



FOREVER

KILGORE COLLEGE RANGERETTES

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2015

A sparkling performance



PHOTO/KRISTOPHER DOBBINS

Rangerettes mark 65th consecutive Cotton Bowl

The partnership between the Cotton Bowl Classic and the Kilgore College Rangerettes far exceeds the realm of reality. Business partnerships, friendships, and other life milestones often don't reach these proportions. But in January 2016 the Rangerettes will return for their 66th consecutive time at pregame and halftime.

The Cotton Bowl revelry began with the DFW Forevers' traditional healthy snack break during the hotel rehearsal on Dec. 30. Approximately 30 Forevers showed up to greet the team. Some were in the line just last year. Coast2Coast, the event/production company, surprised the Rangerettes with spirit jerseys celebrating the affiliation between the two organizations.

At field practice the next day, sophomores received Fossil watches with the Cotton Bowl logo adorning the watch face, compliments of the Cotton Bowl Athletic Association.

please see Cotton Bowl, page 2



Cotton Bowl continued from page 1

Joining high school drill teams on game day, Jan. 1, the Rangerettes added their special expertise to the pregame show at AT&T Stadium. The high-definition video screen called attention to the Rangerettes' 75th anniversary. Our own beautiful Dana Blair, Rangerette director, executed the ceremonial coin toss between the two teams, the Michigan Spartans and the Baylor Bears. Rangerettes and Cotton Bowl Athletic Association Board of Directors members flanked the coin toss primaries.

Thanks to the Cotton Bowl for making this an extra special year and drawing attention to our anniversary celebration. ★

Top photo: Rangerette director Dana Blair tosses the coin.
PHOTO/JAMES D. SMITH

Center: Trumpeter Freddie Jones plays the national anthem.
PHOTO/KRISTOPHER DOBBINS

Bottom: Waiting to take the field.
PHOTO/KRISTOPHER DOBBINS



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AND FRIENDS OF
RANGERETTES.**

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RANGERETTES
ON SOCIAL MEDIA:**

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Twitter: @KCRangerettes

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@KCRangerettes

Tumblr: www.kcrangerettes.tumblr.com

Rangerettes win Medal of Arts Award in Dance

On Jan. 14, the Texas Cultural Trust, a 501(c)(3) organization established in 1995 to increase the awareness and support for the arts to improve public education, to stimulate economic growth, and to raise matching funds for the Texas Cultural Endowment Fund, announced that its biennial Medal of Arts Award in the category of Dance is the Kilgore College Rangerettes.

Since its inception in 2001, the Texas Medal of Arts Awards have spotlighted and celebrated 83 Texas leaders and luminaries who have achieved greatness through their creative talents, as well as those whose generosity has opened doors to artistic opportunity for Texans of all ages, according to the trust's website. As the signature event for the Texas Cultural Trust, the Texas Medal of Arts Awards highlights and promotes the power of the arts to children's education, the state's economy, and to the unique and proud Texas culture, the website says.

Previous Medal of Arts Awards have gone to individuals and groups such as Walter Cronkite, Van Cliburn, Eva Longoria, ZZ Top, Willie Nelson, Bob Schieffer, Laura W. Bush, Steve Miller, Tommy Lee Jones, Debbie Allen, Robert Edsel, Nancy B. Hamon, Clint Black, Anhauser Busch Companies, Exxon Mobil, and Lyle Lovett. Two years ago, the award for Dance went to the Houston Ballet.

Among the eligible categories are Architecture, Arts Education, Dance, Design, Film, Patron, Lifetime Achievement, Literary Arts, Media/Multi-Media, Music, Television, Theater, Visual Arts, Corporate Arts, Foundation Arts, and Individual Arts. Not every category is awarded at the Awards Ceremony. Awards are determined through an application process.

The awards ceremony is scheduled for Feb. 25 in Austin at the Long Center for the Performing Arts. Go to www.txculturaltrust.org to order tickets for this monumental evening. ★



IF YOU GO:

The Texas Medal of the Arts red carpet reception, awards show and gala dinner is slated for 5:30-11:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 25, at Long Center for the Performing Arts in Austin. For more information, visit www.texasmedalofarts.org/tickets.

PHOTO/TEXAS CULTURAL TRUST

2015 RANGERETTE DANCE AND DRILL TEAM CLINICS



Share these 2015 camp dates with your students, relatives and friends:

ELEMENTARY ONE-DAY CAMP (GRADES 1-4): Tuesday, June 16

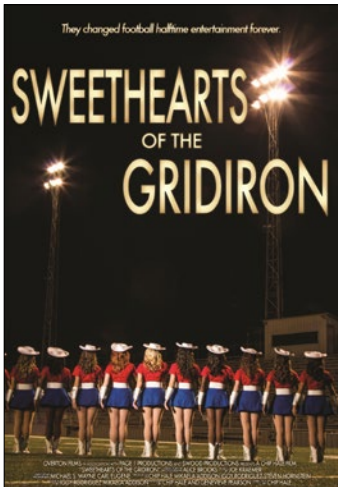
MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMP (GRADES 5-8): Wednesday through Saturday, June 17-20

HIGH SCHOOL CAMPS (GRADES 9-COLLEGE)

Session I, June 21-24 (Sunday-Wednesday)

Session II, June 25-28 (Thursday-Sunday)

Visit Rangerette.com and click on the Summer Camp tab for registration information and more details.



Order your own "Sweethearts" poster at www.Rangerette.com.

Kicking into a theater near you

"Sweethearts of the Gridiron," a documentary film about the world-famous Kilgore College Rangerettes, is playing at the following film festivals:

THIN LINE

Feb. 21-22 in Denton
www.thinlinefilmfest.com

BOOMTOWN FILM & MUSIC FESTIVAL

Feb. 26 in Beaumont
www.boomtownfestival.com

VICTORIA TX INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL

March 21 in Victoria
www.vtxiff.com

USA FILM FESTIVAL

April 25 in Dallas
www.usafilmfestival.com

Follow "Sweethearts" on social media for updates about additional festival acceptances and showings:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/SweetheartsOfTheGridiron

Twitter: @SweetheartsGrid

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for the Gussie Nell Davis Dance Classic from 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 14, at Kilgore College. Email lisa@encorecp.com if you can work a shift or donate a snack to the director hospitality room.



Have you ever wanted to perform in Revels just one more time?

The Rangerettes are looking for a group of 75th Anniversary All-Stars to perform at the Saturday matinee and Saturday evening productions of Rangerette Revels on April 18. The performance will include a medley of dance genres to showcase the individual styles and talents of the selected group. Angela Falcone is the lead for this project and will assist in the selection process along with Missy Sumpter, Revels creative consultant.

If you are interested in this one-time opportunity, please submit a 30-second video that showcases your **CURRENT PERFORMANCE ABILITY** using the following guidelines:

- ★ All submissions are via email to shelleywayne@rangerette.com, afalcone@kilgore.edu AND missysumpter@hotmail.com.
- ★ Please submit a link to your video. If you have questions on how to do this, contact Angela Falcone.
- ★ **All video submissions are due by Friday, Feb. 6, 2015. No exceptions.**
- ★ All submissions must be in solo format.
- ★ You MUST be an ACTIVE member of Rangerettes Forever in good standing.
- ★ You MUST be available for rehearsal in Kilgore on March 22 and 1-4 p.m. Friday, April 17.
- ★ You MUST be available for BOTH the matinee and evening performances on April 18.

Those selected as 75th Anniversary All-Stars will be notified via email, and an official announcement will follow on all forms of social media. ★

Revels-program advertising deadline: Feb. 13

Dear Rangerette Supporters,

The Rangerette Revels is scheduled for April 15-18, 2015, in Dodson Auditorium on the Kilgore College campus. Each year this production showcases the many talents of the Kilgore College Rangerettes along with other outstanding Kilgore College students.

We invite you to show your support for the Rangerettes and the Revels production by placing an ad in the 2015 Revels program. Prices range

from \$250 for a full-page ad to \$50 for a business-card-size ad. Prices for color pages and cover pages are slightly higher.

The proceeds from advertising pay for printing the program. If proceeds exceed expenses, the net income goes to the Rangerette organization to help pay for the cost of the production.

The deadline to submit your

ad for the 2015 Revels program is Friday, Feb. 13, 2015. Please email danablair@rangerette.com to receive

your form to compete your ad submission process. Return the form with your ad copy and check made

payable to Kilgore College. For those who advertised in the 2014 program, you may run the same ad again. Please indicate on the form if you wish to

repeat last year's ad. If your ad design includes photos, please submit the original or high-resolution (300 dpi) digital file. I strongly suggest that you contact Mike Ford in the KC printing department for advice on ad submission. His phone number is 903-983-8153 and email is mford@kilgore.edu.

On behalf of the Rangerettes and Kilgore College, we appreciate your support.

—Dana Blair,
director, Kilgore College Rangerettes

The proceeds from advertising pay for printing the program.

Freshman Swingsters selected



RANGERETTE PHOTO

Freshman Swingsters were selected after tryouts on Nov. 23. They are, bottom row, from left: Korinne Manjarres, Allen; Kelsey Moore, Plano; Maryelle Stephenson, Fate; Madeline Doerr, Frisco; Sarah Higgins, College Station; Lainey Bergen, Beaumont; Emily Shymkiw, Austin; and Ashley Hibbs, Allen. Madeline Doerr is head Freshman Swingster.

Sophomore Swingsters are, top row, from left, Gabrielle Jordan, Port Neches; Reagan Reynolds, College Station; Amber McMillan, Cedar Park; Jordan Baird, Magnolia; Katelyn Barton, Rowlett; Emily Diehl, Allen; Shelby Westover, Kingwood; Noelle Barbay, La Porte; Cassidy Hale, Tyler; and Jessica Hensal, Woodward, Okla. Emily Diehl is head Sophomore Swingster. ★

A full dance card

Rangerettes ramp up fall performances to celebrate 75 years

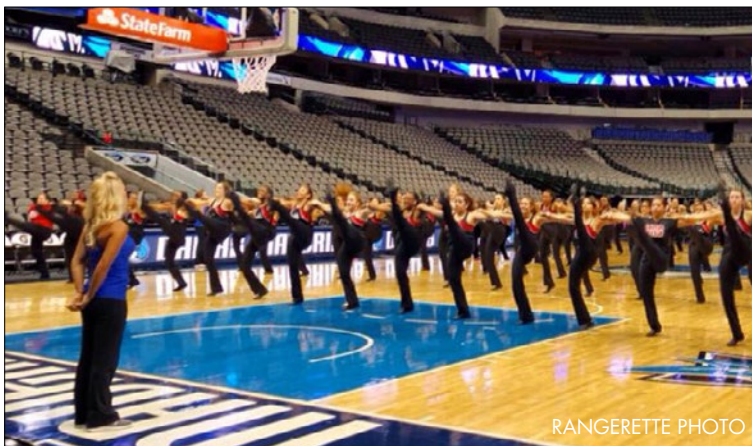
In conjunction with their 75th-anniversary celebration, the Kilgore College Rangerettes had a series of first-ever fall performances mixed with a recurring event.



RANGERETTE PHOTO

SEPTEMBER

The **STATE FAIR OF TEXAS** started in 1886 and generates more than 2 million visitors in recent years. The Fair boasts the largest Ferris wheel in North America as well as gastronomical delicacies such as fried peanut butter and funnel cakes. With the Fair's 2014 theme, "Deep in the Heart of Texans," the Kilgore College Rangerettes marched in the Opening Day parade through downtown Dallas on Sept. 26. They helped the Fair fulfill its theme with a performance at the Opening Day Ceremony in front of the Hall of State later that afternoon.



RANGERETTE PHOTO

OCT. 12

It was a great day on Oct. 12 at Dallas' American Airlines Center and Victory Plaza for the Rangerettes and 300 dancers from Texas, Oklahoma, and Louisiana. The Rangerettes sponsored **RANGERETTE REVELATIONS**, which gave these dancers collaborations in warmups and dance instruction. The dancers also enjoyed meeting some Dallas Mavericks Dancers, celebrating their 25th anniversary. The Rangerettes rehearsed their halftime performance, but concerns about their boots on the playing floor sidelined the show. The DFW Forevers provided a cold water break.



PHOTO/MICHELLE CAMPBELL

OCT. 13

For those who may not know, Dallas Love Field had restrictions on its carriers and their destinations. This restriction was known as the Wright Amendment and began in 1974 when DFW International Airport opened to protect carriers at the fledgling airport; however, the **WRIGHT AMENDMENT EXPIRED** on Oct. 13, 2014, and the Rangerettes were there to help Dallas Love's carriers kick off expanded service and flights with a memorable performance and photo opportunity with Southwest Airlines CEO, Gary Kelly.



PHOTO/KEVIN GREEN, LONGVIEW NEWS-JOURNAL

NOVEMBER

The Kilgore Historical Preservation Foundation presented its annual **“CHRISTMAS IN THE PATCH AND LIGHTING OF THE DERRICKS”** on Nov. 20 and honored the 75th anniversary of the Kilgore College Rangerettes by devoting the entertainment to Rangerette-related performers. Austin Head, current Rangerette voice, was the master of ceremonies. Rangerettes and Rangerettes Forever had roles woven throughout the program. Both Rangerette officers and Rangerettes performed. Kilgore Mayor Ronnie Spradlin, a Forever, recapped a brief Rangerette history. The evening’s apex was the derrick lighting by First Line members, Doris Mercer Snow and Gay Law Culp.



PHOTOS/MICHELLE CAMPBELL

DECEMBER

The final fall 2014 performance was the **RANGERETTE CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA, “A ’RETTE, WHITE, AND BLUE CHRISTMAS,”** on Dec. 7. In its fourth year, the Christmas show filled Dodson Auditorium for the two matinee offerings. Local dance studios and groups providing talent included Tap ’N’ Toe Dance Studio, Elite Dance Center, Kilgore College Dance Department, In-Step Dance Company, and Kilgore High School. ★



Kicks & Cadence

Tales from the continued adventures of Forevers and supporters

Forever **HALEIGH KATE WRIGHT** was named Miss Texarkana in her hometown on Jan. 3. Congratulations! She will compete in the Miss Texas Scholarship pageant later this year.



PHOTO/MISS TEXARKANA TWIN RIVERS



PAULA JAMERSON, coordinator of alumni relations, has a team of Rangerettes producing creative arts such as customized shirts, promotional items such as key chains and luggage tags, and other items in small quantities to meet specialized needs. If Forevers who are drill team directors are looking for items like these to meet your team's needs, contact Paula (information on page 2). All profits go back to Rangerettes.



PHOTO/PAULA JAMERSON



PHOTO/
O. RUFUS LOVETT

Announced in 2014 and presented in 2015, the Texas Dance Educators Association selected **SHELLEY WAYNE**, Rangerettes' assistant director and choreographer, for their Lifetime Achievement recipient. Congratulations, Shelley!



From left: Megan DeHoyos, Lisa Fortenberry and Angela Falcone

PHOTO COURTESY OF MEGAN DEHOYOS

Under new ownership: Coast2Coast, the special events/performance company formed by Forevers **LISA FORTENBERRY**, **LISA DALTON**, and **CHIP HALE**, was acquired by Forevers **MEGAN DEHOYOS** and **ANGELA FALCONE**. The company supplies dancers for the McDonald's Thanksgiving Parade in Chicago.



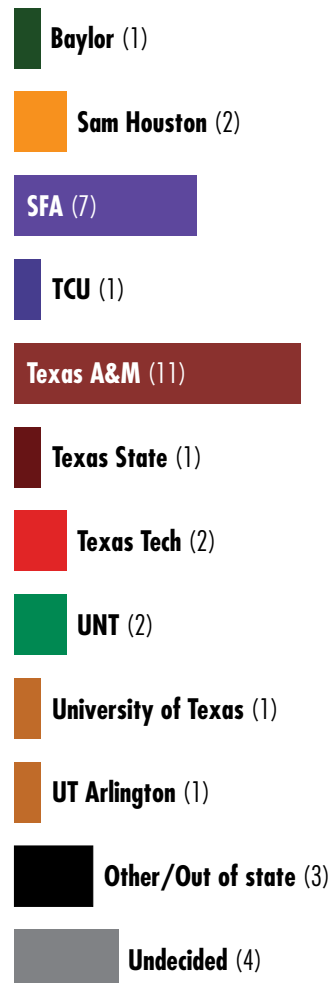
A Southeast Texas Forever chapter is in the organizational process. Spearheading the endeavor is **RAMONA GONZALES ABSHIRE GUILLORY**. She can be reached on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ramona.guillory.

THEIR NEXT STEPS

Sophomore Rangerettes share their plans beyond Kilgore College

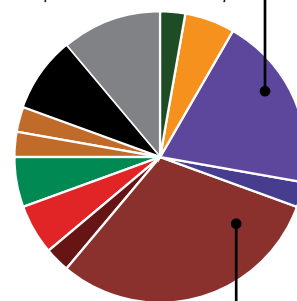
Name	College	Major
Aleyda Aguirre	Texas State	radiation therapy
Jordan Baird	Northwestern State	mass communications
Noelie Barbay	Texas A&M	communications
Kate Barton	undecided	
Caroline Bentley	Baylor	public relations with business concentration
Kelci Bjornlie	Texas A&M	dance concentration
Emily Cox	Texas A&M	allied health
Chelsea Crawford	Texas A&M	architecture
Emily Diehl	Texas A&M	dance science
Savanna Fredrickson	Stephen F. Austin	nutrition
Alexa Garza	undecided	
Cortney Gelpi	Texas A&M	horticulture
Cassidy Hale	Stephen F. Austin	kinesiology
Caitlin Havins	Texas A&M	dance concentration
Jessica Hensal	Oklahoma Christian University	business management
Kevelyn Jones	Stephen F. Austin	psychology
Gabby Jordan	Texas Tech	dance
Brianna Lutrell	TCU	strategic communications
Haley Martin	Texas A&M	math
Amber McMillan	undecided	
Rachel Meents	Stephen F. Austin	dance education
Abbey Nunley	UT Arlington	nursing
Reagan Reynolds	American Musical and Dramatic Academy	performing arts
Leslie Rowe	Stephen F. Austin	food, nutrition, and dietetics
Arianna Sandoval	Texas Tech	marketing
Katie Seeselberg	University of Texas	public relations
Catherine Shore	Texas A&M	dance science
Cera Taylor	undecided	
Ashton Terry	University of North Texas	pharmacy
Olivia Thompson	Stephen F. Austin	mass communication and dance education
Bethany Todaro	Texas A&M	nuclear engineering
Taylor Walker	University of North Texas	speech pathology
Marissa Weber	Sam Houston	education
Emily Wendt	Texas A&M	dance science
Shelby Westover	Sam Houston	dance
Shelby White	Stephen F. Austin	education

BY THE NUMBERS



19.4 PERCENT

of 74th Line members plan to attend Stephen F. Austin State University.



30.6 PERCENT

plan to attend Texas A&M University. Whoop!

Sherry Ransom takes a bow



PHOTO/KILGORE COLLEGE

Rangerette supporter retires after more than two decades at KC

How is it even possible that Sherry Ransom has retired? She has been an unwavering and perpetual Rangerette and Forever supporter, going far beyond the call of duty in her role as professional support assistant in Kilgore College's Institutional Advancement Office. Sherry — a symphony of grace coupled with efficiency — will be missed by all who knew her.

She began her career at Kilgore College on Jan. 15, 1988, as a part-time temporary secretary in the English and Social Sciences Department. That summer, her employment status changed to full time as the purchasing secretary. In January 1992, she moved to the Institutional Advancement Office as administrative assistant and worked with Melvin Marshall, Archie Whitfield, and Doug Wintermute. Her career spanned 28 years.

It should surprise no one that she was named KC Outstanding Secretarial Employee in 1998-99. The Forevers named a Rangerette scholarship in her honor during the 2000 Homecoming. Furthermore, she was recognized by the Forevers, the Always KC RaHS, and the Once...Always KC Twirlers lifetime memberships honorary.

The Forever organization will miss Sherry; she leaves big shoes to fill. ★

HELP KILGORE COLLEGE WIN A SECURITY GRANT! Visit www.stanleysaferschools.com/vote for details. Vote daily through Feb. 13.



RANGERETTE PHOTOS



2015 APPEARANCE

Just ducky

The inaugural College Football Playoff saw Ohio State and Oregon engage on the field on Jan. 12. While the Rangerettes did not perform at halftime at the AT&T Stadium, they served as ambassadors at team-related pregame events and activities. In doing so, they garnered social media and television coverage. ★