



# FOREVER

KILGORE COLLEGE RANGERETTES

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2015

## Nominations needed by July 31

Rangerettes Forever board, officer positions open

BY ASHLEY AUSTIN JONES

**T**he Rangerettes Forever board is accepting nominations for several open positions including: president-elect, vice president, secretary and treasurer. Four board spots also are open and accepting nominations. Nominations are due to Paula Jamerson, coordinator of alumni relations, no later than July 31.

The Rangerettes Forever original bylaws require that the positions are to be filled with at least one person representing each decade when possible. Those still

holding positions for the next two years include President-elect Beverly Swatzell ('77), Megan DeHoyos ('07) and board members Lisa Fortenberry ('85), Mindy Davis ('01) and Beverly Tallent ('65).

Officer terms last two years — except for president, which includes two years each as president-elect, president and past-president. Board positions, which are staggered, last four years.

The president's council will meet the week of Showoffs to select a new slate of officers. Officers will be voted on and installed at Homecoming, which is Oct. 24. ★

### SUBMITTING A NOMINATION

Forever's whose annual dues are paid or who are lifetime members are eligible for nominations (by themselves or by others) for board and officer positions.

Email the name and proposed position of your nominee to Paula Jamerson at [pjamerson@kilgore.edu](mailto:pjamerson@kilgore.edu) or mail them to her in care of Kilgore College, 1100 Broadway, Kilgore, TX 75662.

The more times a Forever is nominated, the more likely that person is to be selected.

Need to pay your dues? You can do so at [www.Rangerette.com](http://www.Rangerette.com).



### VOLUNTEER FOR MINI CAMPS

It's not too late to help at the 2015 Rangerette summer camps. Contact Paula Jamerson via email at [pjamerson@kilgore.edu](mailto:pjamerson@kilgore.edu) or 903-983-8187 to volunteer.

### HIGH SCHOOL CAMPS (GRADES 9-COLLEGE):

Session I, June 21-24; Session II, June 25-28

FROM THE MUSEUM

# Rangerette holds head high while working in Showcase

BY LAINEY BERGEN

Standing before a theater full of museum guests, I lift my head and proudly state, “Hello, my name is Lainey Bergen, and I am a current Kilgore College Rangerette.” I proceed to explain my roles, duties and experiences from the past year to the audience that just viewed the Rangerette Showcase video. The smiles on their faces and awe in their eyes remind me, once again, just how lucky I am to be a part of this unique and life-changing organization.

I began volunteering at the showcase in fall of 2014 through the recommendation of

Mrs. Paula Jamerson, alumni coordinator for Kilgore College. Megan DeHoyos, Showcase manager, quickly began to show me the ropes of all matters involving the museum. I had a simple job: to help around the showcase a couple times a week with whatever needed to be done. This “simple job” quickly evolved into a humbling time of enjoyment and education about the amazing organization that brought me to Kilgore in the first place.

Every day in the museum is a new experience. One day I may be sorting through decades-old pictures of Gussie Nell Davis to archive, or helping to design the latest addition to the Showcase’s array of apparel. These tasks never cease to be pleasantly swept aside by the arrival of a visitor to the museum of which I get to greet and engage with in my favorite topic of conversation: Rangerettes. From the Forevers who stroll in and have nothing but good memories of this place and these people, to the little girls who already have dreams of

*To others it is just another museum, but to myself it is a place that continuously reminds me how privileged I am ...*



Lainey Bergen, right, with Jackie Johnson Ray, the original K-Girl, in the Showcase.  
PHOTO COURTESY OF LAINEY BERGEN

being a Rangerette themselves, this job has a perfect way of enhancing my gratitude for the organization. My favorite visitors are the ones who have never heard of the Rangerettes. Having the chance to introduce someone to the organization that has impacted not only my life, but so many others as well, is a privilege that I am humbled to be able to do on a daily basis.

To others it is just another museum, but to myself it is a place that continuously reminds me how privileged I am to be able to stand in front of a crowd, with my head lifted high and state, “Hello, my name is Lainey Bergen, and I am a current Kilgore College Rangerette.” ★

*Lainey Bergen is a 75th Line Rangerette from Beaumont. She is sergeant of her class.*

**RANGERETTES  
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FOR MEMBERS OF  
RANGERETTES FOREVER  
AND FRIENDS OF  
RANGERETTES.**

Send address corrections to  
Paula Jamerson  
Kilgore College  
1100 Broadway  
Kilgore, TX 75662;  
903-983-8182;  
fax 903-983-8255; email  
to pjamerson@kilgore.edu.

Send news tips to  
RetteForeverNews@gmail.com

Newsletter designer/editor:  
Kathryn Morton ('01)



**RANGERETTES FOREVER  
OFFICERS:**

**Megan DeHoyos** ('07)  
president

**Rebecca McIlveene  
Henderson** ('06)  
vice president

**Barbara (Pill) Malm** ('67)  
secretary

**Beverly Rochin  
Swatzell** ('77)  
president-elect

**Nancy Greer** ('78)  
treasurer

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Erin Oian Boyd ('02),  
past president

Mindy Davis ('01)

Lisa Fortenberry ('85)

O.L. Kelly ('95)

Nicole McDaniel ('95)

Amy Mims ('08)

Beverly Tallent ('65)

Yvette Casares Willis ('91)

Velma Yount ('76)



**RANGERETTES  
ON SOCIAL MEDIA:**

**Facebook:** www.facebook.com/KCRangerettes

**Twitter:** @KCRangerettes

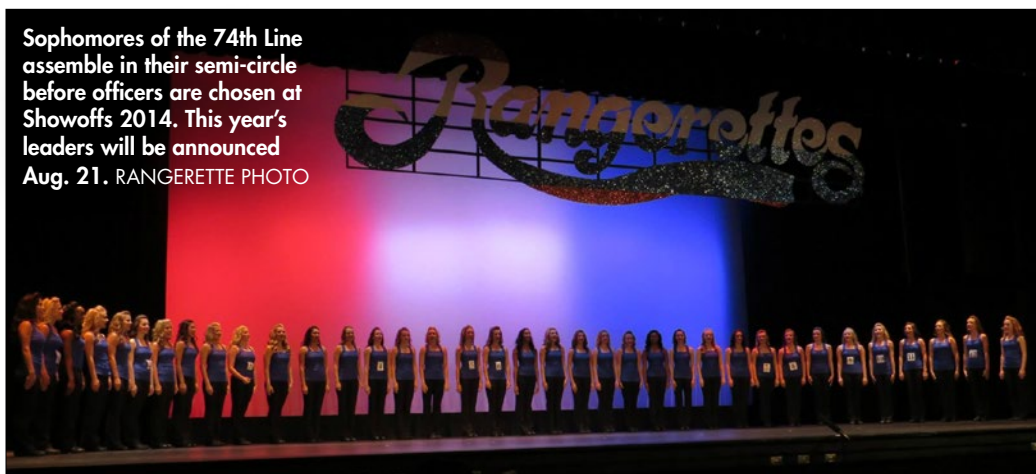
**Instagram:**

@KCRangerettes

**Tumblr:** www.kcrangerettes.tumblr.com

**Snapchat:** @KCRangerettes

Sophomores of the 74th Line assemble in their semi-circle before officers are chosen at Showoffs 2014. This year's leaders will be announced Aug. 21. RANGERETTE PHOTO



# New Rangerettes, officers to be named in next months

Mark your calendar for these upcoming Kilgore College Rangerette events:

- **PRE-TRAINING** is Sunday through Friday, **JULY 12-17**. Have a daughter, niece, granddaughter or student who wants to try out? The application and pertinent information are online at [www.Rangerette.com](http://www.Rangerette.com) under the Tryouts dropdown menu.

- The new line will be announced at **SIGN DROP** on Friday, **JULY 17**, in Dodson Auditorium. Only Hopefuls and current Rangerettes attend the announcement, but visitors may enter later. After the new freshmen are named, welcome one to the Rangerette organization by adopting her (see "It's almost adoption time," this page).

- Meet the new Rangerettes, see this year's field routines and watch the culmination of the officer-tryout process at **SHOWOFFS** on Friday, **AUG. 21**, in Dodson Auditorium. ★

## IT'S ALMOST ADOPTION TIME

With the Sign Drop comes an opportunity for Forever's to adopt a Rangerette.

Once the new line has been announced, contact Megan DeHoyos and Mindy Davis at [RetteAdoption@gmail.com](mailto:RetteAdoption@gmail.com) with the name of the Rangerette you'd like to adopt or to request an assignment. (Please do not use DeHoyos' or Davis' personal email addresses or contact them via Facebook about adoption.) Their goal is for each Rangerette to have multiple Forever's, so adopting a Rangerette with a fellow alumna is an option.

If you adopted a freshman Rangerette last year, you keep her as your adoptee her sophomore year.

After adopting her, please contact your Rangerette at least three times a month — by email, phone, social media or a letter/card.

## 'Sweethearts' kicks its way through festivals

Haven't seen "Sweethearts of the Gridiron," a documentary film about the world-famous Kilgore College Rangerettes, yet? Want to see it again? The award-winning movie, directed by former manager Chip Hale, is playing at:

### LIONSHEAD FILM FESTIVAL

June 27 in Dallas  
[www.lionsheadfilmfestival.com](http://www.lionsheadfilmfestival.com)

### TENERIFE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

July 7-10 in Spain  
[www.tenerifeinternationalfilmfestival.com](http://www.tenerifeinternationalfilmfestival.com)

### AUSTIN REVOLUTION FILM FESTIVAL

Sept. 23-27 in Austin  
[www.austinrevolutionfilmfestival.wordpress.com](http://www.austinrevolutionfilmfestival.wordpress.com)

### 4 STAR CINEMA

The weekend of Oct. 16-17 in Kilgore  
[www.foothillsentertainment.com](http://www.foothillsentertainment.com)

Click here to read a Kilgore News Herald article about First Line members' private showing of "Sweethearts of the Gridiron."

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

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/SweetheartsOfTheGridiron](http://www.facebook.com/SweetheartsOfTheGridiron)

**Twitter:** @SweetheartsGrid



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MRS. COVIN!

Deana Bolton Covin, second Rangerette director, will be 93 on June 22. If you'd like to send her a birthday card or note, mail it to 2906 Royal Drive, Kilgore, TX 75662.

# Dancing into spring

Anniversary celebration continues in 2015 performances

BY JORDAN BAIRD

Caroline Bentley and Kilgore College President Dr. Bill Holda accept the Texas Medal of Arts award.  
RANGERETTE PHOTOS



## FEBRUARY

The Kilgore College Rangerettes accepted the **TEXAS MEDAL OF ARTS AWARD** from the Texas Cultural Trust on Feb. 25. They traveled by bus for five hours — during which time the bus broke down. Nine sophomores performed at the reception before the award ceremony began. Among the familiar faces in attendance were former Dallas Cowboys football player Troy Aikman, a host for the evening, and Cowboys owner, president and general manager Jerry Jones and his wife. Sophomore Rangerette Caroline Bentley and Kilgore College President Dr. Bill Holda accepted the award in the dance category, which was presented by Tony-award-winning Broadway actress and Fort Worth native Betty Buckley.



Read more about the Rangerette trip in 74th Line member Jordan Baird's column on page 6.

[Click here to view more Scotland and Ireland photos on the Rangerettes' Facebook page.](#)

[... and here for even more on the Kilgore College Flickr account.](#)

## MARCH

The Rangerettes danced their way through Scotland and Ireland to celebrate their 75th anniversary.

The sophomores performed on the green at the **UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH**. Students and faculty watched through the windows or came outside to watch the performance alongside those traveling with the Rangerettes. The freshmen were scheduled to dance outside Madras College, but heavy rain canceled the performance.

The Rangerettes also performed in the **ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE** in Dublin. In the morning, The Rangerettes were off to the parade, where they were accompanied by high school All-Stars when they marched amongst a sea of green. Thousands of people lined the streets on the parade route, all smiling and cheering as the Rangerettes walked by.

Finally, the Croke Park performance, where the Rangerettes and the All-Stars performed halftime at the **ALL-IRELAND SENIOR CLUB FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS**. They even received a standing ovation — unlikely for halftime performers at this park because the crowd is usually more interested in the game and not halftime.

Revels opener: "Puttin' on Revels"



PHOTOS/MICHELLE CAMPBELL

## APRIL

This year's **REVELS** was the 70th annual show and took place April 15-18. Shows were Wednesday through Saturday nights with a Saturday matinée.

For Saturday's shows, a few lucky Rangerette Forevers had been chosen to perform on the Dodson stage one more time in an All-Star routine (see "Revels

All-Stars," this page).

Chip Hale, former manager, hosted the show this year. His documentary, "Sweethearts of the Gridiron," is screening at film festivals statewide.

The theme this year, "75," was broad but had aspects that helped the audience understand how the dance-drill art form came into the lives of so many young women around

the world. Styles included hip-hop, tap and contemporary. Skits, songs and solos added to the show. "75" highlighted the drill team's history, the legacy of its members and the Rangerettes' plans for the future.

Ending with the Extravaganza — with its confetti, as always — this year's Revels will be remembered forever and hard to beat in the years to come. ★



"I've Been Everywhere"

[Click here to view more Revels photos on the 'Rette, White and Blue Facebook page.](#)

COVER PHOTO/MICHELLE CAMPBELL

### REVELS ALL-STARS

These Forevers were selected to perform during the Saturday Revels performances:

**Stephanie Aumiller**, 2011-'13  
studio instructor, Encore staff

**Stevie Baldwin-Sutton**, 2007-'09  
director of Clark Cougarettes, member of DefiANCE Dance Company, Crowd Pleasers staff

**Kali Boyd**, 2004-'06  
head pageantry choreographer for Cotton Bowl and Capitol One Bowl, choreographer for Dallas Stars Ice Girls, MA staff

**Arlin Busano**, 2011-'13  
member of Orchesis Dance Company, Pulse Protege '07-'08, '10-'11, '13-'14

**Lexie Eppley Drennan**, 2003-'05  
Elite Studio owner, KC adjunct instructor, Encore staff

**Angela Falcone**, 2007-'09  
KC dance instructor, Encore staff

**Lauren Gibler**, 2007-'09  
five-year member of Dallas Mavericks Dancers

**Lauren Gier**, 2012-'14  
Tracie Stanfield Protege in New York City, MA staff



From left: Cali Hoffman, Angela Falcone and Hillary Hoffman perform the All-Star number. PHOTO/MICHELLE CAMPBELL

**Robbyn Good**, 2004-'06  
former captain of Dallas Stars Ice Girls, MA staff

**Taylor Greer**, 2009-'11  
performed in European dance tour, Encore staff

**Cali Hoffman**, 2003-'05  
assistant director of Denton Guyer High School Silverados, MA staff

**Hillary Hoffman**, 2003-'05  
director of Fossil Ridge High School Sun Dancers, MA staff

**Rachel Keller**, 2010-'12  
Dallas Stars Ice Girls, Encore staff

**Casey Potter**, 2007-'09  
Houston Rockets Power Dancer, former Houston Texans Cheerleader, cruise ship dancer, MA staff

**Katie Lane Quinn**, 2003-'05  
Elite Studio owner, KC adjunct instructor, Encore staff

**McKenzie Robinson**, 2010-'12  
Roustabouts Dance Company, Cotton Bowl pageantry staff, MA staff

**Jessie Magdaleno Rosenberger**, 2004-'06  
founded Simple Sparrow Dance Company, residencies with UT-Dallas dance department and KC dance department

**Cassie Rowland**, 2009-'11  
former Dallas Cowboys Cheerleader, instructor at Amotion Dance Studio, member of DefiANCE Dance Company, MA staff

**Bethany Woodring**, 2007-'09  
director of John Paul II High School Cardinal Belles, member of DefiANCE Dance Company

**Katie Canant Young**, 2010-12  
studio instructor, MA staff



The Rangerettes march in the 2015 St. Patrick's Day parade in Dublin, Ireland.

RANGERETTE PHOTO

# Rangerettes march on Ireland

## American tourist takes in sights, sounds of Eire

**T**weet! Tweet! Tweet! Tweet," sounded the Captain's whistle cue for us to begin our march in the 2015 St. Patrick's Day parade in Dublin, Ireland.

I couldn't believe this day was finally here. We had been waiting patiently for this trip since the news was announced at our Freshman Showoffs a year earlier. We were told that not only we would be performing in the St. Patrick's Day parade, but we would also be touring Scotland and Ireland to see many of the tourist sights these two countries have to offer.

We boarded a plane and traveled more than 10 hours to visit many cities, castles and cathedrals. My favorite tourist



**JORDAN BAIRD**  
74TH LINE

sight was the Cliffs of Moher, standing at 702 feet tall and running 6 miles across the Atlantic Ocean, I couldn't help but fall in love with this incredible sight. Their beauty was something that will remain in my memory for the rest of my life.

Many of the other tourist attractions and sights were so remarkable. I'll never forget the things I saw because of the old and medieval look that most of the buildings had. Our trip drew to an end with our final day being spent representing America in the parade that brings so much joy to the Irish citizens each year.

We began marching in unison down the streets of Dublin for about 800,000 people who were crowded along the parade boundaries to get a glimpse of what kind of entertainment would be provided this year.

It was quite difficult trying



This column is reprinted with permission from *The Flare*, the newspaper of Kilgore College. It ran in the 2015 Revels issue.

to soak it all in and not lose count of the dance steps or get on the wrong foot.

The crowds cheered as they saw a familiar color scheme on our uniforms and "done up" young women strutting through the parade without breaking attention or dropping their smiles. Our pop of red, white and blue stood out among the hundreds of people who were dressed in dark

green, white and orange to represent not only St. Patrick's Day, but the country of Ireland.

Our colors brought a unique and American touch to the parade, which doesn't happen too often, since it's been nearly 15 years since the Rangerettes have marched in this same parade.

We were introduced at three different points in the parade and thousands cheered once they knew how far we had traveled to bring our art form across the seas to represent America on such a special day in Ireland.

Chills ran up my spine as I felt a very proud feeling in my heart when we heard the applause throughout the parade.

Not only was I proud to be a Rangerette on this day, I was also proud to be an American and get the privilege to share my country and state with Ireland by the colors on my uniform.

*Jordan Baird is a sophomore journalism major from Magnolia.*

# *This gift will last forever ...*

## Director receives Miss Davis' Rangerette jewelry at Saturday Revels

BY JORDAN BAIRD

**I** was in complete shock," Dana Blair, Kilgore College Rangerette director, said. The crowd must have been equally surprised. Saturday-night Revels was filled with exciting things, and Mrs. Blair receiving the diamond pin/pendant that Miss Davis wore in her time as director was a moment no one will ever forget, especially Blair.

While the initial idea and gesture came from Missy Sumpter, Revels creative consultant, the estate of Tommie and Eleanor

Anderson made this special gift possible. Eleanor Kirksey Anderson was a member of the first line of Rangerettes.

Lots of time and planning went in to making sure this gift was given at the perfect moment.

"I had no idea that this was coming at all, and I was completely blown away that anyone thought that I should ever be in possession of such a beautiful and priceless piece of jewelry," Blair said.

As the Forevers, the current Rangerettes and family members watched when Megan DeHoyos, president of Rangerettes Forever, presented this jewelry to Blair, they were just as shocked as she was that such an amazing gift was being given on such a memorable evening.

"I truly cannot remember

watching Saturday night Revels," DeHoyos said.

"I repeated the speech in my head at least, or so it seemed, 1,000 times. It was an honor to have presented this gift to her, but I was just the messenger. The gift is from all Rangerettes and Rangerettes Forever."

All of the

current Rangerettes who stood on the stage behind her would completely agree. Her hard work and dedication to this organization has made her beyond eligible to wear such a special piece of jewelry.

Like most Rangerettes to have been under Blair's direction, DeHoyos learned valuable life lessons that have carried her through into her adulthood.

"She is consistent; I know many will agree that she teaches accountability, the value that

***"I had no idea that this was coming at all, and I was completely blown away that anyone thought that I should ever be in possession of such a beautiful and priceless piece of jewelry."***

**DANA BLAIR**

RANGERETTE DIRECTOR



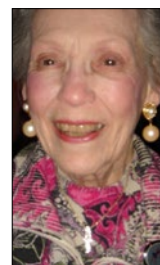
RANGERETTE PHOTO

**Gussie Nell Davis wore this diamond Rangerette pin during her time as director. The piece since has been worn on a chain as a pendant.**

comes from hard work, and to never settle for less than our best," DeHoyos said, "It was more than an honor to have been a part of such a special moment for Mrs. Blair. It is one I will always hold dear to my heart."

During Blair's time as a Rangerette, she remembers seeing Miss Davis wearing the jewelry and never did she think she would somehow be able to wear it also. While she does have a letter that Miss Davis wrote to her as a part of her wedding gift, which is one of her most prized possessions, she would never even think of asking for another gift from Miss Davis.

During the Rangerette final tea of 2015, Blair included in



**Eleanor Kirksey Anderson, First Line, wears Miss Davis' Rangerette pendant on the 2010 Rangerette cruise.**

PHOTO/  
KIT ROYAL BOLTE

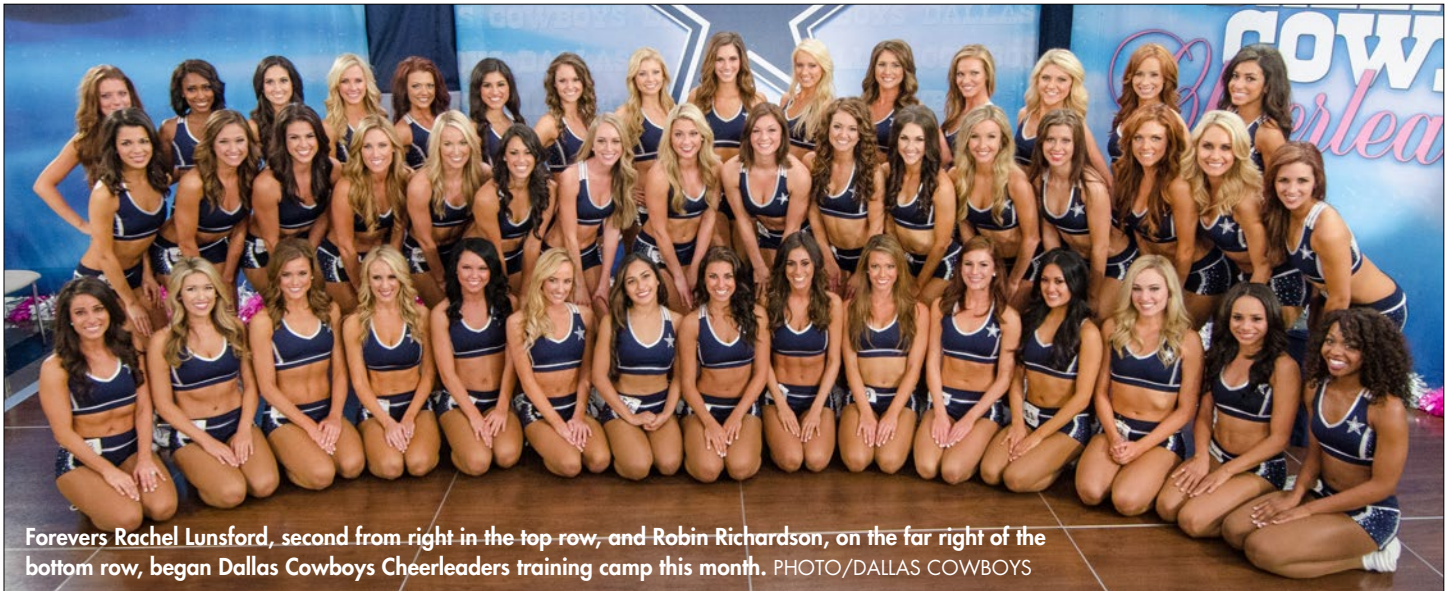
her speech that this jewelry represents the entire Rangerette organization, and, although she is only taking care of it for a little while, she is beyond honored to have this opportunity.

When asked if she had any gratitude toward anyone in particular for this gift, she said, "I would just want to say thank you to the family of Eleanor Anderson and the Rangerettes Forever for such a special honor. I could never thank them enough for allowing me to care for something of Miss Davis' that was so dear and special to her. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!"

If you have ever been a part, are on the team now, or have known someone who was a Rangerette then you know just how highly Blair resides within the Rangerette organization and within the hearts of these young women who got to know her personally. Her handwork will never go unnoticed, and this gift not only brought joy to such a fantastic woman, but will definitely last for a lifetime. ★

# Kicks & Cadence

Tales from the continued adventures of Foreverers and supporters



Foreverers Rachel Lunsford, second from right in the top row, and Robin Richardson, on the far right of the bottom row, began Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders training camp this month. PHOTO/DALLAS COWBOYS

★

PHOTO  
COURTESY  
OF ASHLEY  
CUPPLES



**ASHLEY CUPPLES**, 71st Line, became an Atlanta Falcons Cheerleader this spring.



Robin Richardson performs a solo during tryouts. PHOTO/DALLAS COWBOYS

**RACHEL LUNS福德**, 69th Line, and **ROBIN RICHARDSON**, 73rd Line, earned spots in this year's Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders training camp. Richardson is a rookie Dallas Cowboys Cheerleader training camp candidate. Lunsford is a third-year veteran.

★

Share your successes and milestones! We want to hear about your exciting new jobs, promotions and achievements. Tell us about weddings and new family members, too. Email your news to **RetteForeverNews@gmail.com**. Include a high-resolution, color photo and caption information.

*Please see more Kicks & Cadence on page 9.*

## Kicks & Cadence

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

PHOTO/  
ABC/BOB D'AMICO

**ERIN "COOKIE" CUMMINGS** ('97) stars in "The Astronaut Wives Club," which premiered June 18 on ABC. Cummings, on the far right in the photo, plays Marge Slayton. Other actresses portraying the wives of America's Mercury Seven astronauts are, from left: JoAnna Garcia Swisher as Betty Grissom, Odette Annable as Trudy Cooper, Azure Parsons as Annie Glenn, Yvonne Strahovski as Rene Carpenter, Dominique McElligott as Louise Shepard, and Zoe Boyle as Jo Schirra. The show is based on the book of the same title by Lily Koppel.

★

★

### ASHLEY SIMIEN,

68th Line, returned to the Houston Texans Cheerleaders this year after the team's tryouts in April. It is her second year with the squad.

PHOTO/  
HOUSTON TEXANS

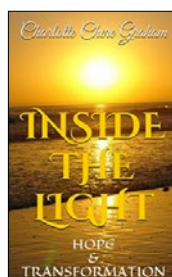


**HALEIGH KATE WRIGHT** ('13), who was named Miss Texarkana in her hometown in January, competes in the Miss Texas scholarship pageant June 27 through July 4 at the Eisemann Center in Richardson. Watch online at <http://portal.stretchinternet.com/jcproductions>. Want to see the event in person? Purchase tickets at [www.eisemanncenter.com](http://www.eisemanncenter.com). More details are at [www.misstexas.org](http://www.misstexas.org). The pageant will be broadcast the following week from 7 to 9 p.m. Saturday, July 11, on COZITV in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. PHOTO COURTESY OF HALEIGH KATE WRIGHT

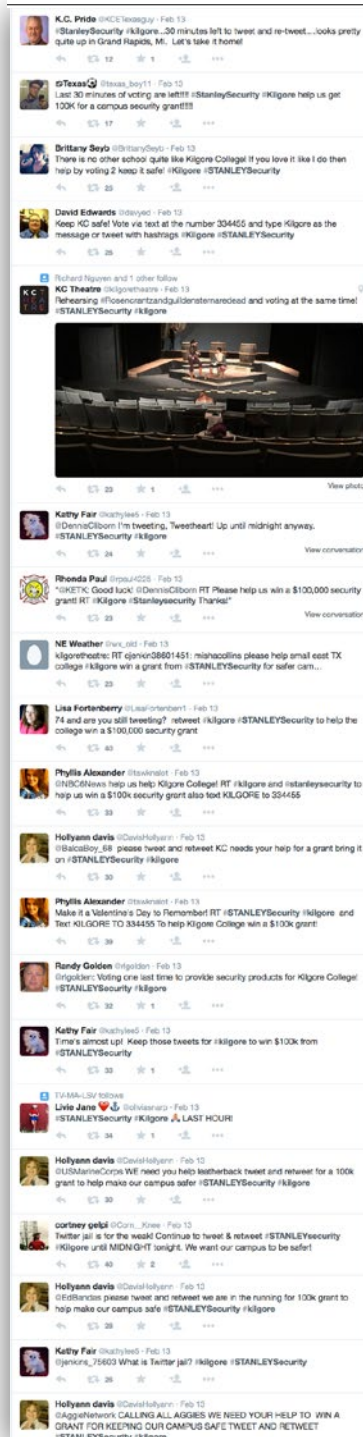


★

**CHERE GRAHAM** ('69), wrote "Inside the Light," available as a Kindle book on Amazon.com. Find her book under the name Charlotte Chere Graham. Graham lives in Reston, Va., and is founder and CEO of 360 Speaking LLC, a communications firm in metro Washington, D.C. **KERRY GENE MARTIN** (Rangerette manager, '86) has published "Sins of the Past" in his Gathering of the Damned series, also available on Amazon.com. Martin lives in Key West, Fla.



COVERS  
COURTESY  
OF THE  
AUTHORS



# Votes help make KC campus safer place for Rangerettes

BY JORDAN BAIRD

The \$100,000 Stanley Security grant Kilgore College won in March will provide new security elements to make the campus safer and more efficient — and help it stay that way.

Beginning in July, Stanley Security will help KC police officers with site surveys, projects to change the access controls, locking feature updates, improved camera coverage and modernization of safety features on campus.

Remaining grant money will go into projects around campus to

continue making the college safer, said Heath Cariker, chief of police at Kilgore College.

KC won the grant in the spring semester after weeks of voting via text and social media, beating other schools in its category.

Voting took place between Jan. 19 and Feb. 13. During this time, students, faculty and staff voted online, by text message and via Twitter and spread the word about the contest.

“The community helped us out a lot and were always calling to ask questions,” Cariker said. “The Rangerettes even helped us out a lot.”

The Kilgore College Rangerettes organization spent hours retweeting, favoriting and

*“My timeline was full of Stanley Security tweets.”*

**CASSIDY HALE**  
74TH LINE



KILGORE COLLEGE PHOTO

Kyle Gordon of Stanley Security, right, presents a plaque commemorating Kilgore College's \$100,000 grant to Heath Cariker, Kilgore College police chief, on April 29 on the KC campus.

voting. Participating alumni helped bring in more votes.

“My timeline was full of Stanley Security tweets,” Cassidy Hale, sophomore Rangerette, said. “I encouraged many people to retweet and to help get the word out there.”

The KC officers were so excited upon receiving their award they asked if they could participate in this competition again.

“You may not see it when you drive by, but it is the kind of thing where when incidents occur, you can come to us, and we can respond quicker and find an easier solution to the problems,” Cariker said. ★

◀ Tweets with the hashtags #STANLEYSecurity and #Kilgore helped the college win a \$100,000 grant.

## SHOW YOUR PRIDE WHEN YOU DRIVE

Does your Texas vehicle still lack a Kilgore College Rangerette license plate? Know someone whose car needs one? Don't hesitate to purchase a plate or extend the term of your existing one.

MyPlates.com sometimes removes specialty plates

from its inventory if an organization does not meet the required 200 registered plate minimum, according to the website. Your plate helps keep the Rangerette design on the road.

Plates start as low as \$35 a year for a five-year plan



with randomly generated letter/number combinations.

Order at [www.MyPlates.com/Personalized/PLPC179](http://www.MyPlates.com/Personalized/PLPC179) or call 888-769-7528.

If your plate has expired and you decide not to renew it, consider donating it to a display in the Rangerette Residence. Drop your plate at the residence or send it to 819 Nolen St., Kilgore, TX 75662. For more information, contact Shirley Arredondo, resident manager, at 512-627-5843.

## FOREVER SPOTLIGHT

## Dance educator uses Rangerette lessons in work, life

BY MEGAN SHUFFLE SHEPHERD

**What made you want to become a Kilgore College Rangerette? First memory of Rangerettes?**

**Rosa "Rosie" Torres:** My childhood friend and mentor, Maria Lourdes Diaz, was a Rangerette and then later on, my dance teacher, Norma Arriaga, advised me to go try out. All I knew about Rangerettes at that time was that they were a dance group and they traveled a lot. I took it as an opportunity to get out of my hometown and be part of something amazing ... and it was amazing!

**What's the most unexpectedly wonderful compliment anyone has ever paid you?** Recently, the daughter of a really close friend had to choose someone who would stand in place of that friend. She choose me. I don't have children, so this was a wonderful compliment, to be a child's mom for a few hours at a school function. My heart was full.



**ROSA  
"ROSIE"  
TORRES**

**Hometown:** Laredo

**Rangerette years:**

1994-'96  
(Swingster)

**After Kilgore College:** Torres attended Southwest Texas State University, now Texas State

**Where she is today:** Dance educator and choreographer, Leapin' Leotards sales representative



Rosa "Rosie" Torres, a Rangerette from 1994 to '96, followed her love of dance into a career as a dance educator.  
PHOTO COURTESY OF ROSA "ROSIE" TORRES

**In your work or creative process, what concepts are sacred? Which rules have you made? Which ones do you follow?** In my creative process, there are no rules! Nothing is sacred. I choreograph laying down if that says anything. I use my mind and imagination a lot. Once the whole visualization process is done, I put it on

the dance floor. There are very few times this hasn't worked. That's when I ask for collaboration from whomever I work with. Then it becomes everyone's choreography ... I love to see dancers use their creativity as opposed to just their physicality.

**Which rules do you break?** This is a hard question. Do I want to admit the few rules I have broken? I suppose I only break rules that limit my growth ... but I usually follow rules ... how else do I expect my students to follow the few rules I have set in my classroom!

**What are you the most proud of in your life?** I am most proud that I followed my love of dance, dance performance, and teaching as a career.

**How did your time at Kilgore shape you into the woman you are now?** There is so much Rangerettes taught me. The obvious, learning to be a great performer and good student of dance, helped my career. But how did Rangerettes shape the woman I am now? It gave me many tools and examples for being a smart, confident, disciplined woman, a finish-what-you-started woman, an honor-your-word woman, and my favorite ... no matter how hard it is, put on that red lipstick, smile, chin up and walk tall kind of woman.

**What is your grand, audacious goal? What do you wish people would know, believe, do?** My grand audacious goal would be to take a year long sabbatical across the globe. I wish people would know how to not be so reactive and quick to give opinions. It would ease tensions in all aspects of life. ★

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