College recognizes most outstanding employees

Kilgore College honored its Most Outstanding Employees at opening day ceremonies this year. Each year, KC employees vote for peers who they think are “most outstanding” at what they do. Categories include Executive/Supervisory; Professional/Technical; Administrative/Office Support; Physical Plant; and Faculty.

Renee’ Golden
Administrative/Office Support

Staci Martin
Executive/Management/Supervisory

Ken Medlin
Physical Plant

Jerri Saenz
Professional/Technical/Support

Donald Seals
Faculty

Freshmen now required to take TSI Pre-Assessment test

A new state placement exam is now required to test a student’s skills in the academic areas of math, reading and writing for college-readiness.

The new test, the TSI Assessment, is required for most students.

The exam is available by appointment weekly on the Kilgore and Longview campuses.

Students planning to enroll in the upcoming semester are strongly encouraged to test as early as possible.

Students must complete the application for admission at least 48 hours prior to scheduling a testing appointment. The test is untimed but will range from one to five hours to complete.

Students are required to complete a pre-assessment activity prior to testing and must provide proof of such activity upon arrival to test.

The cost of the full exam is $40 or $20 for a part of the exam.

Links to both the pre-assessment activity and the TSI exemptions are available on the Kilgore testing center Web page at www.kilgore.edu/testing.asp.

For information on testing in Kilgore call (903) 983-8215.

For information on testing in Longview call (903) 236-2051.

Rangers play first home game
Saturday versus Tyler Junior College

The KC Football Team came up short in Kansas last Saturday to the Dodge City Community College Conquistadors, 27-16, but look to rebound 7 p.m. this Saturday in its first home football game versus Tyler Junior College. All employees are allowed free admission to home games with identification, but can also purchase reserved seats by calling (903) 988-7491.

Police Chief resigns from KC to take job at Lake Cherokee

Martin Pessink began his duties as police chief at KC in December of 2009 and the employees that he served in his four-year stint say that they hate to see him go.

Lieutenant Tony Means, the interim police chief until a new chief is named, said that Pessink really helped improve the safety of students and teachers on campus, giving the department much more credibility with outside agencies.

“I hate to see him leave,” Means said. “He really turned this into a real police department rather than just a security force. He’ll be missed, but we wish him the best.”

Pessink left KC to take a job at Lake Cherokee where he will be the operations manager and help run security for the water company.

KC is in the process of interviewing candidates to take Pessink’s position.

Highway 31 Rivalry: KC will face TJC twice this season, the first of which is a non-conference matchup with the Apaches. Photo by Jon Venhuy/KC
President Dr. Bill Holda

Why do we exist? To prepare students for success in life. I am so proud of our faculty and staff during these past two weeks. Not only did we truly make contact with at-risk students during GO-WEEK, but we have had a great first week of this fall semester.

We are in our second week of mentoring and life is full of surprises! We all thought that the primary beneficiaries of the mentor/mentee program would be these first-time, full-time students with developmental needs. What we are discovering very quickly is that we, the mentors, are the chief beneficiaries of this program. This effort is reconnecting us to our primary mission -- fostering student success through human connection -- being a student-centered organization. We needed this connection more than our students.

My two students had not come to see me this week, so I found one today leaving his reading class. He needed to print his syllabi, set up his e-mail, sign up for Rave Alert, and a variety of other tasks, but had not yet figured out how to do so. ... I took him to my office and we got him all set up. I wished I had taken a picture of this young African American student from the Houston area, sitting in the KC President's chair typing on my computer! This is a student in developmental reading, developmental English, developmental mathematics, and some college success and athletic classes. He came to KC to play football. He wants to become a nurse someday. This will likely be a future conversation we have as I get to know him better. He gave me a hug before he left my office.

He came back to see me the next day to get a lanyard for his ID card. All throughout campus, I am hearing these stories. Some students have been to see their mentors 3 and 4 times already as early as the 3rd class day. I am really proud of our staff for their efforts and for having a heart for the students. As all of us try to focus on the good things that are happening here, I wanted to share this story.

As we reflect on our own lives, we can remember at least one person who reached back and pulled us forward so that we could succeed. Now it is our turn for us to reach back and pull up these students. In spite of our efforts, some students will not succeed; however, hopefully that result will not be for a lack of effort on our part.

I applaud all of you for reconnecting to our mission, for reaching out to our students, for reclaiming our mission as a student-centered institution. Let us continue this great beginning throughout the entire semester!

Welcome new employees!

David Belanger - culinary arts instructor
Sarah Booker - mathematics instructor
Gary Borders - journalism instructor
Martha Deen - psychology instructor
Ginger Dennis - computer science instructor
Karen Dilday - drafting instructor
Glenda Ford - cosmetology instructor
Barbara Garrett - professional support assistant (SBDC)
Michaelle Green - vocational nursing instructor (KC-Longview)
Kory Kimble - professional support assistant (KC-Longview)
Lauren Leamer - chemistry instructor
Angelia Mace - ESOL instructor
Dann McDonald - mathematics instructor
Lindsey McLennan - government instructor
Toledo Montgomery - vocational nursing instructor (KC-Longview)
Keturah Spotwood - assistant women's basketball coach
LaKendra Woods - project advisor for Upward Bound

TO/LC/30-2020

FACULTY & STAFF reports

The KC Visual Arts Department presents "Photography 3.5," an exhibition of selected recent images from more than 20 KC Photography Alumni spanning 3.5 decades. The free exhibit is in the Anne Dean Turk Fine Arts Gallery through Sept. 26. The photographs include portraiture, landscape, architecture, human condition and still life in the genres of fine art and commercial photography. The gallery is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Good News!

Congratulations to Jamie Lee Berryhill, daughter of instructors Michael & Ruth Kusheba, who married Craig Fowler July 5 at First Baptist Church in Liberty City. Brother Bruce Wells preformed the ceremony.

News & Reminders

TRIO attends annual Bridge program

The TRIO Program held its annual Bridge Program July 22-25, hosting a group of incoming freshmen. The theme, "Unleash The Beast: Animal Leadership," helped students learn about their leadership styles and how to work with other leadership styles. Our cultural activities included visiting Gators and Friends and holding a four foot alligator named George and seeing the IMAX movie "Born To Be Wild." If you know of students who are planning to transfer to a four-year university and are Pell grant eligible, first-generation or disabled students please send them to the TRIO office 123 in the Student Support Building.

National Technical Honor Society represented at KC

The National Technical Honor Society for workforce students will be represented this semester at KC. To be admitted to the society, students must have a 3.5 GPA; be nominated by the director of their course of study; have good attendance; have exemplary discipline; and must have completed at least 15 hours in their major. There will be induction ceremonies in the fall, spring and summer. If you would like for your students to participate in this organization this semester, call Molly Reavis at (903) 236-2010 by Sept. 5.

Join the Texas Community College Teachers Association

If you're an instructor, you should have received a TCCTA brochure in campus mail, but if you did not, call Nina Verheyden at (903) 983-8250 to join. Dues are $45, $15 of which is paid by KC. You can also join online: www.tccta.org.

‘The Zone’ still looking for qualified student tutors

The Zone tutoring lab is still in need of a few outstanding tutors. If you know of a student with the following qualifications, please have them contact Kasey Nisbett at (903) 988-7491. Qualifications: 30 hours college credit; minimum 3.0 GPA; leadership skills; dependable and trustworthy; and two letters of recommendation.

Want to advertise your college event on digital signage?

There are five digital signage boards in the Devall Student Center and the Student Support Building that rotate information for KC students as well as advertise upcoming events, activities and opportunities. If you have a college-related event that you want displayed on the sign, contact Barbara Prater at (903) 983-8189.

Red Alert system helps ID students having problems

Please remember to use the Red Alert System to help identify students that are having problems so that the Student Success department can contact them. By addressing issues early, hopefully the student will realize the importance of dealing with them. Also, please remind students to check their KC e-mail regularly in order to receive all college communications. Remind students also that The Zone is available with free tutoring.

Red Alert access information:

- Visit www.kilgore.edu and go to My KC Web Portal
- Choose FAS then sign in at Campus Connect
- Under Available Options, choose Faculty Menu

MORE NEWS & REMINDERS ON NEXT PAGE
**SEPTEMBER**

**calendar**

4-6, Go Week Class, Ballroom, 1 to 4 p.m.
5, KC Kickoff Lunch, Tennis Courts, 11 a.m.
7, KC Cheer Event, Masters/Carpeted Gym, 8:30 a.m. to noon
   - Rangerette Family BBQ, Rangerette Gym, noon
   - Rangers vs. TJC, R.E. St. John Memorial Stadium, 7 p.m.
   - KC Softball Invitational, Stream-Flo Park
10, Service Fair, Ballroom, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
12, President's Interfaith & Comm. Service Campus Challenge, Ballroom, 2 to 3 p.m.
14, Ranger Softball Invitational, Stream-Flo Park
16, KCEOPA Meeting, Ballroom, 10 a.m.
19, KC Foundation Board Meeting, Devall Room, 11:30 a.m.
   - Ranger Softball vs. Texas Wesleyan, Ft. Worth, TX, 5 & 7 p.m.
14, Football vs. TVCC, R. E. St. John Memorial Stadium, 7 p.m.
21, ACT Administration, Old Main, 8 a.m.
   - Football vs. Navarro, Corsicana, TX, 7 p.m.
   - Ranger Softball Sophomore All-Star Weekend, Abilene, TX
23, High School Counselor Luncheon, Ballroom, 11:30 a.m.
23-Dec 13, Excellerate Courses (12-weeks)
24, PTK Induction, Ballroom, 6:30 p.m.
25, Presidential Scholarship Luncheon, Devall Room, 11:30 a.m.
28, Softball vs. LeTourneau, Longview, TX, 11 a.m., 1 & 3 p.m.
   - Football vs. Cisco, R.E. St. John Memorial Stadium, 3 p.m.

Conway retires after 20 years as custodian at college

**birthdays**

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<td>9/1</td>
<td>Donna Evans</td>
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**Conway retires after 20 years as custodian at college**

_Farewell to a co-worker and friend: KC employees poured into the library Aug. 29 for the retirement party of Dee Conway who served as a custodian for KC since 1993._ Photo by Jan Vashey/KC