PREVIEW DAY

PREVIEW DAY set for Saturday, Feb. 20
All employees encouraged to participate

Kilgore College will host its annual Ranger Preview Day Saturday, Feb. 20, to give potential students an opportunity to learn more about the educational opportunities KC offers.

“We are excited to have prospective students on campus,” said Chris Gore, director of admissions and registrar.

If you are in charge of a department, program or club/organization, you should have received an e-mail from Alex Knox with a form attached to reserve a table at Preview Day. Your participation in the academic and organizations fair (9:30 to noon in the Carpeted Gym) will give prospective students and their parents a glimpse of what KC has to offer.

If you would like to participate with Preview Day, call Alex Knox at (903) 988-8216.

MORE INFO

FEBRUARY 2016

President’s perspective:

Dr. Kays will host listening forums with KC employees

by Dr. Brenda Kays
KC President

Hello!

To begin my inaugural column for the newsletter, I want to start by telling you thank you all for your patience during this transition phase of my presidency at Kilgore College. I arrived on campus on Jan. 13, but have spent relatively little time in my office and even less time getting to meet and talk with each of you.

As you may know, the KC Board of Trustees made it possible for Dr. Holda and me to overlap our starting and ending dates at the college in order to make for a smoother transition. I sincerely appreciate the fact Continued on Page 2

Employees line up for Dr. Holda’s final drive off Kilgore campus

More than 100 Kilgore College employees showed up outside the McLaurin Administration Building Jan. 29 for a surprise send-off for Dr. Bill Holda as he left the campus for the final time as president of the college. Photo by Jon Vashey/KC

“Thank you for the wonderful, memorable, surprising gift of being outside as I left KC today. You have created for me a permanent memory of my last minutes at KC. It was very touching and emotional. Thanks to all of you who have served this institution. Continue to make it a better place. The best is yet to come!”

-Dr. Bill Holda

MORE INFO
that you allowed me the time to spend with Dr. Holda as he was able to share a wealth of information and introduce me to key people both in Austin and in our service area.

The time that I spent with Dr. Holda was very beneficial, but I cannot tell you that I now know everything that there is to know about Kilgore College.

That knowledge will only come with time. What I can tell you is that I am looking forward to working with each of you and I am thrilled to be a part of the KC community.

I will be spending the next couple of months (at least) immersing myself into the college and our communities to really get a firm grasp of what we do and how we do it. One of the tactics that I would like to use to get to know you better, while also learning more about the college, are listening forums.

I will be holding 10 forums over the course of the next few weeks (we will schedule more if needed) and I sincerely hope that you will consider attending as your schedule will allow.

I promise that the listening forums will be relatively painless. During the forums, I will ask you to tell me your name, state your position at the college and give your length of service.

Then I want to hear honest and open feedback from you with regards to what you see as KC’s strengths, challenges, opportunities and threats.

We will spend approximately 10 minutes addressing each of these components as a group and then also leave some time at the end of the session for open discussion.

The sessions will be limited to 20-25 people so that everyone has the opportunity to provide input. The information that I receive from you during the session will help bring me up to speed quickly and will also be used as groundwork for the college’s next strategic planning process.

Nancy Law will be sending out an e-mail to you on Monday detailing dates/times/locations as well as how to sign up to attend.

I really hope that you will attend one of the sessions.

Until next month,

President’s Perspective
Continued from Page 2

Welcome to new employees!

Beverly Hodges, Professional Support Assistant, East Texas Police Academy, began work in November.

Grace Kennedy, Professional Support Assistant, ETPA, began work on Jan. 1.

Shalie Day, Assistant Director of Student Life, began work in September.

Emily Hammett, Support Specialist, Liberal & Fine Arts, began work on Jan. 1.

News & Reminders

Former KC student named Professor of the Year

Amina Khalifa El-Ashmawy, a former KC student, has been honored with the United States Professor of the Year award. El-Ashmawy attended KC from 1978-80. She was presented with this award in November by the U.S. Professors of the Year Awards Program which salutes the most outstanding undergraduate instructors in the country, sponsored by CASE and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

Cassin, Ferguson have new titles this semester

Brian Ruthven, Director of the East Texas Police Academy, retired Jan. 29 after 29 years of service to KC. Joe Cassin has been named the new director of the ETPA. Cassin’s former title was Deputy Director of the ETPA. Also, Michael Ferguson is the new department chair of the Public Services Department. Ferguson will oversee the ETPA, Fire Academy, Fire Protection AAS and Criminal Justice transfer program and AAS.

Testing Center proctor Curtis Foulke dies in wreck

Our sympathies go out to the family and friends of Curtis Foulke, 48, who worked as an evening proctor in the KC Testing Center (Kilgore campus) since 2008. Foulke was killed in an automobile accident in White Oak Jan. 26. He was a true gentleman with a calm demeanor and warm approach to students. He will be sorely missed as an employee, colleague and friend. Our prayers and sympathies go out to his wife, Donna, and sons, Hunter, Mac and Austin.

Register for Kilgore’s Relay for Life event

Please join us in the fight against cancer by registering online to participate in Kilgore’s Relay For Life, where we will “Paint Kilgore Purple!” This year’s Relay will be April 15 in downtown Kilgore under the Derricks. Register yourself as a survivor, caregiver, volunteer or team member. We would love for you to join the KC Team, “Relay Rangers!”

Congratulations to Eddie Bernaldez, Mike Smith and Monica Brock (Emergency Medical Services Professions Program), for earning the program’s national accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs.

Good News:

Jennifer Belew, Chemistry instructor, and husband Jonathan are pleased to announce the birth of their son, James Thomas Belew. He was born Dec. 23, 2015, and was a healthy 7 lbs., 1 oz. and 19.5 inches long.

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**FEBRUARY Calendar**

**1.** LeTourneau Recruiter, DSC Hallway, 11 a.m.

**3.** Softball at Grayson College, Denison, TX, 1 & 3 p.m.
   Basketball (M/W) vs. Navarro College, Kilgore, TX, 5:30 & 7:30 p.m.

**3-5.** Secondary Art Symposium, DSC Ballroom, Noon

**5.** Art Symposium Luncheon, McLaurin Building, 11:30 a.m.
   Softball vs. Crowder/Cisco College, Kilgore, TX, 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.

**6.** Softball vs. Murray/McLennan CC, Kilgore, TX, 9 a.m. & 7 p.m.
   ACT Testing, Old Main, 8 a.m.
   Basketball (M/W) at Trinity Valley CC, Athens, TX, 2 & 4 p.m.

**8.** 20th Class Day
   Phi Theta Kappa Meeting, CA-104, 5:15 p.m.
   Student Government Meeting, TV Room, 3:30 p.m.
   KC Board Meeting, McLaurin Building, 6:30 p.m.
   Excellerate Courses Begin (thru May 6)

**10.** Softball vs. Weatherford College, Kilgore, TX, 1 & 3 p.m.
   Basketball (M/W) vs. Bossier Parish CC, Kilgore, TX, 5:30 & 7:30 p.m.
   UT Austin Recruiter, DSC Hallway, 10:30 a.m.
   PTK Sweets Sale, DSC Hallway (while supplies last)
   Rangerette Valentine Party, DSC Ballroom, 6 p.m.

**11.** KCEOPA Meeting, McLaurin Building, 2nd Floor, 2 p.m.
   PTK Sweets Sale, DSC Hallway, (while supplies last)
   Math Club Meeting, TV Room in Devall Student Center, 3 p.m.

**12.** KC Retirees Luncheon, DSC Ballroom, 11 a.m.
   PTK Sweets Sale, DSC Ballroom, (while supplies last)
   UT Tyler Recruiter, DSC Hallway, 11:30 a.m.

**13.** Softball at McLennan CC, Waco, TX, 1 & 3 p.m.
   Basketball (M/W) vs. Paris, Kilgore, TX, 5:30 & 7:30 p.m.
   CGP Ring Ceremony, Devall Ballroom, 12:30 p.m.

**14.** Welcome Reception for Dr. Brenda Kays, DSC Ballroom, 1:30 p.m.
   Softball at UT Tyler JV, Tyler, TX, 4 & 6 p.m.
   Basketball (M/W) at Panola College, Carthage, TX, 5:30 & 7:30 p.m.

**17.** Student Services Staff Planning Day
   Math Club Meeting, TV Room in Devall Student Center, 3 p.m.

**19.** Ranger Preview Day, Dodson Auditorium, 8 a.m. to Noon
   Softball vs. Indy/EOSC/Connors State, Kilgore, TX, 9 a.m., & 5 p.m.
   Guns vs. Hoses Basketball Game, Kilgore, TX, 4 p.m.

**20.** ‘Guns & Hoses’ Basketball Game set for Saturday, Feb. 20
   The Lady Rangers basketball team will host a “Guns & Hoses” basketball game, pitting the Kilgore Police Department against the Kilgore Fire Department. All proceeds from the game will benefit “SAFE (Special Abilities Family Fun Event) Day” funding. There will also be a special ceremony at halftime honoring the men and women who are first-responders.

**21.** Softball vs. Indy/Grayson CC, Kilgore, TX, 9 a.m. & 3 p.m.

**22.** SGA Meeting, TV Room, Devall Student Center, 3:30 p.m.

**23.** Chorale/Camerata Concert, Van Cliburn Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

**24.** Basketball (M/W) vs. Tyler JC, Kilgore, TX, 5:30 & 7:30 p.m.

**25-26.** E.T. Regional Science Fair, DSC Ballroom, 7 a.m.

**26-28.** Softball Region 14 Tournament, Longview’s Lear Park, TBA

**27.** Basketball (M) at Navarro College, Corsicana, TX, 4 p.m.
   Basketball (W) vs. Jacksonville College, Kilgore, TX, 2 p.m.
   Bach Piano Festival, Van Cliburn Auditorium, 7 p.m.

**‘Our Town’ Theatre Production is Feb. 18-21**

The KC Theatre Department will present Thornton Wilder’s stirring American classic, “Our Town,” Feb. 18-21 in Van Cliburn Auditorium. The play is set for 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and 2:30 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are $10 for adults, $7 for students and $5 for KC students with ID. Tickets can be purchased online at www.kilgore.edu/drama.

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**Sign up now for TCCTA; Convention in Houston this year**

Have you sent in your dues for the Texas Community College Teachers Association (TCCTA) yet? To join, e-mail Nina Verheyden or join via the web at www.tccta.org. Dues are $45 with $15 back from KC. This year’s convention is Feb. 25-27 in Houston.

**Purchase Cancer Awareness T-shirt from Lady Rangers**

The Lady Rangers are selling Cancer Awareness T-shirts with all proceeds benefitting the American Cancer Society. Shirts are $12 each and fans are encouraged to wear the T-shirts to the Cancer Awareness game 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 13, in Masters Gymnasium. Deadline to order T-shirts is Feb. 4. To submit an order, contact Anna Nimz, head women’s coach, by e-mail or call 903-983-8271. There are several colors available, recognizing different types of cancers.

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**Birthdays**

**FEBRUARY**

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