KC Foundation secures $3.5 million scholarship endowment to support Rangerette organization

The Kilgore College Foundation has received a $3.5 million estate gift from a former Rangerette and her husband to fund scholarships for the world-famous Rangerette organization.

KC Foundation President Ken Raney presented the estate gift to Rangerette officers at halftime of the homecoming football game Oct. 19 versus Blinn College at R.E. St. John Memorial Stadium.

The gift will provide scholarships for future generations of young ladies who have earned the lauded title of “Rangerette” and meet the endowment’s academic criteria. The endowment includes scholarships for the important support team of Rangerette managers who are also students at KC.

“This is a monumental moment for the KC Foundation and a touching legacy tribute to the Rangerette organization. This estate gift is one of the largest gifts in our history,” said Michael Hageloh, Chief Development Officer. Though the donor wishes to remain anonymous, she was a member of the Rangerettes under the direction of Gussie Nell Davis. Miss Davis founded the Kilgore College Rangerettes in 1940, the first dance drill team of its kind, which unequivocally created a multi-billion dollar industry both domestically and internationally.

“This gift is transformational for both Kilgore College and the Rangerette organization,” said Dr. Brenda Kays, KC President.

“Rangerettes are known for giving back, and this is a prime example. The donor applied her Rangerette experiences to both her personal and professional life; those lessons helped her become the individual she is today.”

History faculty, BSM hosting history movie night

KC employees are invited to join the history faculty, along with sponsor Jaymi Blankenship and the KC Baptist Student Ministry, for the next installment of its film screening series, “The Free State of Jones,” starring Matthew McConaughey.

The film examines the life of Newton Knight, along with some of his fellow Confederate army deserters and some runaway slaves, and their efforts to resist Confederate control of Jones County, Mississippi, during the American Civil War.

The film will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 5, in the Lee Mall/Mike Miller Plaza and is also open to the general public.

Bring your own blanket or lawn chair. Popcorn and soda will be provided.

In case of rain, the event will be held in Dodson Auditorium.

Brown nominated for Piper Professor Award

Congratulations to English instructor Bennie Brown for being selected as this year’s recipient of the Beeson Teaching Award and as KC’s Piper Professor nominee.

Brown has taught English at KC for 50 years. The Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation honors 10 Texas professors each academic year for their dedication to the teaching profession and for their outstanding academic, scientific and scholarly achievement.

The KC Piper nominee is honored locally by the college with the Hamilton F. and Kathryn G. Beeson Teaching Award.

The purpose of both of these awards is to give recognition primarily to the teaching profession rather than to other activities, such as research, publication and administration.
Innovation... Year Two!

During fall convocation, I announced that the KC Board of Trustees had once again approved a set-aside of $10,000 to foster innovation and innovative ideas at KC! The only "catch" was that interested faculty/staff had to complete a grant application to apply… and I am excited to announce that they did.

The number of grant applications received this year noticeably increased over last year. The sheer number of applications, each representing great ideas, made the job of the Innovation Committee very difficult.

Innovation Grant applications were due in September. Members of the Committee then reviewed the applications in October. All awardees have received notification that their “ask” was funded. Awardees now must begin innovating by spending their grant awards and launching their respective projects prior to Aug. 31, 2020.

Please help me in congratulating the following KC Innovators:

Karen Dulweber: Two Surface Pro computer tablets for the Writing Studios in support of KC’s current QEP—Write Your Future.

Tina Rushing: Seed money to launch an addiction conference to be held at KC.

Dr. Ginger Dennis & Danny Darden: Funding to purchase four SumoBot robotics kits, supplemental materials and supplies to plan and facilitate workshops for area high school STEM students each spring.

Melissa Dobbs: Funds to purchase equipment/installation services to launch the QLess scheduling software at KC-Longview.

Ryan Melton: Funds to purchase a Wacom Intuos tablet with Bluetooth capabilities to be used during classes for student interaction and outside of class time to record screencasts using Camtasia via laptop.

Dennis Cliborn: Funds to purchase scanners for key admissions/intake personnel to improve admissions and registration processes for students.

I have provided you with a “teaser” for each of these awardees, but you will have the opportunity to hear much more about their projects and the innovation’s predicted impact on KC Student Success at our January convocation.

On a separate note, please remember that the KC Board of Trustees granted each full-time employee a $500.00 retention stipend. This stipend is scheduled to be added to your November 30th paycheck! Enjoy!

Wishing you each a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday filled with family, friends, and your favorite dish! Hope that you will have some down time for rest/relaxation and come back ready to be involved in the innovations happening across KC!

Until next month,

FOLLOW DR. KAYS ON TWITTER! @KC BrendaKays

Photos at right: Students at KC-Longview in the Industrial Maintenance program installed two new 34-foot flag poles Nov. 4 in front of the Hendrix Building. The project, coordinated by instructors Kelly Kaemmerling and Jody Bush.

College News

Donate to the KC Student Food Pantry

The KC Student Food Pantry is dangerously low on EVERYTHING. If you are making a grocery run, please consider purchasing something from the list below and bringing it by Barbara Prater’s office, Suite 165 in the Devall Student Center. Or, if you are an Amazon guru, check out the KC list online and have it shipped directly to Barbara Prater. Anything will be appreciated.

Items needed:

- 8 pk. Pop Tarts (any flavor)
- Cereal (regular boxes or mini boxes)
- Whole Oats
- Instant Oatmeal
- Tuna (canned or packets)
- Canned chicken
- Spam
- Vienna Sausage
- Mac n Cheese cups
- Boxed Macaroni & Cheese
- Chili (with or without beans)
- Canned tomatoes (regular or Rotel)
- Green Beans
- Corn
- Canned Pinto Beans
- Spaghetti (regular or wheat)
- Spaghetti Sauce (with or without meat)
- Pasta sides
- Rice Sides
- Ravioli
- Chunky soups
- Chicken Noodle Soup
- Tomato Soup
- Ramen Noodles
- Snack items (Rice Krispie treats, gummy fruit treats, small bags of chips, etc.)
On-Campus Calendar

1. Softball High School Signing, Devall Room, 11 a.m.
   Basketball (W) vs. Killeen Force, Masters Gymnasium, 7 p.m.
2. Basketball (W) vs. SWCC, Masters Gymnasium, 1 p.m.
   Football playoff vs. NMMI, R.E. St. John Memorial Stadium, 3 p.m.
3. Sixth Annual Religious Symposium, Devall Ballroom, 3 p.m.
4. KC History Department Movie Night, Lee Mall/Mike Miller Plaza, 6:30 p.m.
   Men’s Basketball vs. LCC, Masters Gymnasium, 6 p.m.
5 & 12. Thriving in Retirement, Watson Library, 6 p.m.
6. East Texas College Tour, Devall Ballroom, 4 p.m.
7. East Texas College Tour, Devall Ballroom, 4 p.m.
   “I’m First” Celebration, Devall Hallway, 9 a.m.
11. Women’s Basketball vs. ETBU JV, Masters Gymnasium, 6 p.m.
12. TAMU-Commerce Recruiter, Devall Hallway, Noon
   Veterans Day Appreciation Celebration, Devall Ballroom, 1 p.m.
13. Area Superintendents’ Roundtable, McLaurin 2nd floor, 11 a.m.
14. KC Scholarship Luncheon, Devall Ballroom, 11:30 a.m.
14-17. KC Theatre presents “The Laramie Project,” Van Cliburn Auditorium
15. Men’s Basketball vs. LSC-Tomball, Masters Gymnasium, 4 p.m.
16. Men’s Basketball vs. Cedar Valley College, Masters Gymnasium, 4 p.m.
17. KC Chorale & KC Connection Concert, Van Cliburn Auditorium, 7 p.m.
18. Ranger Ambassadors’ Chili Cook-Off, Lee Mall/Miller Plaza, 5-7 p.m.
19. KC Jazz Band Concert, Van Cliburn Auditorium, 7 p.m.
21. PTA East Texas District Meeting, Devall Ballroom, 4:30 p.m.
   DKMS Bone Marrow Donor Drive Devall Room, 10 a.m.
23. Vickie Bowden Mobbs Line Classic, Masters/Carpeted Gym, 8 a.m.
26. Kilgore BPOC #321 Graduation, Devall Ballroom, 10:30 a.m.
   Campuses close at 4 p.m. (no evening classes)
27-29. Thanksgiving Holidays
29. Men’s Basketball vs. Grayson College, Masters Gymnasium, 6 p.m.
30. Men’s Basketball vs. CYM Prep, Masters Gymnasium, 4 p.m.

DATA: Did you know?

The Institutional Planning office highest response rate ever on course evaluations in Fall 1 with 3,283 evaluations completed out of a possible 6,462 (51% completion rate).

Data provided by:
KC Office of Institutional Planning

Did you know?

That the KC Foundation now has 30 active board members composed of community leaders, business people and political leaders, all from East Texas.

Information provided by:
KC Office of Institutional Advancement

KC Theatre presents ‘The Laramie Project’ Nov. 14-17 in Van Cliburn Auditorium

Kilgore College Theatre is proud to present “The Laramie Project” beginning Thursday, Nov. 14, in Van Cliburn Auditorium on the Kilgore campus.

Performances are set for 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, Nov. 14-16, with a matinee performance 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 17.

Discounted ticket pricing is available for groups of 10 or more. Because of adult themes, children under the age of seven will not be admitted. Late arrivals will also not be admitted. The box office will open one hour prior to each performance.

Purchase tickets online at www.kilgore.edu/drama or by phone at 903-983-8126.

For more information, e-mail the KC Theatre Box Office at boxoffice@kilgore.edu. The play is produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Services, Inc.

Ranger Ambassadors hosting Chili Cook-Off Nov. 18

The Ranger Ambassadors will be hosting their third annual Chili Cook-Off 5 to 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 18, in the Lee Mall/ Mike Miller Plaza. Seven clubs/organizations participated last year, and they would love to see that number at least double this year. Tasting bowls, spoons, napkins and bottled water will be provided for participants.

All KC employees are encouraged to participate as a competitor or a taster. To sign up, contact Callie Blakeley. Entries for tasting are FREE, but the Ranger Ambassadors will also collect donations for the KC Food Pantry.

KC mourns deaths of former employees

Calvin Coolidge Fortson passed away Oct. 10. He worked for Kilgore College for 30 years, primarily at R.E. St. John Memorial Stadium. Fortson was also a U.S. Veteran, a graduate of West Point and an inductee in the Kilgore College Athletics Hall of Fame in 2008.

Ben Cammack passed away Saturday, Oct. 19. He worked for Kilgore College on a part-time basis during 2006 and became a full-time employee as a Training Coordinator in the Workforce Development and Continuing Education area in 2007. He worked for the college until November of 2014.
Employees win prizes for costumes, decorated doors

The KC Hospitality Committee held Halloween costume and office door decorating contests for employees Oct. 31. KC faculty and staff voted online for favorite costumes and selected the top three winners.

Costume Contest:
1. First Place: Annita Bates (Counter Specialist at KC-Longview)
2. Second Place: Jerri Saenz (HR Assistant and Benefits Coordinator)
3. Third Place: Mary Hawley (Instructional Assistant for Adult Education and Literacy)

Door Decorating Contest:
4. First Place: Chris Reed (instructor/coordinator of Occupational Safety and Health Technology)
5. Second Place: KC-Longview front office staff
6. Third Place: Procurement Services staff

First place won a $100 gift certificate from the KC Bookstore, second place won a $50 gift certificate from the KC Bookstore and third place won a $25 gift certificate donated by the KC Bookstore. Thanks to Kenton Beal, bookstore manager.

PTA Club hosting raffle for multiple prizes

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program is hosting its annual raffle.

This year, the top prize is $300 worth of gift certificates to Bubba's, Texas Roadhouse, Regal Cinemas, Silver Grizzly Espresso Coffee Shop, Darden Restaurants and Slim Chickens.

Second prize is a Natural Grocers gift basket and three memberships to Parke Way Fitness Center with a T-shirt.

Third prize is two Divine Salon treatments/blow dry style and a massage gift certificate for Body and Soul Massage Therapy.

Fourth prize is five Studio Movie Grill guest passes, a Tiger Creek Wildlife Refuge family day pass, and a State of Mind Boutique “Pumpkin Souffle” fall candle.

The tickets are $5 each or 5 for $20.

To purchase tickets, email Kristi Kleinig, PTA Program Director/Instructor, at kkleinig@kilgore.edu or call 903-983-8154.

Drawing will be held Nov. 21 at the East Texas District Meeting of the Texas Physical Therapy Association.

You do not have to be present to win.

All proceeds benefit the Student Physical Therapist Assistant Program at KC.

News & Reminders:

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News & Reminders:

November birthdays

11-6  Tracy Atkins
11-6  Margaret Martin
11-7  Susan Black
11-7  Robert Horn
11-7  Colby McCrary
11-10 Angelita Rice
11-13 Pamela Gatton
11-13 Eric Good
11-13 Elizabeth Rodriguez
11-17 David Rangel
11-21 Traci Thompson
11-22 Michaeelle Green
11-22 Kelly Thompson
11-25 Kathryn Rader
11-29 Heath Cariker
11-30 Addie Lees