



Pratt Community College

Monthly Newsletter

The

The official newsletter of PCC

BEAVER

April 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

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Upcoming Dates

Esther	Apr 1-3
Last Day to Withdraw	Apr 12
Beaver Building Day	Apr 13
Executive in Residence	Apr 15
Beaver Fever Week	Apr 18-22
Annual Auction	Apr 23
Beaver Building Day	Apr 27

Esther to be Shown First Time in 20 Years

PCC's spring musical has only been performed once, 20 years ago, but is coming back to Pratt Community College's stage for a second time.



"Esther", based on the book of Esther in the Bible, was written by Prattan Rose Beilman with music by Ed Davis and performed at PCC in 1996.

Beilman, now the Pratt High School theatre director, and Davis, now a music and worship pastor at the First United Methodist Church in Stillwater, Okla., made a difference in many students lives, which is apparent from looking at the cast list.

One student who is excited to be in the play because of the people involved from the beginning is Zach Stone, freshman from Pratt.

"Being a part of Esther is a huge honor for me since it was written by my high school theatre and forensics coach and my college theatre teacher was in it and is now directing it," he said. "It's fun to put this show together with a cast that I've gotten to work with on different shows throughout the last three years."

One other PCC student who claims Esther as his first role in a musical, is excited to be in it "again".

"When Esther was done in 1996, I was actually in the show," said Garrett Geesling, freshman from Turon playing Bigthan. "My mom was pregnant with me and played the role of Esther. It is now exciting for me to see my sister playing that same role and to have a role of my own."

The book of Esther was written approximately 470 B.C. in Persia, post exile about Jews who stayed behind after most returned to Jerusalem. In the story, Esther is personally chosen by the king to become queen and her love and faith save the Jewish people.

PCC's Performing Arts Department will perform the show April 1 and 2 at 7:30 p.m. and on April 3 at 2:30 p.m. The show will take place in Carpenter Auditorium and tickets will cost \$5 at the door.

PCC Nursing is Improving Quality and Showing Positive Results

The Pratt Community College Nursing department is dedicated and moving in the right direction to gain national accreditation from the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN). To achieve this accreditation, PCC is continuing to work on student test scores and NCLEX testing. The nursing on-campus facilities have also made some improvements which is giving students hands-on experience in real life situations.

One vast improvement the nursing department has implemented is a tight and concise curriculum that offers student's maximum learning in the classroom and hands-on training in clinicals as well as mentoring from the Nursing Faculty. From Fall 2014 to Fall 2015, test scores improved from a 74.7 percent average for the entire class to 81.3 percent. These results are based from eight tests throughout each semester and one final exam. Kay Watkins, Director of Nursing, said that since last year the program has made major changes to the curriculum and testing schedule.

"We found gaps in the old curriculum where students would learn a mountain of information and be tested on it much later," said Watkins. "Now we spread our testing out so they can focus on one area at a time. The new curriculum allows students to retain information and learn better overall."

On a national scale, PCC is required by the ACEN to have pass rates at or above the National Average with a 2-3 proficiency rate to apply for re-accreditation. The preferred rate is at or above 85 percent. PCC is actively collecting data from test scores that will help in the application process when the time comes. On the state level, the ADN program has conditional approval approved by the Kansas State Board of Nursing (KSBN) and will have another site visit in the Fall of 2017. Watkins says the students and faculty are working very hard this year and she is impressed with what they have achieved so far.

"We have a smaller group of students this year but the quality of the program and caliber of the student is remarkable," said Watkins.

Students are also benefiting from upgrades in the simulation lab on PCC's campus. Pratt Regional Medical Center (PRMC) and Hutchinson Regional Medical Center donated much needed hospital beds, patient room tables, monitoring devices and more. Because of their generosity, Watkins nominated both for the Kansas Board of Regents Partners Appreciation Award. PRMC's Chief Nursing

Officer Jack Kennedy was presented with the award Mar. 9 in the PCC Nursing simulation lab.

Watkins said she is proud to be able to present this award to PRMC.

"I am always looking for opportunities to help nurses in our community," said Kennedy. "I'm happy to see what PCC is doing with this equipment."



DR. MICHAEL FITZPATRICK, VP OF INSTRUCTION, JACK KENNEDY, KAY WATKINS, FRANK STAHL, COORDINATOR SPECIAL ADMISSIONS PROGRAMS

Watkins and Kennedy toured the simulation lab fully equipped with six working manikins that help to train students in a hands-on setting.

"We are able to train nursing students in a more realistic scenario. The simulator makes sounds, speaks and communicates feeling. These situations help the students to respond to a patient in real time, making decisions on the spot that could be lifesaving," said Watkins. "The dolls also give students the chance to practice technique such as taking blood, setting up an IV, and CPR. The dolls are also a positive stimulant when it comes to making mistakes in a controlled setting which builds confidence."

Students are continuing to test and gain experience utilizing the simulation lab. In the coming month, they will have two OB simulations with the manikin named "Noel" who is able to mimic labor and child birth. Students will spend eight hours testing in the classroom and testing in the patient room with "Noel" and an infant manikin.

The Nursing program is currently accepting applications for the Fall 2016 class. Nursing applications are due by Apr. 1.

'Back to the Dam' 29th Annual Scholarship Auction



Come support our annual scholarship auction

When

April 23, 2016
Doors open at 6 p.m.
Meal begins at 7 p.m.

Where

Pratt Area 4-H Center
81 Lake Road
Pratt, KS 67124

What

Fundraising for Student Scholarships.

Cost

\$25 for tickets ordered before April 15
\$30 for tickets purchased after April 15
Meal and open bar provided

Purchase tickets

620.450.2134

Questions

Contact Kurt McAfee
620.450.2179
kurtm@prattcc.edu

Calling all alumni, supporters and friends. Take a trip back in time and join Pratt Community College on Apr. 23 for the annual scholarship auction, a fundraiser that supports the scholarship fund for PCC students. This year the theme is "Back to the Dam" and the evening festivities include dinner, raffles, a silent auction and a live auction.

The event will be held at the Pratt 4-H Center and doors open at 6 p.m.

Raffle and auction items are being collected and stay tuned for a sneak peek at what will be in store. If you have an item that you would like to donate for the raffle or auction please contact Kurt McAfee at 620-450-2179, kurtm@prattcc.edu.

Tickets are on sale now for \$25 until April 15 and will be \$30 after then and at the door. Get your tickets from the PCC Cashier Desk today!

2016 Boyd Davies Executive-in-Residence

The 2016 Boyd Davies Executive-in-Residence is Kelly Estes, CEO of BTI since 1987. Estes grew a family business from one dealership location headquartered in Bucklin to a total of five locations in Bucklin, Greensburg, Ness City, Pratt and Hoxie.

Estes used what he knew to grow in other areas of business including wind-energy, and Information Technologies. He also spends his time working in the community on various boards and organizations.

Estes, along with his family, will be awarded with this prize in the PCC Library on Apr. 15.

The Boyd Davies Executive-in-Residence Award is just one of the ways that PCC celebrates being part of the Pratt community.



April Featured Artist, PCC Student Photographers

This month, the Delmar Riney Art Gallery features "student photographers" from the spring semester digital photography class. The class is instructed by Stan Reimer, Master Photographer Craftsman C.P.P ASP, of Stan Reimer Photography and Gallery, Pratt.

PCC is currently enrolling for the Fall semester digital photography class. The class begins Aug. 16 and is held on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 12:30 p.m. through December 8. The instructor will be Valarie Dellrocco. To enroll for the fall class, see your advisor or the admissions and enrollment office, area 51 in the Benson Education Center.



Give Back and Support our Community with 'Coins for a Cause'

Through College and Student Relations efforts PCC is partnering with the Miss Kansas Organization to raise funds for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals (CMNH) and the PCC Foundation for scholarships.

During the month of April PCC employees and students are challenged to donate their "coins for a cause" in designated jars on campus. All donations received during April will be split between Children's Miracle Network Hospitals and the PCC Scholarship Foundation. We ask employees to share their change for the children of CMNH and the students of PCC.

'Coins for a Cause' jars will be set up from Apr. 4-30 in the library, cafeteria, Beaver Bites, upper commons area and the cashier desk. The goal for the month of April is to raise \$1,000 to be split between CMNH and the PCC Foundation Scholarship Fund.

Also this month the Miss Kansas Organization has reserved the Dennis Lesh Sports Arena Apr. 30 and will be hosting "Dancing in the Dome", a CMNH fundraising event for the community of Pratt. The Class of 2016 Miss Kansas contestants will be dancing for pledges from 10:30 am to 3 p.m. A general donation may also be given on April 30th to support CMNH.

Special thanks to the Miss Kansas Organization and Miss Kansas 2015, Hannah Wagner, who will be on campus April 21 to provide support and be part of the Mr. Cinderella Pageant. Hannah will also be in attendance at the Foundation Scholarship Auction on April 23, promoting several items being donated by the Organization.



New INT instructor and eSports Coach

In December, Pratt Community College announced the revival of the Information Networking Technology (INT) program and the addition of a new club sport being added to the college's roster. The new activity is called eSports and PCC will be rolling out the virtual carpet to new and current students interested in using their gaming skills at a competitive level.

eSports is a fairly new activity to colleges across the country. It involves the practice and team competition of computer based video games that can be played online, such as the popular PC game, League of Legends. On the collegiate level hundreds of universities and community colleges have implemented eSports into their programs competing regionally against each other as a part of the Collegiate Star League. PCC is not the first college in Kansas to implement eSports. Kansas Wesleyan University and Kansas State University are actively competing in collegiate leagues. Wichita State University hosted their second annual eSports convention this past February with a grand prize of \$10,000 awarded to the winner of a League of Legends tournament.

In conjunction with the INT program and eSports, PCC has hired, Kenton Small, as an INT instructor and Head Coach of eSports. Small, comes to PCC from Newton, IA specializing in website and application development and design. Small also has experience in managing online game leagues for Sony Online Entertainment.

"I'm excited for this opportunity," said Small. "eSports is a relatively new industry and it will be a lot of fun working with students to launch a new team at PCC."

Small says that he and Dr. Michael Fitzpatrick, VP of Instruction at PCC, are working to finalize the curriculum structure based off the previous INT program as well as details pertaining to eSports.

eSports will be a team environment. Small anticipates having 12 students on the team. Their practices will be held on campus and will involve playing a variety of games including the most competitive, League of Legends. Practices will also include mandatory physical activity.

"I think it's important to exercise the body as well as the mind," said Small. "We will have a physical activity regimen including cardio into our practice time."

A permanent practice facility has not been determined for the team. However, Small and Fitzpatrick anticipate that in the future the eSports



team will be able to utilize the Dennis Lesh Sports Arena for competitions with spectators being able to watch their progress on big screens.

Students will also have the opportunity to earn scholarships for both INT and eSports. Small says students on the eSports team will be expected to maintain certain academic standards to participate and compete.

Small is heavily recruiting for both of these new ventures at PCC. He says that the INT program is perfect for students passionate about computers and who want to turn that passion into a career or those who know they want to be in this rapidly growing industry but have no prior experience. The program is designed to build a foundation and skills necessary for completing the CompTIA (Computing Technology Industry Association) Certifications in Computer Technology A+, Networking Technology N+ and Information Technology Security S+.

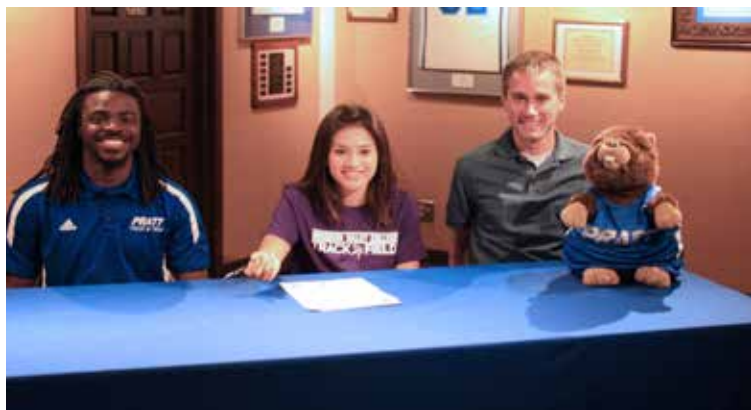
"Students do not need to be in the INT program to be on the eSports team," said Small. "We are looking for all types of students to be on the team. Any type of gamer or student who wants to grow in this sport can try out."

Small wants students to know that both INT and eSports are growing industries with a lot of potential in the future.

"eSports is projected to grow to be a billion dollar sport within four years. A lot of scholarships are out there for students and there is even possibility to turn into a career in the future."

Enrollment for Fall 2016 has begun and students who are interested in learning more and enrolling for the INT program or trying out for eSports can contact Small at kentons@prattcc.edu.

Divina Flores Signs with Missouri Valley College



Divina Flores is moving on from her playing days at Pratt Community College to become a Viking at Missouri Valley College. The sophomore runner has signed to run both track and cross country there starting in the fall of 2016.

"I'm proud of her," said head track coach Joshua Harden. "This is a great program for her to go into at Missouri Valley. She's been a key member in the improvement of the PCC distance program."

Flores emerged as prolific runner for the Beavers this season. At this year's Missouri Southern State University Southern Stampede, Flores ran

a 5K in 19:55.5 posting the third fastest 5K time in PCC women's cross country history. Her accolades for the blue and white do not end there as she excelled during the indoor track season this year. During the NJCAA indoor track and field nationals, Divina ran the third leg of the vvvvv relay team that posted a time of 10:07.68. With that time PCC placed 10th in that race and the school record in that event.

"Even though we are sad to lose her," said coach Harden, "we are happy that she has found a new home to continue her academic and running career. Missouri Valley has gained a hard-working and dedicated student athlete."

PCC Soccer Hosts Kids' Clinic

On Mar. 22 and 23 the Pratt Community College soccer teams hosted a skills clinics for the youth of the Pratt community. Children from the ages of three through 11 participated in drills focused on improving passing and shooting before using the skills they learned against a live defense in a scrimmage.

"It was awesome," said head women's soccer coach Ron Snyder. "This was my first year participating in this clinic. They've had it several times in the past. Hopefully, by continuing to have these camps, we can influence the parents and players of Pratt enough to spark an interest in a youth league for the kids."

PCC players and coaches assisted in the drills with men's soccer coach Kevin Kewley officiating in the scrimmages. Some of the older campers even got the chance to scrimmage against several PCC players.

"It was great to connect with the community," said coach Kewley. "It was good to show the kids how to play the game. Our players really enjoyed playing with the kids, and showing them the right techniques."



Coach Thompson Moves to Assistant Director of Athletics

Stephanie Thompson, head coach of the Pratt Community College women's basketball team, is stepping down as coach of the Beavers to spend more time with family and to explore other options in athletics.

"I am honored to have served as head women's basketball coach for the previous eight years," said Coach Thompson. "Although it is difficult for me to walk away from the game and players that I truly love, it is in the best interest of PCC basketball, and most importantly, our children for me to make this tough decision."

In her eight-year tenure as head coach at Pratt Community College, Thompson holds an overall record of 106-142. In addition, she has coached one first team All-American player, three All-Region 6 players, and ten All Conference players.

"I want to thank Stephanie for her hard work developing our women's basketball program," said PCC athletic director Bill Wilson. "As our basketball coach, she was dedicated to the development of her student athletes on the court, in the classroom, and as citizens."

Although Coach Thompson is moving on from her coaching role, her dedication and impact on PCC athletics will continue. She has decided to remain at PCC as an assistant athletic director.



Hernandez Top Competitor at Rodeo

The Beaver Rodeo team competed at the Fort Scott College Rodeo Mar. 4, 5, and 6.

Noel Hernandez was the top hand of the weekend for PCC. He brought home a check and ended up 2nd in the average in the team roping. He was 3rd in his long round and 2nd in the short go.

Mason Brehm just missed the cut with 11th place in the steer wrestling, he was off by a tenth of a second to make the top ten.

The PCC Rodeo team will compete again at the Garden City Community College Rodeo Apr. 4.



2016
**BEAVER
FEVER
WEEK**



EVENTS

May the odds 'beaver' in your favor

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

Lip Sync Battle
Beaver Underground
7:00 PM

Beaver Olympics
Outdoor Courts
7:00 PM

Pack the Park
Beaver Softball
vs
Barton
Lemon Park
Tailgate 2:00 PM

Mr. Cinderfella
Pageant
Auditorium
7:00 PM



APR 1-3 *Esther*

CARPENTER AUDITORIUM
FRI AND SAT 7:30
SUN 2:30

APR 5
WIFFLE BALL
TOURNAMENT
DLSA 8PM

APR 6
DISC GOLF TOURNY
DENNIS MAY PARK
4PM



APR 7

#TBT MOVIE NIGHT
BREAKFAST CLUB
RINEY 312 9PM



APR 11
DODGE BALL!
DLSA 8PM

APR 12
BEAVER UNDERGROUND
OPEN MIC NIGHT
LIBRARY 7:30PM

APR 14
COED VOLLEYBALL
DLSA 7PM



APR 15
EXECUTIVE IN RESIDENCE
PRESENTATION 11 AM
CARPENTER AUDITORIUM

APR 18-22



APR 25
CASINO NIGHT
UPPER COMMONS
8PM



APR 26
BSB VS. COWLEY
PACK THE PARK
TAILGATE
4 PM STANIONFIELD

APR 28
SKATE NIGHT
ROLLARENA 9PM



Student Activities APRIL 2016

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