was built while he went to school in Pratt. Doug Cramer, son of PCC Psychology and Sociology Instructor David Cramer, is now a Meteorologist at the National Weather Service in Springfield, Mo. and gives credit to his successful years in higher education because of what he learned while at PCC.

Cramer attended PCC in 1995-1996 to get the groundwork started in general education classes with the intention to transfer to a four year university. From an early start Cramer knew he wanted to be a Meteorologist and knew he wanted to get his degree from the University of Kansas (KU). Coming out of high school he also knew he wasn't ready to go straight into a four year setting.

"I definitely wasn't mature enough to go straight to a university," said Cramer. "Attending helped me grow, helped me learn how to study and really just gave me a solid foundation so that I could be successful in the future."

While at PCC Cramer was on the Baseball team under Coach Greg Miller. Cramer says that being on the team and having Miller as a mentor helped him learn more than just how to be successful on the field but in life as well.

In the classroom, Cramer says there were a number of instructors who had an impact on him. Cramer took as many courses as he could that would have a benefit on him after transferring. Cramer says that his most beneficial classes were Public Speaking, English and Physical Science.

"Teachers like Rose Beilman, Monette DePew and David Oldie taught me a lot. They and so many more of the faculty at PCC were, and are, so student centered," said Cramer. "They connect with their students and I am thankful for that."

Cramer credits his father for being a huge encouragement while trying to complete his college years.

"Oddly enough I never had my dad as a teacher," said Cramer. "But his encouragement and advice was invaluable while I was in college. It's a challenging area of study and he helped me get through it."

After PCC Cramer went on to KU where he earned his Bachelor's degree in Atmospheric Science. Cramer has worked at the National Weather Service for 16 years and says that he has a lot of passion and pride in what he does. In his career he has served the SE Kansas and Missouri Ozarks area focusing on severe weather and flash floods. Cramer has even broken several tornados. Issuing warnings and communicating with state and local officials to help get people to safety.

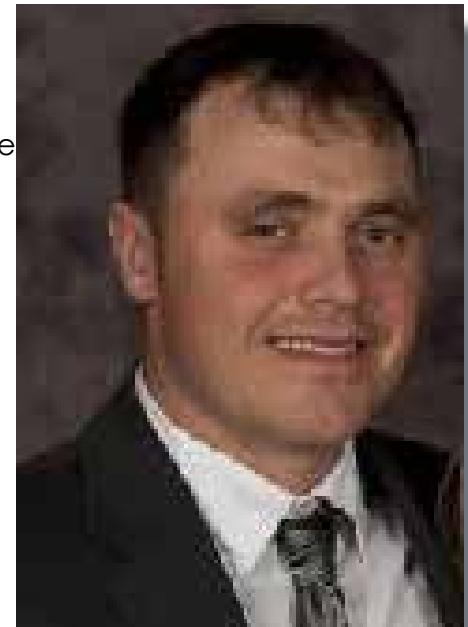
Cramer says he will always speak highly of the community college experience. "I'm not sure I would have made it at KU if it hadn't of been for PCC."

## PCC Student Receives Local Internship

A Pratt Community College student was selected from applicants throughout the southwest portion of Kansas as an intern for our county extension office. Cassie Van Slyke, a freshman at Pratt Community College was the only intern selected this year which was a great honor to both Van Slyke and the Pratt county extension office.

Van Slyke's history as a 4-H member of 12 years, 4-H camp counselor, and currently studying Wildlife Biology at PCC made her an excellent candidate for this unique position. During her 9 month internship that began in August, she has been assisting with the daily office task as well as educating K-4 grade in tree identification and aerodynamics.

"It was important to the donors who funded this internship to help educate first generation 4-H students." said Jodi Drake, Pratt County Extension Agent. With the donor's intent in mind, Van Slyke is currently creating her own curriculum for upcoming STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) projects, helping prepare for 4-H club day, and the 2017 Pratt County Fair.



# PCC Nursing Staff Boast Success In and Outside of the Classroom

The Pratt Community College Nursing department continues to strive for student success on a daily basis and that same mission is true for students as well as staff in the program.

Practical Nursing Program instructor, Susan Meyer, has recently been approved for publication as a joint author of an article in the *Journal of Nursing Education*. The name of the article is "A Review of the Literature Regarding the Effect of Simulation on Nursing Student Stress." Meyer, Melody L. Cantrell and Victoria Mosack state that "Stress and anxiety can rise to such elevated levels that student health and patient safety is endangered. The purpose of this review is to critically appraise the literature related to the type and amount of stress that student nurses experience before, during, or after a moderate or high fidelity simulation (HFS) session."

Another PCC nursing staff member is striving for excellence in continuing education. Kelsey Brownlee, Clinical instructor, was recently awarded a scholarship through the Kansas Council of Associate Degree Nursing Educators (KCADNE) for continued education. The purpose of KCADNE is to maintain communication among associate degree nursing programs in Kansas and with other individuals and groups who influence associate degree nursing, to promote liaison relationships with state and national nursing organizations, the Kansas Associate of Community Colleges, and the Kansas State Board of Nursing, to monitor, initiate, promote and respond to legislation as it relates to associate degree nursing, and to establish and maintain a resource pool available to promote associate degree nursing.

"As the PCC Nursing Department continues to strive toward quality improvement, we are very proud of Susan and Kelsey for these accomplishments," said Kim Hansen, Director of Nursing.

The Nursing Department faculty and staff would like to say "Thank you" to everyone for all of the support shown to them through the recent Kansas State Board of Nursing site visit.

"We are all grateful to be a part of such an amazing team," said Hansen.

## PCC Students Observe K-4 Classrooms

In November, students in Rhonda Westerhaus' Foundation of Modern Education class were able to visit Southwest Elementary in Pratt to observe classroom function for grades K-4.

Westerhaus and 12 students visited the elementary campus where they broke up into small groups to observe different levels of modern classroom procedures and instruction.

"The concept of this class is to expose students how different each grade and each classroom can be," said Westerhaus. "Our goal for this trip was to observe and take note how different learning styles for each child can be and how to start thinking of managing all of those different personalities."

Each group in Westerhaus' class had the opportunity to observe a classroom setting while a teacher managed a real classroom. They were asked to record their observations on gender equality and classroom management.

"This exercise is to get my students to start thinking about how they as teachers would manage a classroom full of children at any age," said Westerhaus.

Each classroom had its own unique set-up and functionality but one major similarity was the adaptation of technology either in the form of smart boards or individual tablets. PCC students said that it was interesting to see how a teacher can utilize these instruments to educate and still keep kids on task.

Westerhaus' Foundation of Modern Education also explores classrooms in the middle school and high school setting.



# PCC Student Photography on Exhibit for December

Pratt Community College is excited to display photographic works on exhibit for the month of December featuring students and their interpretation of student life on campus.

A call-for-entries was put out to all PCC students last month asking for photographs highlighting their own college experience ranging from social life, life in their specific program or field or anything they thought represented them as a student.

PCC received more than 15 photographs from five students who each have their own unique story to tell. PCC non-traditional student, Lyle Taylor, entered his submissions after taking a photography class under PCC instructor Valarie Dellrocco. Taylor's photographs depict extreme close-ups of wildlife and nature found on campus and within Pratt County.

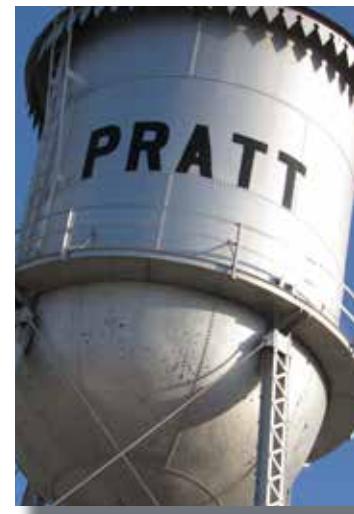
Freshmen, Kylee Krominga and Shelby Richard are also featured in this month's exhibit. Richard, a Wildlife Outfitting and Operations student, submitted multiple photos depicting black and white prints of farm and ranching. Krominga, is a student-athlete as well as a member of the PCC social media team. Her images represent life in student activities and events.

Sophomore, pre-nursing student, Kellie Atlee is also involved with the PCC social media team and active in athletic support provided images of sporting events at PCC.

As a mission to continue the "Our Middle Name is Community" initiative at PCC the exhibit will also feature photos from a Pratt High School Student. Junior, MiKayla Hager, shows her passion for photography with her portraits using creative lighting and shadows to emphasize her subjects.

The December 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.



# Kick off the holiday season with 'A Christmas to Remember'

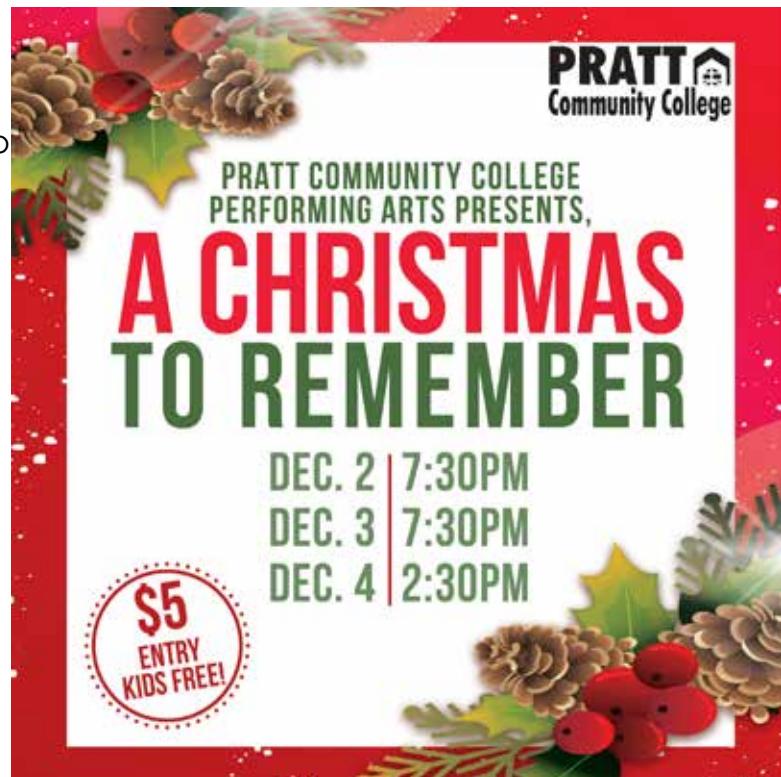
Pratt Community College's Performing Arts department will have the annual Christmas show to help kick off the season on Dec. 2-4.

'A Christmas to Remember,' will feature two extraordinary acts encompassing all of your favorite holiday tunes and the true meaning of Christmas.

The show will feature solos, duets, the ensemble and full community choir. There will also be children's numbers.

"It promises to be a fun show with the classic favorites and also some new music," said Misty Beck, show director.

The event will take place in Carpenter Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 2 and 3 and at 2:30 p.m. on Dec. 4. Admission is \$5 and children are free.



## Pratt Community College 2015-2016 Economic Impact Report

Pratt Community College has released their Economic Impact and Community Engagement report for the 2015-2016 academic year.

The Economic Impact Report contains an overview of the contributions by the college to the community in both quality of life as well as economically.

Overall the college has contributed 9,705 hours of community service in Pratt County between students, faculty and staff. PCC facilities have been utilized by more than 400 Pratt organizations with more than 20,000 visitors annually for major events such as the Miss Kansas Pageant, High School football camps, Academic Olympics and more.

PCC contributes 17.4 million dollars annually to local banks, employed 391 in the 15-16 year and purchases more than 2 million dollars for local goods and services each year. The annual net economic contribution to Pratt County from PCC is more than 31 million dollars.

The full breakdown of the report can be found at [prattcc.edu/EconomicImpact](http://prattcc.edu/EconomicImpact).

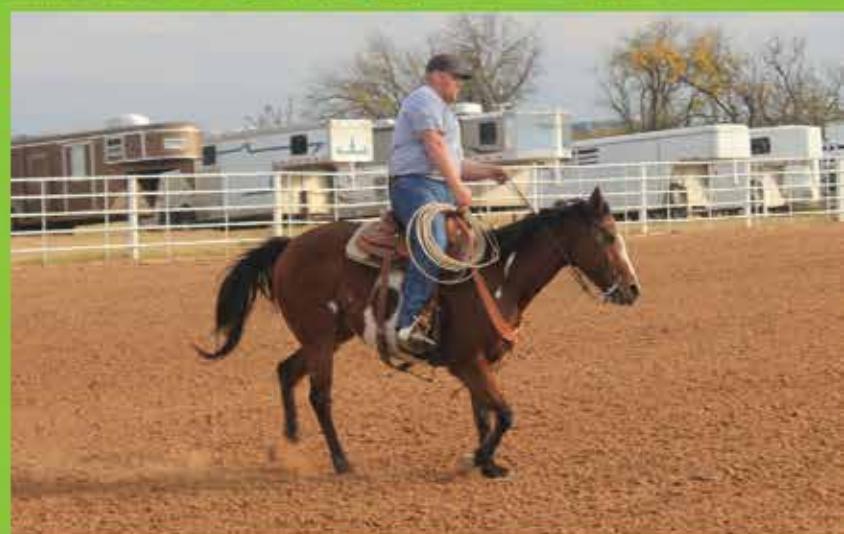


Economic Impact  
And Community  
Engagement Report 2015/2016

Experience It!

[www.prattcc.edu](http://www.prattcc.edu)

800.794.3091



# DECEMBER 2016

DEC 1

## SKATE NIGHT

9PM - 11PM  
ROLLA RENA

DEC 2-4

## A CHRISTMAS TO REMEMBER

FRI, SAT 7:30PM  
SUN 2:30PM  
CARPENTER



DEC 3

## BASKETBALL

VS. NEOSHO  
2:00PM & 4:00PM

\*UGLY CHRISTMAS  
SWEATER NGHT!



DEC 5

## LATE NIGHT BREAKFAST!

9PM CAFETERIA



DEC 6-8

## FINALS WEEK!



DEC 9

## RESIDENCE HALLS CLOSE 11:00 AM

## WINTER BREAK!

RESIDENCE HALLS  
OPEN JAN. 9, 2017

