KC will honor longtime employees at Christmas Luncheon

Kilgore College will honor 31 employees at its annual Christmas Luncheon for having served KC for milestone years of service to the college. The luncheon is set for 11:30 a.m. Friday, Dec. 13, in the Devall Student Center Ballroom. Employees at right have served the college for 30 or more years. See the complete list of service award recipients on page 4.

Karen Scibona
Karen Scibona, Executive Assistant and Research Data Specialist for Institutional Planning, helped a student in need this semester by taking time out of her day to make sure he made it to class. The student usually had a ride from Kilgore to attend a night class in Longview, but due to an emergency, his ride was not available. Scibona took the time to drive the student to Longview to make sure he made it on time to his 6 p.m. class.

Karen Dulweber
Karen Dulweber, QEP & Writing Studios Director, has been nominated as going “above and beyond” by fellow tutors at the writing studios. Her co-workers said she is always striving to make the studios more student-friendly and is always going the extra mile to make a difference in a student’s life. Dulweber is described as a very passionate and professional person who takes joy in working with students and taking pride in her work as director of the KC Writing Studios. As one tutor said, “She is the epitome of a selfless employee who puts students first.”

Decorate a table at the Christmas Luncheon

The KC Hospitality Committee invites all employees to participate in the fourth annual Christmas Gala of Tables. The committee asks individual employees, groups of employees or departments to “adopt” tables for the KC Christmas Luncheon Dec. 13.

Employees must provide all decorations for the table which could include a centerpiece, place mats, chair coverings (eight chairs to a table), etc. “The table will be yours to turn into a Christmas Gala!” exclaimed Tony Johnson, HR director. “I know we have a ton of creative employees that will add some real excitement to our luncheon. It will be exciting to see all the beautiful and creative decorations on the tables!”

Please let Tony Johnson know by Dec. 9 if you will adopt a table to decorate.

Tables are filling up quickly, so let Tony know today!

The KC Golden Z Club will host its second Annual Golden Z Day Celebration from 1 to 3 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6, (come and go) in the Devall Room.

The club was chartered Dec. 7 (2017) as the first and only Golden Z Club in East Texas, sponsored by The Zonta Club of Greater East Texas and chartered as one of the youth groups of Zonta International. For more information about Zonta International, visit www.zonta.org.

In addition, it is serving the community (Kilgore Boys and Girls Club) by collecting $5-$10 gift cards from anyone who would like to help support SMART Girls. SMART Girls is a small-group health, fitness, prevention/education and self-esteem enhancement program designed to meet the developmental needs of girls in three age groups, spanning from the ages of 8 to 18.

Click here for more info
A Look Back...

Last year at this time KC was beginning its Focus to Finish work in earnest. Many of the early discussions revolved around the culture of the organization and whether or not we, however unconsciously, had erected barriers that impaired student success. Those discussions helped us examine our policies and procedures under a new lens and from a student perspective.

We all agree that our work is ongoing. While KC has definitely made strides toward creating a culture that is “student ready,” I think that we all agree that our work, as well as our discussions, must continue.

Recently, at a Texas Pathways summit, a presenter challenged all attendees to return “home” and apply a litmus test to present institutional culture. The speaker contended that in order for true transformation to occur, a shift “from” to “to” must occur:

- Are students college ready? Are colleges student ready?
- Sanctioned wandering: Purposeful direction
- Institutional silos: Cross-functional teams
- Discrete strategies/boutique programs: Evidenced-based practices integrated into coherent student experiences at scale
- Support services optional/ by referral: Integrated/contextualized academic support
- Offering classes based on institutional or personal preferences: Need to take when they need to take them
- Equity as a sidebar: Equity as a design principle

As we look forward to a new decade filled with promise, it is important that we continue to apply this litmus test to all of our work to come. Have we made strides? Yes, definitely.

Yet, it is crucial that we continue to ask ourselves whether our change reflects a surface change (i.e.: words vs. action) or a true transformational change? An important question to continue to ponder as we head into 2020 and beyond.

My wish for each of you this Christmas is to be surrounded by those people you cherish the most while sharing the magic of the holiday season! Thank you for your continued hard work and dedication to our students….they deserve our very best. Enjoy every minute of your break…You deserve it.

Until next year,

Brenda S. Kay

FOLLOW DR. KAYS ON TWITTER!
@KCBrendaKays

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**Important January Dates**

- **Thursday, Jan. 2**: Offices re-open
- **Monday, Jan. 6**: Spring Convocation, 7:45 a.m. in the Rangerette Gymnasium
- **Tuesday, Jan. 7**: Final on-campus registration, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Sunday, Jan. 12**: Residence halls re-open
- **Monday, Jan. 13**: First class day for Spring 1 and 16-week terms
- **Thursday, Jan. 16**: KC Foundation Scholarship Luncheon, 11:30 a.m., Devall Ballroom
- **Friday, Jan. 17**: MLK Scholarship Luncheon, 7:30 a.m. in the Devall Ballroom
  - Campuses close at 2:45 p.m.
- **Monday, Jan. 20**: Campuses closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday
- **Tuesday, Jan. 21**: Upward Bound Spring Orientation, 6 p.m. in Devall Ballroom
- **Wednesday, Jan. 29**: 12th Class Day - Official Reporting Day

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**Presidents Perspective**

**Faculty & Staff Reports**

Dr. Staci Martin, Dr. Mike Turpin, Dr. Mike Jenkins, Dr. Ginger Dennis and Jase Graves presented “Focus to Finish: Connecting and Communicating Pathways to Student Success” at the Texas Pathways Institute held in San Antonio Nov. 6-8.

An essay written by Meredith May, history instructor, is featured in the book, “Wanted in America: Posters Collected by the Fort Worth Police Department, 1898-1903,” which was recently published by Texas A&M University Press. May was one of 35 professors, journalists and historians who contributed their talents to research and craft the essays that accompany posters in the book.

**New Employee**

KC welcomes Ryan Cavel to the Admissions & Registrar team. Cavel will serve as KC’s Workforce Admissions Counselor, a new position funded by a Carl Perkins grant. He will work with folks in the technical vocational areas to increase enrollment through social media efforts, active recruiting and by developing marketing materials targeted at increasing nontraditional student enrollment. Cavel is a veteran of the Marine Corps, and completed coursework at KC before transferring to Sam Houston State University. Upon earning a degree in Public Relations and Advertising from SHSU, he reverse-transferred credits back to KC. Therefore, Cavel is a proud alum of KC. For assistance with recruiting for your program, Cavel is located in Suite 218 on the second floor of the Devall Student Center. He can be reached at 903-983-8155 rcavel@kilgore.edu.

**College News**

**KC Mathematics Department earns Math Pathways Award**

The KC Mathematics Department has received the prestigious Math Pathways Award from the Charles A. Dana Center at The University of Texas at Austin.

The award was presented at the Texas Success Center’s Texas Pathways Institute held recently in San Antonio. At the awards ceremony, the presenter noted that KC had done great work determining appropriate math courses for each student’s major and the increased number of students completing a college-level math course in their first year at the college.

“Math completion rates went from in the teens to more than 30 percent for almost all student populations,” said Dr. Brenda Kays. “While all student populations have experienced increased completion rates, the math department’s work has closed the achievement gap for students of color by an even greater percentage.”

Department chair of the math department is Brandon Walker.
On-Campus Calendar

4, Basketball (Men) vs. Coastal Bend, Masters Gym, 5:30 p.m.
Basketball (Women) vs. Angelina College, Masters Gym, 7:30 p.m.
6, Chevron Check Presentation, Whitten ATC-109, 8:30 a.m.
Golden Z Day, Devall Room, 1 p.m.
8, RANGERETTE Christmas Show, Dodson Auditorium, 2 & 5 p.m.
10, KC Foundation Resource Development, Devall Room, Noon
11, Kilgore Rotary Rangerette Luncheon, Devall Ballroom, 11:30 a.m.
Basketball (Women) vs. Panola College, Masters Gym, 5:30 p.m.
13, ADN Pinning Ceremony, Dodson Auditorium, 9 a.m.
Christmas Employee Luncheon, Devall Ballroom, 11:30 a.m.
KC Graduation, Dodson Auditorium, 6 p.m.
Campuses Close @ 2:45 p.m.
16, KC Board of Trustees Meeting, McLaurin Building, 6:30 p.m.
29, Basketball (Men) vs. Houston CC, Masters Gym, 6 p.m.

DATA: Did you know?
86 percent of students enrolled in Fall 1 returned for Fall 2.
Data provided by:
KC Office of Institutional Planning

IA: Did you know?
The Glenn Wells Band Scholarship is now fully endowed and will provide scholarship dollars for aspiring KC Band members.
Information provided by:
KC Office of Institutional Advancement

Rangerette Christmas show set for Dec. 8

The Kilgore College Rangerettes will host their ninth annual Christmas show on Sunday, Dec. 8, with two shows set for 2 and 5 p.m. in Dodson Auditorium.
The one-day-only Broadway-style show, “A December to Remember,” will feature the world-famous Rangerettes and guest performances by local dance groups and the KC Dance Department. Tickets are $15 each and all seating is reserved. Tickets are available this week, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Rangerette Box office located on the south end of the Rangerette Gym.
Tickets will also be sold at Dodson Auditorium 45 minutes prior to each show. This year’s shows will feature the Kilgore Hi-Steppers and Co-Ed Dancers, In-Step Dance Company, The Dance Studio and the Whitehouse First Ladies.
For more information, call 903-983-8179.

Christmas Gala Dec. 5

The KC Music and Dance Department will present “Sounds of the Season: A Christmas Gala” at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5, in Van Cliburn Auditorium. Performances will include the KC Jazz Band, KC Steel, KC Connection and music faculty. The free concert will include holiday favorites such as Feliz Navidad, Carol of the Bells, Sleigh Ride, Santa Baby.

DECEMBER
12-2 Dawn Wilson
12-4 Nicholas Simpson
12-4 Sandra Teel
12-8 Wade Cates
12-11 Monica Brock
12-12 Jennifer Deupree
12-13 John Raulston
12-14 Julian Redfern
12-14 Penny Robbins
12-14 Rachel Stallard
12-16 Ada Duarte De Ortiz
12-16 Jude Dubois
12-16 Lillian Jackson
12-18 Rene’ Wiley
12-20 Chris Gore
12-21 Joel Estrada
12-22 Halen Dorsey
12-22 Amanda Jackson
12-22 John Whitehead
12-23 Karen Johnson
12-26 Virginia Germany
12-27 Myra Quinones
12-28 Michael Smith
12-29 James Bixler
12-30 Kevin Powers
12-31 Rebekah Metcalf

JANUARY
1-3 Lynn McCutchen
1-3 William Stowe
1-4 Ashley Mason
1-6 Michael Fennell
1-10 Mary Isichei
1-11 Paul Buchanan
1-13 Kristan Prope
1-18 Sheri Burlingame
1-18 Peter Hopkins
1-18 Shelby Wayne
1-21 Gail Cerlano
1-21 Heidi Everett
1-21 Sandra Ruddell
1-22 Emily Hammett
1-22 Carol Hardee
1-27 Vickie Gramling
1-28 Charmyn Tumey
Longtime employees will be recognized Dec. 13
KC will celebrate 450 years of service from 31 employees

40 YEARS
Ann Thrower - Instructor, Mathematics

35 YEARS
Becky Johnson - Dean, Arts and Mathematical Sciences
Larry Kitchen - Program Chair & Gallery Director, Visual Arts

30 YEARS
Dorothy Puckett - Instructor, Biology
Susan Yellott - Instructor, Mathematics

25 YEARS
Manny Almanza - Director of Marketing
Melonie Bonner - Manager, Kilgore Testing Center

20 YEARS
Pam Gatton - Director, Counseling and Testing
Tina Rushing - Program Leader/Instructor, Substance Abuse Counseling

15 YEARS
Tim Bright - Instructor, HVAC & Refrigeration
Elena Ignatchenko - Instructor, Chemistry
Lillian Jackson - Program Director/Instructor, Cosmetology
Tony Means - Captain, Police Department (KCPD)
Barbara Prater - Executive Assistant, Student Development

10 YEARS
Melissa Dobbs - Academic Counselor, KC-Longview
Estonia Graves - Assistant Registrar
Mary Hawley - Instructional Assistant, Adult Education and Literacy
Ronda Lee - Learning Specialist, Student Success
John Raulston - Instructor, Government
Betsy Rodriguez - Assistant Coordinator, Adult Education and Literacy

5 YEARS
Jennie Alcantar - Workforce Development Specialist
Wesley Brasher - Instructor, Cosmetology
Jennifer Dupree - Texas School Ready Grant Coordinator
Kevin Hawthorne - Instructor, Nursing
Jennifer Hudnall - Instructor, Biological Sciences
Derek Hunter - Instructor, Government & History
Preston Lewis - Instructor, History
Dan Registad - Deputy Director, East Texas Police Academy
Portia Scott - Assistant Department Chair/Instructor, English
Angela Starling - Professional Support Assistant, KC-Longview
Karen Tutt - Adjunct Instructor, Child Development

KCFA celebrates 30 years
The Kilgore College Fire Academy will celebrate its 30th anniversary at a special graduation ceremony of the 108th class at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 4, in Van Cliburn Auditorium.
Eighteen students are candidates for graduation from the academy.
The KC Fire Academy has trained more than 1,700 students from all over the world since its inception in 1989.
Special guest speaker will be Rick Lasky, an emergency services consultant, author, motivational speaker and former chief of the Lewisville Fire Department.

‘Miracle on 34th Street: A Live Radio Play’ set for Dec. 13-15
Join the Texas Shakespeare Festival this Christmas season as it presents “Miracle on 34th Street: A Live Radio Play,” Friday-Sunday, Dec. 13-15.
Performances are set for 7:30 p.m. Friday; 2 p.m. Saturday; and 2 p.m. Sunday in the Anne Dean Turk Fine Arts Center.
In this unique radio play version, the action unfolds in a recording studio in 1947 as a small group of actors sends the classic story out across the airwaves.
This lively holiday adaptation is an inventive twist on a classic story, sure to get audience members in the Christmas spirit.
The play will feature actors Micah Goodding, Rick Higginbotham, DJ Canaday, Lona Cole, Matthew Simpson, Grace Abele and Meaghan Simpson. Tickets are $25 each.

For more information, or to purchase tickets, visit https://texasshakespeare.tix.com, call 903-983-8119 or email tsfboxoffice@gmail.com.