

Pratt Community College

Monthly Newsletter

#### **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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Faculty Work Day	5/17
Board of Trustees Meeting	5/17
Summer Hours Begin	5/24



### A YEAR TO REMEMBER

#### 2020-2021

#### The Spring 2021 Semester is Coming to a Close at the End Of a Challenging Year

Despite all of the twists and turns, there is so much to be proud of.

The ever-changing COVID-19 situation slowly migrated towards hosting in-person activities and guests on campus, with limited attendance at performances and athletic competitions, as well as a Commencement Ceremony for 2020 and 2021 graduates.

Lost or delayed Athletic seasons for Fall and Spring sports came back full swing, with busy competition schedules and trips to Nationals and top placements for Cheer, Wrestling and Track and Field. The first Annual Beaver Classic brought 16 competing teams to the new Track and Soccer Complex, along with a boost to the local economy.

The students, faculty and staff at PCC rolled with every punch and accomplished a lot despite ongoing changes, which allowed for many successes. The people that make up PCC have a lot to be proud of. It's always been a great day to be a Beaver and to finish strong! #GoBeaverNation #DamGoodFuture



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# CUMPRIEVEN Peremoni

#### + NURSING PINNING

## MAY 14, 2021 **DENNIS LESH SPORTS ARENA**

IN THE BENSON EDUCATION CENTER 348 NE SR 61 **PRATT, KS 67124** 

#### **PM - AAS GRADUATES &** CERTIFICATES

#### **3 PM - AA, AS, AGS** GRADUATES



PRATICollege

**CAP & GOWN** PICK UP May 10-13 in the Benson Commons Area 3:00 - 5:00pm

Pick Up by Last Name (Alphabetical Order)

Monday: A - F Tuesdav: G - K Wednesday: L - R Thursday: S - Z



#### ADMISSION TICKETS

Each graduate is allowed two guests. Graduates will receive two tickets during cap & gown pick up.



Social distancing and limited seating capacity will be observed. Masks are required by everyone.



gobeaversports.com/links/LiveBroadcasts



**PHOTOGRAPHY** Official photos available for purchase at gradimages.com



ADDITIONAL **OUESTIONS?** Contact Registrar's Office 620-450-2218

#### WHERE DO I GO?

**Graduates should report to** Sports Arena floor level (west door by the elevator) at 12:30 pm for the 1:00 pm ceremony; 2:30pm for the 3:00pm ceremony. Graduation regalia is required.

## **BEAVER BASEBALL** Stanion Field

### PCC Honors Bill and Cindy Keller at Stanion Field

The Pratt Beavers faced the Colby Trojans at home on Stanion Field with baseball season well underway.

The games didn't have the winning numbers we wanted on the brand-new scoreboard, but there was still a buzz at home plate between games.

Long-time PCC donors Bill and Cindy Keller were invited to stand at home plate with Athletic Director Tim Swartzendruber, Barry Fisher, Pratt Beavers Head Baseball Coach Todd Reller and PCC President Dr. Michael Calvert.



The Kellers, owners of Stanion Wholesale Electric, were recognized over the loudspeaker for their generous donation and sponsorship of the new scoreboard at Stanion Field, and gifted with new baseball jerseys. The Pratt Beavers baseball team was standing by.

PCC Athletic Director Tim Swartzendruber was proud to hand off the jerseys that brought the big smiles.

"Stanion Wholesale Electric and Bill and Cindy Keller have been tremendous assets not only to PCC but the Pratt community. We are extremely grateful for their generosity and continued support of not only our baseball field and program, but PCC. A big thank you from everyone here at PCC!" There is a lot to be grateful for on campus at Pratt Community College.

PCC President Dr. Michael Calvert looks back on the history of support from the Keller family and Stanion Wholesale Electric, spanning several decades.

"Jud and Bobbie Stanion and Stanion Wholesale Electric, were generous benefactors to Pratt Community College beginning in the 1980's. Bill and Cindy Keller have continued to support Pratt Community College, as well as the community of Pratt. You will find the Stanion name all over the PCC campus, "Stanion Stables, Stanion Field and Stanion Drive", their mark is everywhere. Pratt Community College greatly appreciates the continued support from Stanion's and Bill and Cindy Keller."







#### What I Bring to PCC Diverse Backgrounds Benefit Our College



Celeste Chavez Student Athlete, Softball, RA From: Clovis, NM

#### Tell us about home.

"I'm from a very big community. Usually when I come home for break, we have gatherings with my whole entire family. The guys like to hang out in the front yard and the girls usually stay in the house and then the kids go out in the back yard.

We have a disco, which is like a type of grill thing, and my dad usually makes fajitas or like a mixture of chicken, steak and weenie fajitas, it's pretty good it's one of my favorites. I miss my nieces and nephew so usually once I get into town if they're not at my house I go straight to their house and I see them before I even go home. (ages 9, 5, 3) They call me tia."

#### How has PCC helped you and what's next?

"It's helped me grow up a lot more. Being here I've kind of had to provide for myself, like get a job. Like, my parents still help me with money, but I'd rather get my own job and have my own money instead of having them send me money.

It was hard for me to come here, 6 ½ hours away from home, but they've encouraged me a lot and they've stuck by my side.

All of us get along here. Like all of the sports support each other... like when we have time we go to basketball games, or we go to volleyball games, soccer. Soccer comes and supports us, volleyball came and supports us. So just being able to have that community of the school together has helped me.

I want to be an elementary education teacher. As of right now, I'm looking into going somewhere in Wichita. Possibly playing (softball). My mom had a daycare so I've always grown up around kids. I want to be the kind of person that changes lives, I really don't care about the money."

#### Tell us about home.

"The population back home is about 3,000. I have a really close relationship with my mom so I kinda miss that. At home we would all get together and eat. Mole', it's like chicken with red sauce that my mom makes and it's pretty good.

My grandma lives in Mexico and comes to visit once in a while, they call me Charlie.

Back home, my best friend was the new kid in class, I was the first one to ever talk to him from my town and ever since that day, it was Halloween, October 31st, ever since then we became best friends."

#### How has PCC helped you and what's next?

"I don't think this transition was hard for me, moving away from home cause this school is really loving with each other, like everybody hugs each other so it wasn't too hard. I feel like kids that just go to the university, it's harder for them cause like it's bigger and it's harder to adapt. All the students here supported each other like no matter what you did. That's what I'd probably miss the most.

Just go to activities at the beginning of the year, like the fun stuff. That helped me a lot last year, I know that.

If I don't play basketball, then I'll probably go to WSU and do some biomedical engineering. I wanted to do something with petroleum engineering, but then my brother told me about the biomedical and like I would help people and make arms and legs for people and I thought that would be cool. Making people happy."



Carlos Montiel Student Athlete, Basketball, RA From: Hugoton, KS



## **GO BEAVER SPORTS**



#### **Spangler Repeats as 125-pound National Champion**

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Iowa- Entering the NJCAA National Championship, the second-ranked Beavers brought wrestlers from all 10 weight classes as Pratt competed for a national title. As the initial action ensued, Pratt saw five of its own qualify for the national semifinals, while four of the five advanced to the championships rounds.

Michael Spangler, the 125-pound national champion in 2020, was the lone Beaver to win his championship bout, as the Wichita native became the fourth national champion in Pratt wrestling history. Spangler has won two of the four national titles in program history. Spangler's successful title defense began with a first period pin fall, and in the Round of 16, grinded out a 3-1 decision to advance to the quarterfinals. His concluding matchup on Wednesday resulted in a second period pin fall win to advance to Thursday's semifinal round.

Spangler never lost his No. 1 ranking at 125 lbs. throughout the 2021 season, and he showed ample evidence why on the last day of the tournament. The morning semifinal round saw Spangler dominate Indian Hills' Chris Busutil to the tune of a 18-2 technical fall win, a match that was called in the third period. Spangler followed his semifinal performance with an identical 18-2 score over Cameron Enriquez of Clackamas. Spangler's third takedown of the match, with the score 12-2 at that moment, was converted into four nearfall points, sealing the technical victory. Three other Beavers, Jason Henschel, Jacob Beeson, and Dayton Porsch, qualified for the final round, but were unable to clinch the lasting win. Henschel, wrestling at 133 pounds, initially scored a first period takedown, though Clackamas' Zeth Brower escaped the position and a takedown of his own eventually became a late period pinfall. At 149 pounds, Beeson created early point-scoring opportunities, but saw a 3-1 decision go against him.

Porsch ran into a buzzsaw against one-seed Isaiah Crosby, as the Hoxie native was on the wrong end of a 16-4 major decision.

Including the four previously mentioned, three other Beavers gained All-American status. Devon Dawson qualified for the semifinal round at heavyweight for the Beavers, and eventually placed fifth. Jacob Mitchell and Deston Miller placed eighth at 141 and 184 pounds, respectively. Cayden Atkins wrestled his way to the quarterfinal round at 174 pounds, but was downed by a 7-1 decision loss. Juan Urbina won his opening match at 165 pounds, though he lost via 10-4 decision in the Round of 16. Wrestling through injury, Bryce Westmoreland was bested in both of his appearances.

As a team, the Beavers finished fourth overall with 126.5 team points, a program record.



## Beaver Wrestling

#### **Beavers Win KJCCC Title for First Time in Program History**

PRATT, Kan.- 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. Let's just say, mission accomplished.

By first defeating Colby 52-6 and then Labette 36-14, the Beavers secured a pair of program benchmarks and was a worthy cause for celebration.

The Beavers began the evening against Colby, who left five weight classes open to hand the Beavers 30 team points. Though, Coach Kepley's team won four of the five remaining bouts. Michael Spangler, Juan Urbina, and Bryce Westmoreland all won via pin fall, while Dayton Porsch secured a 11-0 major decision win. Pratt's lone defeat to the Trojans came under unique circumstances. Due to an injury to his teammate Cayden Atkins, Carsyn Schooler, usually a 141-pounder, wrestled well above his weight class at 174 pounds. He was eventually pinned by Colby's Austin Hacker in the first period. Against Labette, the 125-pound weight class was the lone open slot for the Cardinal, as Spangler was awarded the win on the open mat. The Beavers then proceeded to win six of the nine matchups of the evening, including pin falls by Jason Henschel, Deston Miller, and Porsch. Jacob Mitchell saw his opponent Cade Wathke unable to continue in the second period, and was awarded the win via injury forfeit.

Jacob Beeson was locked in a grinding affair with Traylon Jackson, as Beeson edged out a 4-0 decision win. Urbina was pinned by Donnie Hurd III in the first period at 165 pounds, and Schooler, again wrestling much larger competition, was defeated by 16-1 technical fall. Westmoreland saw his riding time disadvantage become the determining factor in a 8-7 decision loss, though the Beavers did end the night on a high note, as Devon Dawson grabbed a 6-4 decision win at heavyweight.



#### **SPORTS CONTINUED..**

## Pratt CC Cheer

#### **A Post Nationals Q&A with Coach Napier**



**Shae Napier** PCC Cheer Head Coach The Pratt Community College cheerleading squad is still relishing in its trip to Daytona Beach, Florida, where the Beavers placed second overall in the Intermediate Small Coed Open Division. With a total performance score of 92.31, the team, led by head coach Shae Napier, brought home the most prestigious piece of hardware in program history.

Napier further discussed her team's unprecedented success, the build-up to the competition, and how it affects the program going forward:

#### This is the most prestigious competition finish in the history of the Beavers cheer program. How would you describe the process to getting to this point and the enjoyment of seeing it all come together?

-I would describe the process as consistent hard work and dedication to choosing to show up and show out every day whether that be my athletes or myself as a coach. Attention to every minor detail. Relentless determination and drive through the physical and mental pain, even when the goal seems out of reach. Pushing through the tough days. 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.

## The Beavers posted a performance score of 92.31 and placed second in their division. All in all, what did you see from your team during the preliminary and final performances and how well executed was the routine?

-On Day One this team "hit zero" which means they executed the routine with no mistakes, which is huge in cheerleading when the difference between first and second place can come down to hundredths of a point. The smallest mistake can cost you a title. What I saw from my team during preliminary and final performances was exactly what every coach wants to see from their team. Stepping up to their fullest potential, overcoming whatever is thrown at them from beginning to end and pulling off that perfect routine. Trust me it was not easy and this group had one heck of a first year at nationals, but no one would have ever known with how well they pulled off both prelims and finals routines. They walked away from that stage executing each routine in ways better than their last performance before them.

#### What was the morale of your team going into competition?

-The morale of this team was rich, well rounded and hungry.

#### What was the team's reaction like to finding out the Beavers had placed so high?

-We were actually walking to lunch when I received their scoresheets via email and placement from day one prelims. I remember reading the email and seeing the list and right there 2nd on the list to very prestigious team that has a rich winning history for over a decade and honestly had to do a double take. I knew we would do well at Nationals. I had prepared this team for everything and they had put in the work, but after going against DII teams I wasn't sure exactly what to expect as far as placement goes and then I saw us up there in the top three. The kids went wild, and you could just see their faces light up and that look of we got this. We can do this, and we are ready to represent Pratt again on that National stage for finals tomorrow. On finals, awards were all virtual this year because of covid protocols set in place by NCA. So we picked a spot on the beach in uniform and watched the live stream. They started at the bottom, #9 and worked their way up. They called 4th and you could just feel the tension, the excitement, the uneasy feeling of what's next. Then they called #3 and it was everything the team could do to keep from bursting out in excitement because that that point, they knew they had just placed top two in the nation. They called runner up and as you can imagine there was an outburst of excitement, screaming, crying etc. and in the midst of it all this amazing group stopped in the middle of their excitement and circled up around me as a team and said, "you did it coach". Very proud coach moment watching the first team you ever take to NCA Nationals break top three and place second.

## Considering where the program was when you took over, are you surprised by the rapid success the program has had or is this what you envisioned when you accepted the job?

-A part of me will always remain somewhat surprised. It is one of those things that still doesn't feel real even after it happens. So many teams spend so many years pushing to get to this point, but myself and the athletes I've led to this point have put in the work and relentless dedication and hours to create a nationally competitive program and team and at the end of the day I've expected nothing less than rapid growth and success.

#### In what ways do you think Pratt's newfound national standing in the cheer world will boost the program going forward?

-They ways are innumerable. Overall though I think it fuels the fire of the legacy that has been started here and makes it burn even brighter not just for future recruits and members to see, but for the institution, community and everyone that brushes elbows with this program. It has seeded that deep desire for more in our returning athletes that are already hungry to go back and achieve even more next year.



**SPORTS CONTINUED..** 

## Beaver Tennis

#### PCC Announces The Return of Men's and Women's Tennis

PRATT, Kan.- Many would not know it, but Pratt Community College's last team championship took place in 1961, when the men's tennis program was still in tact. After institutional deliberations, Pratt Community College has annonuced that tennis will be reinstated as an officially sanctioned sport in the fall of this year.

"We are very excited to bring back the sport of men's and women's tennis to Pratt Community College," said school president Dr. Michael Calvert. "The community of Pratt has a strong tradition of producing outstanding tennis players. By re-adding tennis, those students will have the opportunity to compete locally. In addition, there are many other strong programs in the state of Kansas of which we can recruit talent from. There is also financial support pledged in order to supplement operations and to help fund scholarships for the program. "I want to thank the PCC Board of Trustees for their confidence that PCC can have a successful program and very much appreciate their support."

Athletic director Tim Swartzendruber feels assured the school is well equipped to handle the addition of both men's and women's tennis before the start of the 2021-22 school year.

"The city of Pratt has upgraded the tennis facility to now have 10 courts, and with the Blythe Center, we have access to indoor courts which is very positive for a tennis program," said Swartzendruber. "The community of Pratt is supportive of us adding the sport and we feel as an institution it would be positive to bring in additional student-athletes."

At this current juncture, Pratt Community College and its leadership believe the growth from 10 to 12 NJCAA-sanctioned programs will benefit the school in more ways than one. "PCC is always looking to add programs, activities or sports that could increase enrollment and provide opportunities for students," said Dr. Calvert. "Tennis players tend to be good students and therefore succeed academically. Two of PCC's institutional aims are student success and enrollment stability. The addition of tennis will contribute to both of these aims."

"I'm excited to add tennis to our sports programs," said Swartzendruber. "With PCC adding tennis, we will have four schools in the conference that offer tennis."

Now, along with Seward County, Cowley County, and Barton, PCC will be one of four schools in the Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference that offers tennis. The school welcomes newly hired head coach, Jeret Johnson.



## Women's Soccer

#### Women's Soccer Open 2021 with Conference Win



PRATT, Kan.- Coach Burnett and her group of young women were finally given the opportunity to play their first official match at Pratt's new soccer/track & field complex, and the result was nearly perfect as the Beavers defeated Southeast Community College 1-0.

The lone goal in the match came very early at the four-minute mark. Starting the counter-attack, Reyna Meraz intercepted the ball, and began drifting to the right side of the Beavers formation. She then found Kassandra Ramos, who quickly sent a lovely-weighted through ball to her forward, Amaya Myers. The Beavers attacker took one touch, that being a pass to the middle of the box, where she found Quemberi Merida. Merida set the ball at her feet, lobbed an accurate shot over the goalie's head, and saw the ball find the back of the net in spite of a partial deflection by the keeper.

Much of the remainder of the game was the Beavers controlling possession without any real threat from the Storm's attack. Pratt continued to create chances and near-finishes, but the one goal was enough to the final whistle.

#### **#DEFENDTHEDAM**



## Pratt Community College AGRICULTURE

#### FFA Students Visit Ag Department at PCC



High school students from the Skyline Future Farmers of America chapter visited the Agriculture Program at PCC. Lots of smiles and laughs accompanied the hands-on activities provided by Ag instructors Lori Montgomery and Barrett Smith.

The students used a calving simulator to get a feel for the anatomy of a pregnant cow, and observed new technology in ways to predict calving schedules. They studied the different grades of wheat and got behind the wheel of a sprayer in a virtual simulator that bounces around with every bump or curb check. It's not as easy as it seems! The simulator is provided to PCC on behalf of Skyland Grain.

Wildlife Outfitting and Operations instructor Rocky Robinson also gave a tour of the WOO facilities. Current students in the program also shared about their experience in WOO program and talked about the many field trips and project opportunities off-campus.

Visit our website (prattcc.edu/woo) to learn more about Wildlife Outfitting and Operations and the many paths of the Agriculture programs at PCC. You may also visit our website (prattcc.edu/agriculture) to learn more about the Crop Applicator Program in partnership with Skyland Grain.





#### Ag Students Smoke Brisket and Make Jerky for College Credit

Smells waft down the halls of Gwaltney Hall as lessons in the AGR245 Elements of Meats class are in progress at PCC.

The smoky, savory smells of smoked brisket, that is. Smoking meat for college credit? Heck yes!

Ag instructor Lori Montgomery instructs students on the proper way to smoke and cut brisket for tenderness and a rich flavor. Students got to enjoy lunch at 9am as they studied muscle structure and different cuts of meat.

Students also made jerky of all types and textures, from turkey, beef, bison, lamb, and even an Impossible Meat protein jerky.

The Impossible Meat product was a different texture and didn't take cure well before dehydration. It wasn't a favorite, but it's all about the hands-on learning in the classroom here.

Curious about all of the different paths of study in the Agriculture Department at PCC? Visit our website to learn more and sign up for a tour: www.prattcc.edu/tour



Lori Montgomery Agriculture Faculty

### MDSM Guest Speaker Bill Keller, Stanion Electric



### Business students were part of a frank and honest discussion with the President and CEO of a large area business; about what it's like to run a business.

Bill Keller of Stanion Wholesale Electric Co. Inc, headquartered in Pratt Kansas, joined the Principles of Microeconomics class on campus, alongside Business instructor Carol Ricke and instructor Jenny Egging of Modern Distribution Sales and Management (MDSM).

Keller focused on many topics, but the primary focus of the discussion outlined the win-win relationship between an employer and employees.

The win-win combination, according to Keller, is the ability for a company to both make a profit and treat people well. It's not always an easy balance.

Keller discussed the difficult decisions employers have to make in different seasons of business, for example, in down times like the suffering economy of 2009 when Wall Street fell, the far-reaching fallouts from 9/11, and more recently, COVID.

Keller also addressed the vital importance of an intentional company culture.

Students participated in good discussion points and opinions regarding the different levels of government regulation in business, and recent talks in Washington about raising the minimum wage to \$15 an hour. Not every business can roll with every punch.

## **PRATT Community** College

Jenny Egging MDSM Coordinator/Instructor jennye@prattcc.edu 620-450-2210

Student Adrein Mcfarland gleaned a lot from the discussion and gave viewpoints as the daughter of a business owner, who also spent time working in the family business.

"It's more rewarding to work up to those \$15 an hour instead of just getting it because the government is making you pay that \$15. My mom owns two restaurants and so a lot of what he said I liked because I know what it's like to be an employer because my mom is an employer."

Mcfarland is a senior at Pratt High School, taking the Principles of Microeconomics business class at PCC.

"I would like to see my generation and future generations more involved and to take classes like Economics and to know about politics and just to go talk to people in the Business industry like Bill Keller and just to hear his perspective on how things work. I'm very concerned about the future of our country, so it was good to hear his input."





#### PCC Hosts College Prep Day on Campus

Approximately 60 high school sophomore, juniors and seniors registered for College Prep Day on the Pratt Community College campus. Students received a college preparation checklist based on the year they graduate and attended several information sessions.

They learned about the processes for testing, enrollment, where to find and apply for scholarships and financial aid, the importance of community service and resumes, and choosing a major.

Students also toured the campus, stopping by the residence halls to meet with Student Life. A Resident Assistant (RA) was also on hand to answer questions. Student Life discussed examples of items they should and shouldn't bring to college with them, as well as an overview of what living on campus would look like.

Students heard about the many different types of activities offered, and what a day in the life of a student-athlete might look like, as there were students in the session interested in Athletics. Student Life also mentioned that the PCC Cheer team was traveling to Nationals that day, and PCC Wrestling just won the NJCCC Championship and would also be traveling to Nationals soon.

Lunch was provided inside Dennis Lesh Sports Arena at the conclusion of a successful in-person College Prep Day.



## MENTAL HEALTH MINUTE



#### **Keep Calm During Finals**

With the hint of summer coming around the corner, many of our students - and maybe a few of us - are ready for the semester to end and may already be "checking out." But before we can say our byes or see you next years, we have a big step to get past > finals.

Text anxiety is a very real thing experienced by many people – yours truly included. It can be very distressing and cause a student who would normally do well on assignments to tank a test. Below are different tips that can be used to help students learn to be calm(er) for a big test.

Outside of testing times, most of these tips are great for any time life gets to us: stress from work, home, social issues going on, etc. The biggest thing I try to tell clients is to breathe during stressful situations. Breathing will help slow down the physiological responses our body tends to rush to - rapid heart rate, frantic breathing, sweating, etc. It also allows us to think more clearly. One final tip for when life hits us upside the head is to take things one day -even one step- at a time. Focus on the tasks you can that seem manageable first. This will allow you to relax into the stress and not let it overpower you.

As always, encourage your students to reach out to us in the Student Success Center these last two weeks for tips and support. Faculty and staff, remember that we offer EMPAC services for free to you should you need to reach out to someone for additional help.



#### Amanda Wade Licensed Professional Counselor

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

## LIVE PERFORMANCE Performing Arts

#### **Parkwood Residents Enjoy Live Performance from Encore**

PCC's vocal group Encore took center stage to a captivated audience in one of their first "field trip" live performances off campus.

Parkwood Village is an assisted living facility located in Pratt, Kansas. About 20 residents enjoyed the performance by the students on the patio.

Performing Arts Director Misty Beck is glad to be back out there.

"It was so good to see so many familiar faces! We have missed our community outreach so much! What a blessing to be back at it. It was a little chilly out but the residents bundled up and several assured us it was worth it for live music!"

The residents and staff at Parkwood Village were grateful.

"We were thrilled to host Pratt Community College Encore singing group composed of very talented young people willing to share their gift. We look forward to hosing this group again."

Visit the Performing Arts Encore page to learn more about the group or book them for a performance at www.prattcc.edu/performingarts



For more information about PCC's Performing Arts, contact: Program Instructor Misty Beck | mistyb@prattcc.edu | 620-450-2209

## **PRATT** AUTOMOTIVE Community College Technology

#### **PCC Instructors Hold "No Boys Allowed" Automotive Clinic**



According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the percentage of women in the automotive repair and maintenance industry is 9.9% as of 2019.

Not to be discouraged, Automotive Technology instructors from Pratt Community College got together at the CTE facility at Kingman High School to host a clinic specifically for female students.

Freshman, sophomore, junior and senior girls from Kingman and Norwich high schools signed their names to a "No Boys Allowed in the Shop" sign-in sheet and rotated to different vehicle stations.

Each station was manned by a PCC instructor ready to show them the ropes and put them to work in basic, but essential automotive tasks like how to check and change a battery, change oil and oil filters, what to know when you take your vehicle to a repair shop, how to change a flat tire and much more.

The Auto Clinic was a success in teaching valuable new skills and accomplishing new tasks with pride and a little smile or two.

The PCC instructors in attendance were Daryl Lucas, Lane Tunestead and Alan Ziegler from the Pratt shop, Tyler Wells from the Kingman campus, and Daniel Meng from the facility in Attica, KS.

The faculty members are heading to the Attica campus to hold another "No Boys Allowed" Auto clinic with USD 511.

PCC programs are accessible to all students. However, these clinics allow PCC the opportunity to expose a new, underrepresented audience to an industry that may spark their interest.

Learn more about the Automotive Technology program on our website: http://prattcc.edu/department/automotive-technology

Automotive Technology is one of the many areas of study in PCC's College Start program, where students can earn free college credit through PCC while still in high school. http://prattcc.edu/ department/college-start-college-credit-highschool-students

For more information, please contact: Daryl Lucas Automotive Instructor daryll@prattcc.edu 620-450-2227





### Automotive Technology Kingman High School

#### Kingman Students Earn Real-Life Experience and Free College Credit Through PCC

High School students in Kingman get to jump in and get their hands dirty with real-life work and earn college credit... for free. They are enrolled in the Automotive Technology program located at Kingman High School. It is a CTE Pathways program for high school students through Pratt Community College.

PCC Automotive instructor Tyler Wells is a Kingman native, and loves teaching his students the whole process.

"Whenever we do a job repair, they write down their 3 C's, your complaint, your cause and your correction. They will go through, diagnose the vehicle with the customer concern. They will write up a parts request for everything that's going to be needed to repair the job, look up prices for it, purchase prices for it, get a repair order built, get a parts quote built. They pretty much run it from start to finish so then they know what it's like in a dealership and they can transition easier to that."

Senior Carter Allen loves the program because he's learning specific things on important hardware. He's replacing the power steering pump on his dad's truck.



" (My dad) told me that it had been leaking for a while, so I brought it in a couple weeks ago and me and Mr. Wells took a look at it. We saw that none of the lines were broken or anything like that, didn't have any holes, so we narrowed it down to the pump which leaked right around the seal, so we pretty much went from there and ordered a new one, and I'm getting it put in."

There are a lot of high-tech tools in the new, state-of-the-art shop on the Kingman campus, but they have old-school options too. Junior Mitchell Partridge is studying wiring diagrams to diagnose an injector problem on a family vehicle.

"There's misfire here on my dad's Acura. We've been going through testing procedures and figuring out which injector has been causing the misfire, pulling up wire diagrams and testing."

Mr. Wells is proud to supervise the hands-on work in the Automotive Technology Program in Kingman.

"Every day it seems they get smarter and smarter, I know they're understanding what we're teaching, so they can walk into a dealership and not have an issue transitioning directly into a job, so it's really nice. It gives them a lot, a quicker jump on the job market especially and with a lot less student loans coming out of school, so it really helps out." Carter plans to continue on to the two-year Automotive program at Pratt Community College and go to work afterwards. Mitchell also plans to stick with it. He says there is a lot of money to be made in the industry, and getting a free head start on training while still in high school is great.

Learn more about the Automotive Technology programs on the Pratt Campus and the South Central Pathways campus in Attica, KS on our website: www.prattcc.edu

**PROGRAM FEATURE** 

#### LEARN MORE ABOUT

DEGREE & CERTIFICATE OPTIONS CAREERS IN AG AG CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

THE FUTURE OF AGRICULTURE STARTS HERE

## AGRICULTURE Program

PCC offers an agriculture program that has the great advantage of being located in South Central Kansas, one of the world's most productive agricultural regions. Students are able to work first hand with livestock and in production situations instead of just learning skills and theories in a classroom. Through a variety of partnerships with area industry, students have opportunities to experience the learning on a daily basis. This focus on hands-on training is apparent in the classroom.

The mission of the Agriculture Program at Pratt Community College is to emphasize student learning while preparing students with the requisite agricultural knowledge base and practical skills to transfer to a four-year college or university, or to successfully enter their chosen agricultural career.

Some course examples are: range management, livestock production, meats, marketing ag products and welding as well as traditional ag classes of soils, plant science, animal science and ag economics. The small class size ensures that students get the attention they deserve.

### DEGREE & CERTIFICATE OPTIONS

Associate of Science, Agricultural Education Associate of Science, Agronomy Associate of Science, Animal Science Associate of Science, Agribusiness & Economics Associate of Science, Pre-Veterinary Associate of General Studies, Ag Concentration Associate of Applied Science, Farm and Ranch Management Farm and Ranch Management Certificate, Crop Applicator Option

### **CAREER OPTIONS**

Veterinary Technician Environmental Scientist Ranch Manager Crop Input Sales

### **CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS**

Block and Bridle Rodeo Club Collegiate Farm Bureau

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT

Lori Montgomery lorim@prattcc.edu 620-450-2186 www.prattcc.edu/agriculture

## PRATT COMMUNITY COLLEGE CELEBRATE DIVERSITY TEAM

## **Cinco de Mayo - Mexican History**

Cinco de Mayo, or the fifth of May, is a holiday that celebrates the date of the Mexican army's May 5, 1862 victory over France at the Battle of Puebla during the Franco-Mexican War. The day, which falls on Wednesday, May 5 in 2021, is also known as Battle of Puebla Day. While it is a relatively minor holiday in Mexico, in the United States, Cinco de Mayo has evolved into a commemoration of Mexican culture and heritage, particularly in areas with large Mexican-American populations.

Within Mexico, Cinco de Mayo is primarily observed in the state of Puebla, where Zaragoza's unlikely victory occurred, although other parts of the country also take part in the celebration.

Traditions include military parades, recreations of the Battle of Puebla and other festive events. For many Mexicans, however, May 5 is a day like any other: It is not a federal holiday, so offices, banks and stores remain open.

#### Why Do We Celebrate Cinco de Mayo?

In the United States, Cinco de Mayo is widely interpreted as a celebration of Mexican culture and heritage, particularly in areas with substantial Mexican-American populations.

Chicano activists raised awareness of the holiday in the 1960s, in part because they identified with the victory of Indigenous Mexicans (such as Juárez) over European invaders during the Battle of Puebla.

Today, revelers mark the occasion with parades, parties, mariachi music, Mexican folk dancing and traditional foods such as tacos and mole poblano. Some of the largest festivals are held in Los Angeles, Chicago and Houston.

Source Cited: HISTORY, A&E Television Networks, 16 Apr. 2021, www.history.com/topics/holidays/cinco-de-mayo.



JOAN 115

#### CELEBRATE DIVERSITY TEAM MEETS THE FIRST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH 3PM | VIA ZOOM

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

## PRATT COMMUNITY COLLEGE CELEBRATE DIVERSITY TEAM



#### **Student Feature**

Brando Inchaurregui From: Lorain, Ohio

#### Tell us about your background.

My siblings raised me, my parents provided for me. Where I'm from, the population is about 80,000. I'm from the South side. It's just like a rough community, but I look at is as diamonds in the rough, it just always takes enough rough to get to the diamonds.

I have 6 siblings, two sisters and four brothers. Anytime I have a problem here or anywhere, I call my sister on the phone and say hey something's not going my way and she finds a way for it to go my way.

#### Any family traditions or favorite foods?

My favorite thing about home is the family cookout. It's not really planned, everyone just shows up all the uncles and everybody. There's a lot of pork, rice and beans a lot of Hispanic food. They like saying jokes, there's a lot of jokes that's going to go through the house the whole time, everybody's going to be laughing. Eat. My grandma's going to tell you to eat the whole time.

The family is bilingual, a lot of them speak Spanish, some know how to speak English but choose to speak Spanish.

Pictured: (Top) Brando's niece and nephews, (bottom) Brando's family and friends

#### How is Pratt, KS different from home?

Pratt's community is real supportive. Everybody knows everybody around Pratt, everybody is going to support you no matter what you're doing. Back in my city you don't see like everybody wants to see everybody, somebody wants to see you fail. Pratt, everybody is always trying to build somebody so that's what I like about Pratt, that's why I came here.

#### What's the first thing you do when you go home?

I'll probably go and chill with my nephews will be the number one thing I'll do when I get back home. I have five nephews and one niece. I'll go home, eat snacks, go in the backyard with them. I miss them a lot. Yeah, they call me Uncle Sweet Cheeks.



## **Message from the President**

**Dr. Michael Calvert** 

#### Statement from PCC President Dr. Michael Calvert on Questions Regarding Vaccine Requirements

PCC President Dr. Michael Calvert wishes to release the following statement to answer any questions that may arise regarding the possibility of vaccine requirements for students or employees that return for the 2021-2022 school year.

"At this point PCC will NOT require students, whether living on campus or commuting, to be vaccinated for COVID – 19. This may be something we consider in the future, but at this point in time will not be a requirement of students for the 2021-2022 year. Program specific requirements may occur based on compliance with program affiliations or partnerships.

We strongly encourage everyone to get vaccinated as soon as possible to aid in stopping the spread of the virus. I would expect us to continue some level of COVID – 19 testing next year, similar to what has been conducted during this spring semester of 2021. Fully vaccinated persons, with proof of vaccination, are not required to quarantine regarding exposure or travel and may not be subject to PCC's surveillance or random testing protocol unless symptomatic.

Along the same lines, we will not require employees to be vaccinated for the 2021-2022 year. Again, we strongly encourage getting vaccinated as soon as possible."

Statement date: April 21, 2021

PCC President Dr. Michael Calvert



