The college will honor these 44 employees who have served for a combined 690 years of service at the annual service awards Christmas luncheon 11 a.m. Friday, Dec. 12, in the Devall Student Center Ballroom.

All employees are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to the banquet for Helping Hands of Kilgore.
The Still Point of the Turning World

Many of us are familiar with the phenomenon associated with the eye of a hurricane: while the winds swirl around, there is this eerie calm in the very center of the storm. The same phenomenon occurs in a gyroscope, where the center remains steady and the rim is spinning.

Lately, the various events that have affected the Kilgore College community have created a maelstrom of news and frenetic activity. The various accusations, journalistic sensationalism and a lack of journalistic objectivity, the frenetic activity have all created a disturbance in our atmosphere. And yet, as the world turns so very fast around us, we have to remain still in the very center of the spinning world.

While all of this bombshell reporting may be of value to a local media outlet, what is more important to us is the wellbeing of the KC family members and friends. The health of Manny Almanza, the condition of Leah Gorman’s mother, the loss of the family of Tom Nixon, who recently died, and the various losses and challenges we have faced – these are the important events in the life of Kilgore College. They make the other happenings pale by comparison in importance.

KC will be OK – we will get through this drama. Once we prove that we live and work in a safe environment, once we prove that good individuals, acting in good faith, have served the best interests of Kilgore College, once we have exposed the web of deceit and malice that underpins these latest events – then the truth will set us free.

I encourage all of us to continue to focus on that which is important – the success of our students. Do not let these distractions divert us from the great work we do. I believe that we are a great group of folks, a great community, committed to making our community better as we offer educational opportunities to our students.

At this time of year, allow me to wish you a great Christmas and holiday season, full of peace, full of light, and full of promise as we enter a new year! Blessings on all of you for a great season of hope!

Welcome, new employee!

Welcome to Kristie Seward who began her career with Kilgore College on Nov. 3 as the Records & Reports Specialist for the department of Admissions & Registrar.

FACULTY & STAFF reports

Michele Daniels, speech instructor, has been selected by Phi Theta Kappa to serve as a 2015 Faculty Scholar at the Faculty Scholar Conference and the Honors Institute at University of New Mexico in Albuquerque. The conference will be held at the Center for Excellence in Jackson, Miss., Jan. 28 - Feb. 1, 2015. The Honors Institute will be held in Albuquerque, N.M. June 15-20, 2015. Daniels was the only instructor in Texas to be selected for this honor.

Angela Falcone, dance instructor, presented her Master of Fine Arts thesis project in Denton at Texas Woman’s University Nov. 5. Her thesis project was titled “A Backstage Pass: Cueing the Imagination.” The lecture took the audience on a back stage pass of a drill team rehearsal process. The purpose of the project was to invite the dancers’ imagination into the rehearsal as a means to keep dancers engaged in the process, while also enhancing their performance. She developed five performance practices that are called “image cueing strategies.” An “image cue,” as Falcone defined it, is a mental or verbal gesture that ignites an action through the imagination. She developed five image cueing strategies: prop, sound, breath, costume and character. Eight Sophomore Rangerettes committed to extra rehearsals every week for the fall semester to improve their performance for field, contest and spring show routines. This project (and a future paper) will act as a catalyst for future directors and dancers. Falcone plans to present her project and findings at drill team seminars. She also plans to publish her paper in dance education journals. Falcone anticipates receiving her Master of Fine Arts in the spring of 2015.

Good News:

Carla Gleaton thanks everyone who purchased raffle tickets in the recent Physical Therapy Club raffle. Diana Neely from Longview was the winner. The club raised $1,815 with the fundraiser.

Angela Wayt of the KC Baptist Student Ministry thanks KC employees for helping make Operation Christmas Child packing party a huge success. They served 275 lunches and packed 207 boxes.

News & Reminders:

‘A Rette, White and Blue Christmas’ set for Dec. 7

The Rangerettes will host their fourth annual Christmas show on Sunday, Dec. 7.

The one-day-only Broadway-style show, “A Rette, White and Blue Christmas,” will feature the world-famous Rangerettes and several local dance groups.

Two shows are set for 2 and 5 p.m. in Dodson Auditorium. The 2 p.m. show is sold out.

Tickets are $10 and are available through Dec. 5 by calling the ticket office at 903-983-8179 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Remaining tickets will be sold at the door 45 minutes prior to the show.

Lamouroux, Lothrop awarded for excellence

Congratulations to the 2014 Excellence in Teaching award winners, Coy Lothrop and Nancy Lamouroux. They will be recognized by the National Organization for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) in May.

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DECEMBER

2. The Keyboard Extravaganza, VCA, 9 a.m.
   A Christmas Madrigal Feaste, SOLD OUT
3. Kilgore Rotary Annual Rangerette Luncheon, Ballroom, 11 a.m.
   Spring Registration payment deadline
   Men’s Basketball at Lamar State, Port Arthur, 7 p.m.
   Lady Rangers at Blinn, Brenham, 5:30 p.m.
4. Unpaid classes dropped
5. Men’s Basketball vs. NW State JV, Masters Gymnasium, 6 p.m.
   Exxon-Mobil Pre-Employment Exam, Ballroom, 8 a.m.
6. Lady Rangers at Coastal Bend, Beeville, 2 p.m.
   SAT Administration, Old Main, 8 a.m.
7. Rangerette Christmas Show, Dodson
8-11, Final Exam Week
10. Vocational Nursing Pinning, Ballroom, 10 a.m.
    Jane Hood Retirement Party, Devall Room, 3 p.m.
    Men’s Basketball at Angelina, Lufkin, 7:30 p.m.
    Lady Rangers at Angelina, Lufkin, 5:30 p.m.
11. Student Dev. Dessert Reception, Devall Room, 2:30 p.m.
    Cafeteria Closes, 6 p.m.
    Residence Halls Close, 10 p.m.
12. Christmas Awards Luncheon, Ballroom, 11 a.m.
    Grades Due to Registrar’s Office, 10 a.m.
    Campus Closes, 2:45 p.m.
    Graduation, Dodson Auditorium, 6 p.m.
    A.D.N. Pinning Ceremony, Dodson Auditorium, 9 a.m.
    “A Christmas Carol Radio Play,” Liberty Hall in Tyler, 7:30 p.m.
13. “A Christmas Carol Radio Play,” Liberty Hall in Tyler, 7:30 p.m.
14. “A Christmas Carol Radio Play,” Liberty Hall in Tyler, 2 p.m.
15 - Jan 2, Mini-Term 3-week classes
15 - Jan. 9, Mini-Term 4-week classes
31, Men’s Basketball vs. Houston C.C., Masters Gymnasium, 2 p.m.

birthdays

DECEMBER
12/1 Tammin Pascoe
12/1 Ketrah Spotwood
12/2 Barker Hale
12/2 Dawn Wilson
12/3 Nina Verheyden
12/4 Sandy Teel
12/7 Laura Bogenschutz
12/8 Wade Cates
12/9 Jan Washburn
12/11 Monica Brock
12/12 James Bixler
12/13 Robin Huskey
12/13 John Raulston
12/14 Barbara Brush
12/14 Rachel Stallard
12/16 Jude Dubois
12/16 Lillian Jones
12/17 Carla Gleaton
12/17 Kellie Richardson
12/18 Rene’ Wiley
12/19 Jonnie Stice
12/20 Chris Gore
12/22 Janet Baxter
12/22 Amanda Jackson
12/22 John Whitehead
12/23 Karen Johnson
12/24 Ken Estes
12/24 Jane Hanlon
12/28 Michael Smith
12/29 William Wells
12/30 Kevin Powers
12/30 Adam Wiggins
12/31 Carol Chambers-Gibson
12/31 Rosemary Owens

JANUARY
1/2 Mike Augustine
1/2 Martin Cobb
1/3 Lynn McCutchen
1/3 William Stowe
1/4 Catherine Vega
1/5 Ross Costanzo
1/6 Mike Fennell
1/6 Mike Kushba
1/11 Paul Buchanan
1/11 Ann Gerrity
1/11 Sherry Ransom
1/12 Brittney Stoker
1/15 Tracey Maples
1/16 Brad Bunt
1/18 Sheri Burlingame
1/18 Shelley Wayne
1/19 Rhonda Paul
1/21 Gail Ceriano
1/21 Heidi Everett
1/21 Sandra Ruddell
1/23 Terri York
1/25 Roy Thomas
1/27 Collin Ferguson
1/27 Vickie Gramling
1/27 Joe Reagan
1/27 James Taylor
1/30 Gwen Winters
1/31 Wendy Brown
1/31 Louise Wiley

Donate to the Annual Campaign for Excellence

By now, all employees should have received information regarding the Annual Campaign for Excellence. This is an opportunity for each of us to help support Kilgore College by donating to the campaign. Part of the strategic plan is to help provide a base of sustained support for Kilgore College to continue its mission of Emphasis Excellence. The Partner in Excellence fund helps provide dollars to where they are most needed at the college. However, employees can designate gifts to a specific area, department or program. Employees can also participate by electing to use payroll deduction, or choose to give a one-time payment by check or credit card. The important part is simply that all employees participate in some tangible way. If you have any questions, or need an additional pledge card, please contact Leah Gorman, Director of Development, at (903) 988-7521.

More info: http://www.kilgore.edu/kc-foundation