College will honor longtime employees Dec. 13

KC WILL CELEBRATE 745 YEARS OF SERVICE AMONG 44 EMPLOYEES AT ANNUAL HOLIDAY LUNCH

45 YEARS
Bennie Brown - Instructor, English

40 YEARS
Wendy Brown - Department Chair and Instructor, Kinesiology (no photo available)
Raymond Caldwell - Artistic Director, Texas Shakespeare Festival

35 YEARS
Michael Kusheba - Instructor, Computer Science

30 YEARS
Beverly Davis - Financial Aid Specialist, Technical Support and Work Study
Mike Turpin - Vice President of Institutional Planning and QEP Director
Jan Washburn - Coordinator, Continuing Education & Business Services

25 YEARS
Kathy Barber - Instructor, Theatre
Lynda Brooks - Instructor, English
Julie Fowler - Executive Dean, KC–Longview
Laney Mobley - Instructor, Biological Sciences
Annette Morgan - Financial Aid Officer
Toni Perry - Postal Technician, Mail Services
Dee Swan - Receiving Clerk
Rob Williams - Instructor, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Paige Wood - Coordinator and Instructor, Math Lab

20 YEARS
Jeannie Butler - Administrative Assistant, Residential Life
Richard Crutcher - Department Chair and Instructor, Business & Management
Mike Ford - Supervisor, Print Shop
Barker Hale - Director of Administrative Services and Continuing Education
Jane Hood - Lead Cashier, Business Office
Sara Lugeanbeal - Assistant Director, East Texas Oil Museum
Chong Raif - Accountant
Julian Redfearn - Instructor, Business and Management

15 YEARS
Lametra Barnes - Administrative Assistant, KC-Longview
Janet Baxter - Support Specialist, Child Development/Early Childhood
Dennis Cliborn - Assistant Director of TRIO
Cindy Lavine - Instructor, Physical Therapist Assistant
D’Wayne Shaw - Instructor, Automotive Technology
Tim Young - Instructor, East Texas Police Academy

10 YEARS
Randy Callaway - Painter
Virgel Conner - Counselor, Small Business Development Center
Donna Evans - Instructor, Associate Degree Nursing
Jason Graves - Instructor, English and Assistant Department Chair
Jamie Henson - Assistant Manager, Parks Fitness Center
Nancy Lamouroux - Instructor, Radiologic Technology
Starla Lumpkin - Lab Assistant, Associate Degree Nursing
Frank Mosley - Director of Instructional Student Support
Julia Schneider - Instructor, Associate Degree Nursing
Shannon Sisk - Admin. Assistant to Dean of Math, Science & Health Sciences
Traci Thompson - Instructor, Office Professional
Brandon Walker - Instructor, Mathematics
Rene’ Wiley - Administrative Assistant to the Vice President of Instruction

The college will honor these 44 employees who have served for a combined 745 years of service at the annual service awards Christmas luncheon 11 a.m. Friday, Dec. 13, in the Devall Student Center Ballroom.

All employees are encouraged to bring canned goods and/or blankets for Helping Hands of Kilgore.
Focus

As this fall 2013 semester winds down, many events have reminded me of the importance of keeping focused on the very important things in our lives and in the life of Kilgore College. Throughout this semester, we have tried to focus on student success and the impact of that focus on our students.

As I enter the holiday season, I pause to reflect on the great importance of the mission of Kilgore College and the good that we do. More importantly, I remember that our students are important; however, the enduring element that gives Kilgore College its character reflects back to our employees – our dedicated faculty and staff.

There are other events and happenings that give me pause. For my birthday this summer, Jeannie Johnson gave me the book, Proof of Heaven: A Neurosurgeon’s Journey into the Afterlife by Eben Alexander. I didn’t get time to read the book until November; however, the book was very consoling and caused me to reflect on the real values of life and the reality of those spiritual dimensions of which we are keenly unaware.

Then we lost Sandy Siler’s husband, Steve; Board member James Walker’s wife, Bobbie; Tony Johnson’s mother, Margie; Mike Ford’s father, Ray, and a number of other employees’ relatives, as well as nurse Gail Sandidge, who was stabbed in her line of work. Additionally, our band director, Glenn Wells, Leah Gorman’s Dad, Jerry Pybas, and a number of other folks are battling cancer and other illnesses. And there is much more as individuals and families confront their struggles.

So, I am really reflecting on the gift of life, the gift of family, the gift of one another that we have been given. We allow ourselves to become so “wrapped around the axle” about issues that are important to us in the moment, but are really not that important in the grand scheme of things. So, I am challenging myself to stay focused on the value we place on one another, the appreciation we hold for each other, and our ability to recognize the really important moments in our lives.

My wish for all of us as we enter this holiday season is that all of us will be graced to keep focused on the important things in life. Blessings on you and best wishes for a great holiday season!

Daniels, Truman, Wills awarded for excellence

Congratulations to the 2013 Excellence in Teaching Award winners: Michele Daniels, speech instructor; Lori Truman, English instructor; and Paul Wills, psychology instructor. This is a student-generated award sponsored by Phi Theta Kappa. Students vote for their favorite instructors but the actual awards are given by a committee that considers other factors in addition to the number of votes received. They will be recognized at the Spring Convocation in January.

News & Reminders:

‘Christmas in K-Town’ set for Sunday, Dec. 8

The Rangerettes will host their third-annual Christmas show on Sunday, Dec. 8, in Dodson Auditorium. The one-day-only show, “The Rangerette Christmas Extravaganza: Christmas in K-Town,” will feature the world-famous Rangerettes and several local dance groups. Two shows will be held at 2 and 5 p.m. All seating is reserved. Tickets are $10 and will be on sale at the Rangerette Box Office. Remaining tickets will be sold at the door 45 minutes prior to each show.

TSF presenting ‘A Christmas Carol: A Radio Play’

Tickets are on sale for a unique holiday season production of Charles Dickens’ world-famous story, “A Christmas Carol: A Radio Play,” produced by the Texas Shakespeare Festival. The show will be presented as a live “on air” radio show featuring veteran TSF actors. An edited mix of the live performances will be aired on KZQX-FM radio 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 22. Tickets are $20 for adults ($15 for groups of 25+) and $10 for age 12 years old or younger. For reservations call (903) 983-8119 or purchase tickets online at TexasShakespeare.com.
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/campaignforexcellence.asp