



Stroud nominated as KC Piper award candidate

David Stroud, Kilgore College history instructor, has been nominated to represent the college as a 2008 Piper Professor candidate. The Minnie Stevens Piper Award is given annually through invitation only and honors the top instructors from community colleges and universities across Texas.

Each candidate must be nominated through the college president's office. Each year, the Piper Foundation grants 15 awards of \$5,000 each to professors for superior teaching at the two collegiate levels.

"Through his 30-plus years of teaching at Kilgore College, he has inspired literally thousands of students to continue their love of history," said Dr. Gerald Stanglin, vice president of instruction. "His impact at Kilgore College has been huge."

In addition to receiving numerous teaching awards,



History instructor David Stroud has taught at KC for more than 30 years. He was nominated by the faculty this year as the school's representative for the Minnie Stevens Piper Award. **Photo by Jennifer Bowers, The Flare.**

Stroud has written several books and had several articles published in history magazines including *Texas Ranger Dispatch*, *Gun Report*

and *Man at Arms*. Books Stroud has written include *Ector's Texas Brigade & the Army of Tennessee, 1862-1865* (2005), *Flames &*

Vengeance—the Presidential Election of 1860 (1992), *Grazing Fire, Sword & 1861-*

stroud CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

KC Board of Trustees appoints Griffin to fill unexpired term

The Kilgore College Board of Trustees unanimously approved Carlos "Scooter" Griffin, Jr. to fill the unexpired term of Carolyn Johnston who resigned in August.

Griffin was chosen by a nominating committee comprised of trustees Randell Brint, Fred Parsons and Marion Turner.

Griffin will remain on the board until the board's next election in May of 2009 when he will

have to run to keep the position.

Griffin graduated from Longview High School, Kilgore College and Texas A&M University with an engineering degree.

Since 1987, he has been president of Geo-Vest, Inc., an oil and gas production company.

Griffin was born in Bryan, Texas in 1954. He is married to Debbie McGill Griffin and has three children,

member CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



Sharlene Robinett swears in Carlos "Scooter" Griffin at the KC Board Meeting Nov. 13. Griffin takes over for Carolyn Johnston who resigned in August.



President's Perspective



looking for the **GOOD** in crisis

Last Wednesday, Nov. 28, we started our day with a very real crisis: carbon monoxide had affected our students in the Nolan Street Residence Hall. We are all very, very thankful that the students' illness was not more severe and that we were able to provide medical attention to all of them very quickly.

How very blessed and fortunate that far worse results did not happen! It could have been much more tragic.

Events such as these can be great teachable moments for us – and it is incumbent on us to learn from them. We learned that individuals who have been training and working on disaster preparedness were able to make calm, logical and strategic decisions very quickly.

We learned that by pulling together, not assessing blame, and working toward solutions, we were able to identify and remedy the problem quickly. We learned that human compassion, sincere caring and honest communication were our friends in this crisis.

We also identified ways in which we can improve our communications and make our campus even safer for all those who come to this place. The emerging clarity of hindsight is an opportunity to improve and become better.

There will be future crises, more circumstances to challenge us, and times when things don't work correctly. It is our task to continue to improve, to work toward greater safety and well being for all of our students and staff, to provide the very best environment for all of us. As we acknowledge our weaknesses and failures, as we commit ourselves toward excellence and improvement, as we rededicate ourselves to our core mission, we know we can gradually become the reality to which we aspire.

NEW employees

Dewey Greer was hired as a process technology instructor. His office is in the Applied Technology Center.

Eva McClellan was recently hired as an administrative assistant in the workforce development department in the Bert E. Woodruff Adult Education Center.

FACULTY & STAFF reports

East Texas Oil Museum director **Joe White** would like to remind all KC employees that they are entitled to two complimentary tickets to visit the museum. See page three for the museum's holiday hours.

Government instructor **Ayo Ogundele**, has co-authored an article with his colleague, Dr. Linda Keith, assistant professor of Political Science at UT at Dallas. The article is published in the current edition of Human Rights Quarterly, a Comparative and International Journal of the Social Sciences, Humanities, and Law (Vol. 29, No. 4, November 2007: pp. 1065-1097). The article is titled, "Legal Systems and Constitutionalism in Sub-Saharan Africa: An Empirical Examination of Colonial Influences on Human Rights." The article examines the extent to which the British and French colonial legacies influence the human rights behavior of post-colonial African states.

Latinos en Accion, a campus organization sponsored by **Margarita Talavera-Hoferer**, will be collecting new and semi-new toys for the needy children in the community. The toys will be donated to the local Catholic church, Women Crisis Center and Helping Hands of Kilgore. There are three drop spots on campus: Old Main, #117, Student Success Center #111 and Leah Gorman's office in the Devall Student Center. Presents do not need to be wrapped. The club will collect presents until Dec. 7.

Purchasing agent **Jackie Fout** is selling American Cancer Society Golf Passes for \$35. The pass provides 857 rounds of golf at 322 courses in Texas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Nebraska and Kansas. All proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society. Fout is located in the purchasing office in the administration building or by dialing extension 8106.

Physical therapy instructor **Cindy Lavine**, received the Joy Davenport award for Most Outstanding Physical Therapist Assistant last month. This award is given by the Texas Physical Therapy Association (TPTA) and is given to recognize outstanding clinical practice, service to the community and the profession. She was nominated by the board members of the East Texas District of the TPTA and received the award at TPTA's annual conference in Galveston in October.

GOOD NEWS:

Jake Rockett, son of records specialist **Laura Mulanax**, has been selected for the Kilgore Intermediate School Mathematics League. The criteria for selection are commended performance on last year's TAKS Math test and recommendation of the child's learning community teachers.

Zack Holley, son of administrative assistant **Ginger Holley**, married Eva Colon on Nov. 4 in Fountain Hills, Ariz. Zack was a Rangerette Manager and a 2000 graduate of Kilgore College. He is a senior regional marketing associate with Cole Capital Corporation in Phoenix, Ariz. Eva is also from Phoenix.

Radiologic technology instructor **Nancy Lamouroux** is pleased to announce that her fifth grandchild, Madison Ashley, was born Nov. 5. She weighed 7 lbs. 4 oz.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 12/1 : Tammy Pascoe | 12/16: Jude Dubois & Lillian Jones |
| 12/2: Barker Hale & Dawn Wilson | 12/17: Carla Gleaton |
| 12/3: Nina Verheyden | 12/18: Renee Wiley |
| 12/4: Melesio Mata & Sandy Teel | 12/21: Bronson Dear |
| 12/5: Nancy Starr | 12/22: Janet Baxter, |
| 12/6: Judy Steenson | Margarita Talavera-Hoferer |
| 12/7: Laura Bogenschutz | & John Whitehead |
| 12/9: Jan Washburn | 12/23: Karen Johnson & Ronnie Lee |
| 12/10: Joseph Fults & Todd Long | 12/24: Shun Au-Young & Jane Hanlon |
| 12/12: Naivo Rajaelina | 12/25: Patti Alford |
| 12/13: Kari Golden & Robin Huskey | 12/27: Michael Smith |
| 12/14: Julian Redfeam & Barbara Brush | 12/31: Carol Chambers |

Check presentation held to celebrate \$1 million grant

The Kilgore College Workforce Development program celebrated a milestone Nov. 19, accepting more than \$1 million in state grants to the college to train employees for three local companies, Convergys, Key Energy and Orgill, Inc.

Kilgore College will train 510 new employees at Convergys in Longview, 115 new employees and 60 current Key Energy employees from various East Texas locations and 148 new and incumbent employees from Orgill, Inc., the nation's largest independently owned hardware and home improvement supply distributor.

Both Convergys and Orgill, Inc. are major employers new to East Texas and their economic impact on the region will be considerable.

Kilgore College President Dr. William Holda expressed

great appreciation for the three grants.

"We are excited about the possibility of assisting these companies in training efforts as they expand," Holda said. "The Skills Development Fund Grant will provide great assistance to enable us to offer this workforce training."

The fund finances the implementation and design of customized job training projects for businesses and trade unions in an effort to raise the skills level and wages of the Texas workforce.

Martha Woodruff, director of KC Workforce Development, worked with the TWC and each of these companies to ensure the grants were awarded and used to benefit local workers and companies.

"We are thrilled to get these grants," Woodruff said. "Our job will be to use these funds to train workers so they



Members of the media and KC employees attend the check presentation Nov. 19 in the Devall Ballroom. KC received more than \$1 million in state grants to train employees for three local companies.

can be productive and skilled workers."

Texas Workforce Commissioner Diane Rath was supposed to make the trip from Austin to present

the Skills Development Fund grants in person, but her flight was delayed in Dallas and she was unable to attend. Judge Bill Stoudt filled in for Rath to present the checks.

stroud CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

1865 (1985) and *Inscribed Union Swords, 1861-1865* (1983).

Since the award's inception in 1958, six KC instructors have received the Piper award including Dr. S.L. Canterbury (1964), Annie Lou Ballard (1977), Anne Dean Turk (1981), Elwyn Bone (1989), Bettye Craddock (1998) and O. Rufus Lovett (2005).

member CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Mandy Griffin Beddingfield, 33; Mark Griffin, 25; and Libby Griffin, 23. He is the eldest of three sons, raised on the Griffin Ranch in the Peatown community of Gregg County.

Before college, he worked for Eastman Kodak's Texas construction subsidiary. He graduated from Kilgore College and Texas A&M in 1978 with an engineering degree and took his first job as an engineer-in-training with an oilfield service company, Mitchell Energy Corporation, in the Fort Worth Basin. Mitchell Energy was the largest producer in the Fort Worth Basin and soon hired Griffin as a drilling engineer.

Soon after, he received his Professional Engineering Registration. He worked several positions with Mitchell, from field operations to corporate. In 1987, Griffin decided to return home to the Griffin Ranch to start the company called Geo-Vest, Inc., with several close friends. They raised funds to drill their first well and have since grown the company into a successful current operator of 41 active producing wells.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Employee Christmas Luncheon

11 a.m. Dec. 14
Devall Ballroom

DECEMBER CALENDAR

- 12-2 11:30 a.m., Rotary Rangerette Luncheon, DSC Ballroom
- 12-5 Holiday Luncheon, #8, Cafeteria
- 12-6 11:30 a.m., Superintendent's Luncheon, DSC Ballroom
- 12-9 3 p.m., Keyboard Extravaganza, Van Cibus Auditorium
Midnight Breakfast, 10:30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m., Cafeteria
- 12-10 7 p.m., Rangerette Christmas party, DSC Ballroom
- 12-14 11 a.m., Employee Christmas Luncheon, DSC Ballroom
2 p.m., ADN Pinning Ceremony, Dodson Auditorium
7 p.m., KC Graduation, Dodson Auditorium
- 12-17 Christmas mini-semester begins

This calendar is subject to change daily. For an updated calendar of events call Leah Gorman, coordinator of student activities, at (903) 988-7521 or e-mail her at lgorman@kilgore.edu.



"Decorated for the holidays!"

Christmas Schedule

OPEN

Dec. 15, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Dec. 16, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Dec. 18-22, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

CLOSED

Dec. 23, 24, 25

OPEN

Dec. 26-29, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

CLOSED

Dec. 30, 31, 2007

Jan. 1-2, 2008

RE-OPEN

Jan 3, 2008