



FOREVER

KILGORE COLLEGE RANGERETTES

NEWSLETTER

JULY 2016



DEANA BOLTON COVIN • SECOND RANGERETTE DIRECTOR
1922–2016

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Revels, camps and Rangerette.com

Greetings Forevers,

If you attended the 2016 Rangerette Revels — “The Show Must Go On” — in Dodson Auditorium April 6-9, I’m confident you share my enthusiasm and exuberance. Dana Blair, Shelley Wayne and the Rangerettes delivered a production worthy of the highest praise and acclaim. As we know, Revels is a collaborative effort among many creative minds and multi-talented performers, but Dana and Shelley know how to pull it together and present a show of the highest possible caliber — they create magic! This is particularly noteworthy because this show this year represents history; the Rangerettes’ creative consultant, Missy Sumpter, retired in 2015 after delivering a quarter century of ideas, concepts and themes that propelled those 25 different, successful Revels productions. Angela Falcone, a former Rangerette captain and lead dance instructor of the Kilgore College Dance Department, and Megan DeHoyos, showcase director and immediate past president of Forevers, were acknowledged and thanked by the directors for their creativity, contributions and hard work on the show.

Continuing with our traditional support for the Rangerette organization, the Forevers offered our sponsorship for Revels, as well as the reception in the Deana Bolton Covin Rangerette Gym after this year’s matinée. Paula Jamerson, Kilgore College alumni coordinator, planned and executed this opportunity for friends, families and Forevers as well as Rangerettes to mix and mingle. With Paula’s artistic touches, the event was fabulous for all. I’m happy to share that approximately 400 attendees enjoyed the wonderful refreshments and time together. Many Rangerette lines find the event beneficial



**BEVERLY
ROCHIN
SWATZELL**
36TH LINE

The Forevers are honored to have such an active collaboration with the Rangerette organization and Kilgore College.

to host their own reunions.

The new Rangerette.com website is up and running. The website replaces our first venture into the digital world, which, after years of service, needed updating. As you might expect, the new site is a vast improvement and is fantastic. The site is easily navigable; information is secured quickly. Forevers’ portion of the site will be operational this summer. We added a new contact information feature for individual Forever updates. Our priority is to ensure we maintain contact with all Forevers and, with relocations and name/email changes, the new feature streamlines these sorts of changes and updates.

Enrollment was strong for our largest fundraiser, the Rangerette summer mini camps. The Forevers purchased a new registration capability available via the new website. As a result, the enrollment process is easier for all involved. For the third year, Forevers’ immediate past president, Megan DeHoyos, directed the elementary and middle school camps. The two high school camps, led by Dana and Shelley, followed. The proceeds from the camps provide full scholarships to the five Rangerette officers and additional support to the Rangerettes organization, as needed.

The Forevers are honored to have such an active collaboration with the Rangerette organization and Kilgore College. We depend on our members to help make these connections possible, and we could not do it without them!

Forever yours,
Beverly Rochin Swatzell, ’75-’77, 36th Line
Rangerettes Forever president

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FOREVER NEWSLETTER
IS PUBLISHED BY
THE OFFICE OF
INSTITUTIONAL
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FOR MEMBERS OF
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AND FRIENDS
OF RANGERETTES.**

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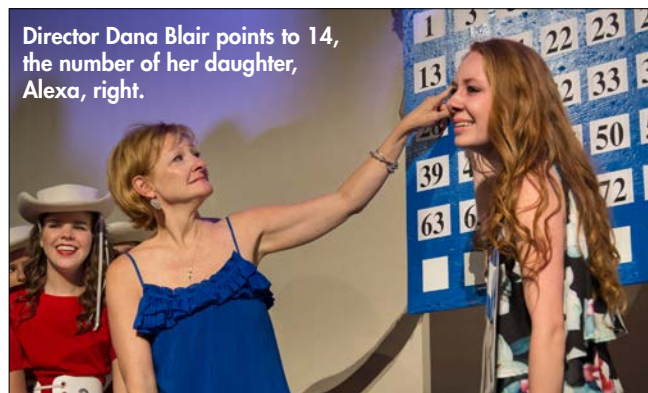
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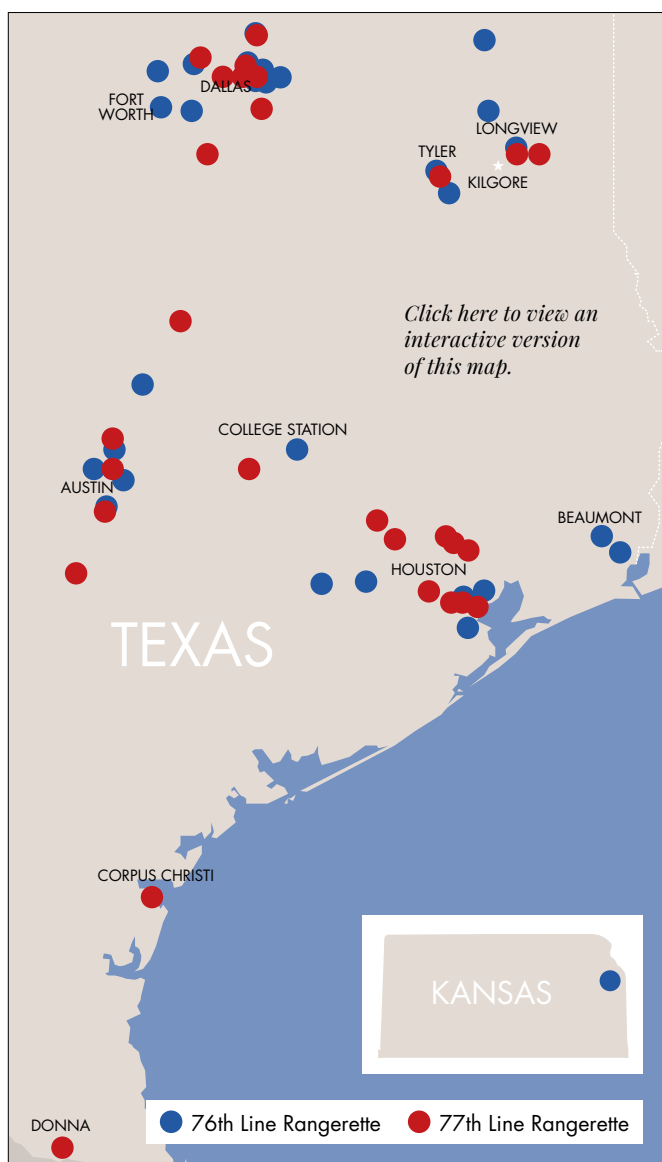


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SHARE NEWS FROM YOUR RANGERETTES FOREVER CHAPTER Share your Rangerettes Forever chapter’s announcements with the Rangerettes Forever Newsletter. Send an email to RetteForeverNews@gmail.com. If possible, include a high-resolution, color photo and caption information.



New line's journey begins



On July 15, Hopefuls learned who had earned spots on the 77th Line of the Kilgore College Rangerettes. Here's a closer look at the places from which this year's freshmen and sophomores hail.

FRESHMAN RANGERETTES

Austin: Erin Ellis, Kaitlyn Kelly and Baleigh Williams
Caldwell: Isabel Sorto
Carrollton: Kasey Davis
Corpus Christi: Sarah Salinas
Deer Park: Andress Zepeda
Donna: Amanda Alaniz
Garland: Sara Denman
Georgetown: Taylor Hobbs
Hallsville: Jordan Allred
Hewitt: Madi Minard
Highland Village: Victoria Buschow
Houston: Gabrielle DePau and Kristin Lopez
Huffman: Laurel Darwin
Kingwood: Victoria Soderman and Bailey Ferguson

La Porte: Lindsey Witt
Longview: Natalie Poss and Alexa Blair
Magnolia: Natalie Sassaman
McKinney: Monica Mata Perez
Mesquite: Ana Espinosa and Diana Espinosa
Midlothian: Myah Brown
Pasadena: Monica Baez
Plano: Jadyn Champagne
Porter: Kristen Hill
Richardson: Madeleine Lindholm
Round Rock: Lana Louis and Oddalys Salcido
San Marcos: Jenna Judkins
Tomball: Shelby Reynolds and Jensine Dalfrey
Tyler: Sarah Barns



New freshmen Ana and Diana Espinosa are twins from Mesquite.

IN THE NEWS

Click [here](#) to read about tryouts in the Kilgore News Herald and [here](#) in the Longview News-Journal

Click [here](#) and [here](#) to read about Sign Drop in the News Herald and [here](#) in the News-Journal.

Click [here](#) to view photos from **Pre-training** and **Sign Drop** on the Kilgore College Flickr page.

Click [here](#) to view photos from 'Rette, White and Blue magazine.

Want to give back? Options abound

SPONSOR A RANGERETTE



The Kilgore College Rangerettes are headed to New York City for the 90th Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade and to Hawaii to honor the 75th anniversary of Pearl Harbor. Consider sponsoring a Rangerette for these two trips. Full sponsorships, covering the cost of both trips, are \$4,000. Partial sponsorships, covering the cost of the trip deposit, are \$1,800. Any amount is accepted and makes a difference, and you can specify your donation for a particular team member. [Click here](#) to download a sponsorship form, or send a check to Kilgore College Rangerettes, Attn: Shelley Wayne, 1100 Broadway Blvd., Kilgore, TX 75662. Write "Sponsor a Rangerette" in the memo line of your check. Above: 71st and 72nd Line Rangerettes at the 70th anniversary of Pearl Harbor. KILGORE COLLEGE PHOTO

ADOPT AN ACTIVE

With the new line comes an opportunity for Forevers to adopt a Rangerette.

Email RetteAdoption@gmail.com with the name of the Rangerette you'd like to adopt or to request an assignment. (Please do not use personal email addresses or Facebook messages.) The goal is for each Rangerette to have multiple Forevers, 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.

DONATE TO A SCHOLARSHIP

Honor the second Rangerette director, the late Deana Bolton Covin, by making a donation to her Rangerette Scholarship. There are two ways to give:

- Send checks (made payable to the Kilgore College and referencing the Deana Bolton Covin Scholarship in the memo line) to Kilgore College, c/o Paula Jamerson or Leah Gorman, 1100 Broadway, Kilgore, TX 75662.
- Pay online via the KC Foundation website at <https://www.kilgore.edu/node/4893>. To designate your donation for the scholarship, select "Scholarships" in the "I'd like my gift to go toward" field, then select "In memory of" and enter "Deana Bolton Covin." You do not need to enter her address.



Danielson

HELP A FOREVER

Stacy Lawrence Danielson, 57th Line, was diagnosed with colon cancer and is undergoing treatment. Contribute to her GoFundMe page at <https://www.gofundme.com/stacykaye> or [click here](#) to visit her Facebook support group.



Commemorative benches in Kilgore College's new Mike Miller Plaza offer an opportunity to honor classes, officer lines and other Foreverers. The 30 granite-and-iron benches can be personalized with an inscription limited to three lines of up to 60 characters. Bench customization requires a single or collective donation of \$2,500.

Click here to read more about the benches on the Kilgore College website.

To purchase a bench or for details, contact 903-988-7521 or lgorman@kilgore.edu.

JOIN THE NEW KC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Support alumni programs and student scholarships with your annual or lifetime membership to the Kilgore College Alumni Association. For \$25 per year or \$250 for a lifetime membership, your benefits include:

Athletics: Free admission to basketball and softball games, plus a \$5 discount on season tickets for football. Free hot-dog tail gate party at Homecoming.

Oil Museum: Admission price of \$5 instead of \$8 for card holders only

Parks Fitness Center: Membership reduced to \$20 for individual and \$30 for family, per month

KC Brew Coffee Shop: 25 percent off purchases

Sports Grill: 10 percent off purchases

Ranger Café: Flat rate meal for only \$5

KC Bookstore: 10 percent discount and monthly discounts for card holders

To be considered for any Rangerettes Forever board position, a candidate must be a lifetime member of both Rangerettes Forever and the Kilgore College Alumni Association.

Visit <https://www.kilgore.edu/alumni> for details. Pay by check to Kilgore College Alumni Association, 1100 Broadway, Kilgore, TX 75662. ★



Keep our plates on the road

Purchase a Kilgore College Rangerettes license plate or extend the term of an existing one at MyPlates.com. MyPlates sometimes discontinues specialty plates if an organization does not meet the 200 registered plate minimum, according to the website. To order your plates, **click here** or call 888-769-7528.

IN BRIEF

Join the 'Rettes in NYC

Travel with the Kilgore College Rangerettes to the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. **Click here** for details about Spirit of America's package and to register. Use code KC2016. A \$500 deposit is required.

Your team could perform with the Rangerettes

Coast2Coast Productions invites dance/drill teams to perform with the Kilgore College Rangerettes at halftime Oct. 1 at R.E. St. John Memorial Stadium.

Packages range from free (food and transportation on your own) to \$30 per

dancer (lunch and T-shirt provided, transportation on you own). All proceeds go to the Rangerettes.

To register or for information, email eventscoast2coast@gmail.com.

Jon Vashey takes a bow

After more than six years of documenting the Kilgore College Rangerettes, Jon Vashey, coordinator of marketing and graphic design services at Kilgore College, has moved on to pursue an opportunity with Skeeter Boats.

Stepping into Vashey's shoes is Jamie Maldonado, a 2001 Kilgore College graduate who has served in KC's journalism department.

Watch 'Sweethearts' again ... and again and again

Kilgore College Rangerettes documentary "Sweethearts of the Gridiron" is slated to be released Sept. 1 on DVD and on digital platforms such as iTunes and Netflix.

Follow "Sweethearts" on social media for updates:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/SweetheartsOfTheGridiron

Twitter: @SweetheartsGrid



DEANA BOLTON COVIN

We know how special she was

The Rangerette organization lost a beloved leader, mentor and friend on June 28.

Known for her outstanding attention to detail and precision, Deana Bolton Covin held several prestigious positions and contributed creatively to many organizations throughout her career, including Kilgore Tops in Twirling and Drill team, Superstar Drill Team camps and the Dallas Tex-Anns.

Mrs. Covin was the third assistant director of the Rangerettes from 1972 to 1979, and she became the organization's second director when Gussie Nell Davis retired in 1979. Mrs. Covin retired in 1993, but she remained active within the Rangerettes Forever organization.

Mrs. Covin received numerous honors throughout her career and after her retirement. Her most notable Rangerette-related accolades include the dedication of Revels to her in 1993 and the Rangerette Gym being re-named in her honor in 2001.

The following stories, memories and photos were submitted in remembrance of Mrs. Covin. They pay tribute to her legacy and to the standard of perfection that she set for all Rangerettes, past, present and future.

—ASHLEY AUSTIN JONES



Deana Bolton Covin works with Kilgore College Rangerettes in 1989. On the cover: Mrs. Covin with rocking horse props around 1990. PHOTOS/O. RUFUS LOVETT

Remembering our second director

My connection to Mrs. Bolton went back many years. She was my father's teacher in Henderson. He told me all the boys wanted to be in her class. She was young and pretty. I met her at Tops In Twirling in junior high. Then I was privileged to be a Rangerette with Mrs.

Bolton and Gussie Nell Davis 1975-77. She was such a lady who demanded perfection with grace and style. Thank you Mrs. Bolton!

—FRAN PERRY STEITLER (1975-77)

Please see more **Remembering** on page 7.

Remembering continued from page 6

My little sister was Jadean Bolton. I was on the 28th Line. It doesn't get much better than that regarding my relationship with Mrs. Covin. And in '06 Mike Miller asked my husband and me to escort Larry and Deana during Cotton Bowl events and activities.

—MAZIE MATHEWS JAMISON (1967-69)

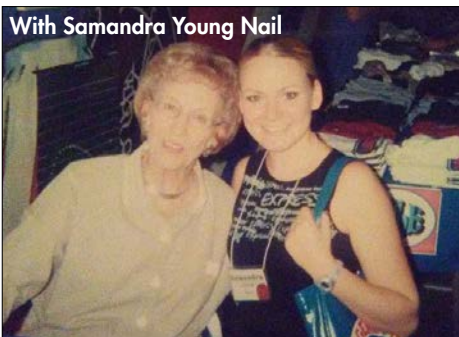
With Susan Reed



Mrs. Bolton was in her last year as the assistant director my sophomore year. She instilled confidence in me that I could always be better than I imagined. To this day, I still put into action "just one more time" whether I am preparing for a work presentation, a personal project, or trying to get something just right. Mrs. Bolton's voice in my head says, "It can be better."

—SUSAN REED (1977-79)

With Samandra Young Nail



I remember taking this picture with Mrs. Covin in the Rangerette museum. I was so nervous to ask her if I could have a picture with her. My nerves immediately went away when she said, "Of course." Mrs. Covin left an incredible legacy with the Rangerettes and will always hold a special place in our hearts.

—SAMANDRA YOUNG NAIL (2001-03)



Click here to read more about Mrs. Covin in the Longview News-Journal.

Click here to read her obituary.

She was a wonderful woman who always remembered me at each Revels I attended. I am the woman I am today due to her teaching and her prodding us to be perfect!

—RONDA WILLIAMS KALKA (1979-81)

With Meredith Oden Root & Mackenzie Oden



Mrs. Covin and I became acquainted in the early '70s when I attended her summer twirling camps at Kilgore College. She was impressive because of her enthusiasm for making sure we had fun while learning. As a high school sophomore, she encouraged me to consider trying out for the Rangerettes, so I set my sights on the



With Kim Chapman Oden

red, white and blue uniform, becoming a Rangerette in '75. That fall, we traveled to Hong Kong, Macao, Korea and Hawaii on the trip of a lifetime. I loved how much she enjoyed our performance, and I never tired of her critiques. The following summer, I was lucky enough to be chosen as an officer. Unfortunately, shortly afterwards, Mrs. Covin's husband passed away, and although she was a devoted wife, she pushed through the pain without missing more than a couple of days of school. She did her job to the best of her ability. Always, I never tired

of what she had to say and worked hard to make her smile. She said we were special, and I knew she loved us. I can still hear her infectious laugh as well as the sound of that handheld drum she beat as we kicked down the floor. She was extremely strong, driven and determined, and she pushed for excellence from all of us. I am grateful to have had a mentor who truly led by example. When both of my daughters also became Rangerettes, she was thrilled the torch had been passed, but she didn't realize I also gave them the character traits she instilled in me to always be a strong, independent women. Yes ma'am. Thank you, Mrs. Covin.

—KIM CHAPMAN ODEN (1975-77)



With the "Sweethearts" crew

While making Sweethearts, we pre-interviewed everyone and actually had two visits with Mrs. Covin before her interview. Despite those meetings, I was kinda sorta surprised-not surprised that she had seven note cards handwritten on the front and back the day of her interview. Holding the note cards for me to see, she said, "I know you have questions, but I'm going to talk about this first." I smiled and said, "Yes ma'am, Mrs. Covin." She was in charge, and that was fine by me.

—CHIP HALE,
DIRECTOR OF "SWEETHEARTS OF THE
GRIDIRON," FORMER RANGERETTE MANAGER

My class was the first freshman class to have Mrs. Covin for our director. Of course, back then she was Mrs. Bolton. I can remember many things while I was a Rangerette, like her yelling out, "Quit jumping so high, Scalco," misplacing my practice hat and having to tell her, or hearing her over the megaphone yell "One

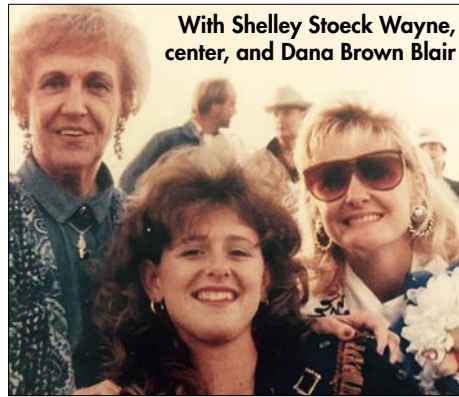
Please see more **Remembering** on page 8.

Remembering continued from page 7

more time!” But my very favorite, treasured memory of Mrs. Covin was after I was an adult, but before McKenna tried out. My second daughter, Shea, was at camp, and Mrs. Covin came to talk with the girls who were thinking of trying out. It was her 80th birthday. I said hello to her briefly before she spoke to the girls. When she finished speaking, she didn’t say anything, but came over to me and gave me the sweetest kiss on my forehead and walked away. I sent a card thanking her. It’s something I’ve held close to my heart ever since.

—TENA SCALCO VOGEL (79-81)

There are no words that adequately express how much Mrs. Covin meant to me. She is the reason that I have had this amazing journey with this incredible organization. I owe everything to her, and my heart is a little empty without her in this world. She was one of a kind and taught me so much. I know that even from Heaven she



With Shelley Stoeck Wayne, center, and Dana Brown Blair

will be watching the girls walk into tight line like “queens” and will make sure the contagions reach the ends of the line at the same time. She will also desperately want to fix that “weenie” flag and want to teach the freshmen how to properly sing the school song. I know her girls will forever hear her voice as she stopped practice to tell us “how special we are.” You were so special, Mrs. Covin, and you will remain in my heart forever.

—DANA BROWN BLAIR (1981–83),
CURRENT RANGERETTE DIRECTOR

I first got to know Deana in 1975. I was the new music instructor at Kilgore College, and she had just found out that Gussie Nell Davis was going to let her direct Rangerette Revels for the first time. She wanted me in the orchestra pit of the Dodson Auditorium to play the piano along with Chris Stewart, who was on the Hammond Organ. In the middle of rehearsal, Deana would tell the girls, “Let’s do this.” Gussie Nell, at the back of the auditorium, would holler out, “No, we are not going to do that.” Deana would say, “Yes, Miss Davis.” After about the fourth time this occurred, she looked over at me and said, “I thought I was supposed to be the director of Revels.” At the same rehearsal, there was a girl who continued to stand in front of the curtain when it was ready to close. After the third admonition from Mrs. Bolton, she told me, “I hope that curtain knocks her down when it closes so that she will know to stand behind it.”

—DR. WILLIAM HOLDA,
KILGORE COLLEGE PRESIDENT, 1996–2016

Honor Deana Bolton Covin with the gift that continues to give back to Rangerettes

Mrs. Covin was very passionate about Rangerette Scholarships. She created Rangerette Mini Camp to endow more and more scholarships. From the time the camp was created to now, over \$1 million has been raised. This may sound like a lot of money; however, each girl receives only \$500 to \$550 per semester. The cost of a semester of school is \$5,000 per person, including tuition, books, room and board. Currently, we have enough scholarships for every girl to get only one. Please help us to honor Mrs. Covin by keeping her dream alive by endowing additional scholarships.

If Mrs. Covin impacted your life in any form or fashion, please consider giving back. Please consider endowing a gift that keeps on giving.

Thank you, Mrs. Covin, for your inspiration in helping Rangerettes to receive scholarships.

—LISA FORTENBERRY (1983–85)



Rangerettes celebrate Deana Bolton Covin’s birthday at mini camp in 2006. PHOTO COURTESY OF LISA FORTENBERRY

SCHOLARSHIP FACTS AND FIGURES:

\$15,000: Total cost to endow a scholarship

\$500: The cost per class member if 30 classmates contribute to one scholarship endowment

2-3 YEARS: The amount of time you can have to spread out an endowment

If you endow a scholarship, you can name it after your class, officer line, group, individual, etc. Contact pjamerson@kilgore.edu or lgorman@kilgore.edu for more information.

The beat goes on

As the school year wound down, Rangerette performances continued

REVELS 2016

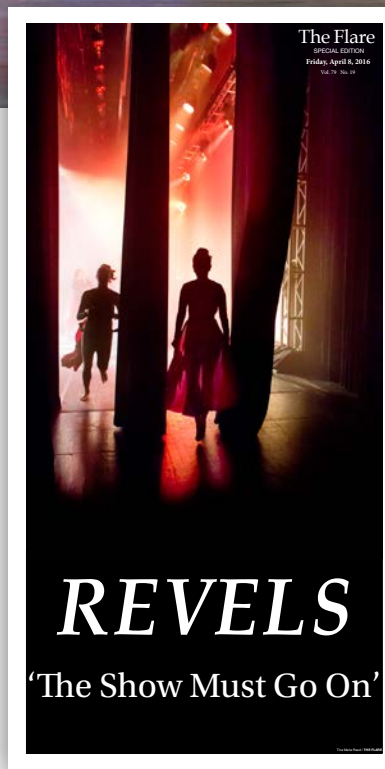


A year after Missy Sumpter took her bow as creative consultant of Revels, this year's theme was "The Show Must Go On" and showcased the Kilgore College Rangerettes' quest to fill Sumpter's shoes. The Rangerettes performed styles from Broadway to modern at the suggestion of "applicants" and concluded the show with the traditional Rangerette Extravaganza, pictured. Click [here](#) to view more photos of the show from 'Rette, White and Blue magazine and click [here](#) to read the Revels edition of The Flare, the newspaper of Kilgore College. PHOTO/MICHELLE CAMPBELL



WALT DISNEY WORLD

The Rangerettes were guest performers at the Contest of Champions at Walt Disney World in March. See "A magical adventure," on the following page for more about the trip. PHOTO COURTESY OF LAINEY BERGEN-HENENGOUWEN



Please see more *The beat goes on* on page 11.

A magical adventure

Lieutenant shares moments from Rangerettes' March trip to Disney

BY LAINEY BERGEN-HENENGOUWEN

Let me go through the list one more time. Hat, belt, boots, gauntlets, bloomers, blouse, skirt, scarf, lipstick ... OK, I think I'm ready. Bags packed, uniform in carry on, and more excitement than I could contain, I began my trek to IAH airport in Houston, terminal C, where I found the rest of 756 anxiously waiting to be checked in and ready to finally begin the trip of a lifetime! The happiest people on earth were traveling to the happiest place on earth.

One short flight later, we had safely landed in Orlando and were transported to the POP Century Hotel, where we were greeted by the sights of various characters and scenes that only heightened our excitement!

After a night of restless sleep due to the bottled anticipation of the magic that would happen in just a few hours, I awoke to my alarm that for once I did not protest because I knew that today would hold nothing but perfect memories that I would cherish for a lifetime! First on the agenda: Magic



Kilgore College Rangerettes visited Walt Disney World in March.

PHOTO COURTESY OF LAINEY BERGEN-HENENGOUWEN

All I could think, standing there in that moment, was that I don't need a star to wish upon — I get to live my dream every day ...

Kingdom! We spent the entire day exploring the whimsical place that Walt Disney himself imagined and brought to life. I'm continually amazed by the detail behind every ride and exhibit created in every park. It is truly awe-striking! I crawled into bed that night with aching feet and a very happy heart.

Sunday morning brought more excitement, but for a different reason! Today would be the day we would perform as the guest performers at the Contest of Champions. An early morning practice preceded

a day at Hollywood Studios. What a better way to shake your pre-performance nerves than a couple of brain-rattling roller coasters! As the afternoon rolled around, we all returned to the hotel to prepare for the performance. Red, white and blue flooded the lobby of the hotel as we waited on our buses to bring us to the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex. The next couple hours were filled with constant stretching, kicking and run-throughs to ensure that we would give the audience the perfection that the

Rangerettes promise every time. The performance was a one-of-a-kind atmosphere that brought tears to my eyes, pride to my heart, and forced me to wonder how I got so lucky to be able to wear this uniform. Once again, I returned to my bed with a very happy heart.

The next two days were filled with wonderstruck exploration of Universal Studios and Animal Kingdom. Both filled to the brim with detail too intricate to describe. It's safe to say that my freshman smiling muscles came in handy as a smile was plastered on my face all day long as I traveled throughout the parks these two days. We ended our trip on Tuesday night, by watching the fireworks at Magic Kingdom. The syncopated fireworks to Pinocchio's "When You Wish Upon a Star" brought a feeling of complete and utter gratitude to the organization that brought me there in the first place. The song states, "When you wish upon a star, your dreams come true," but all I could think, standing there in that moment, was that I don't need a star to wish upon — I get to live my dream every day, doing what I love and surrounded by people I love, all given to me by an organization that brings me places I would never imagine.

Lainey Bergen-Henengouwen is a 75th Line Rangerette from Beaumont.

The beat goes on

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

DANCE CONCERT



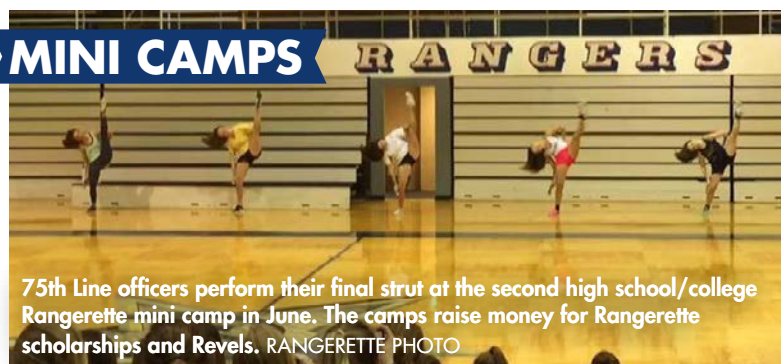
The 2016 KILGORE COLLEGE DANCE DEPARTMENT CONCERT, "Origin" showcased a collaboration of dance students and instructors Angela Falcone (ballet and modern) and Shelley Wayne (tap and jazz). The April 29 show in Kilgore College's Van Cliburn Auditorium included the premier of student choreography works by Rangerettes Brooke Luna, Lainey Bergen-Henengouwien and Autumn Fleet. The department's Industry Dance Company premiered its original work, "First and Foremost," and revealed Industry's 2016-17 members. PHOTO/O. RUFUS LOVETT



HALL OF FAME

The Rangerettes were part of the **COTTON BOWL HALL OF FAME INDUCTION CEREMONY** April 22. RANGERETTE PHOTO

MINI CAMPS



75th Line officers perform their final strut at the second high school/college Rangerette mini camp in June. The camps raise money for Rangerette scholarships and Revels. RANGERETTE PHOTO

COMING SOON

SHOWOFFS: See the 77th Line perform for the first time and witness the final phase of officer tryouts at Show-offs beginning 7:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 19, in Dodson Auditorium.

KILGORE COLLEGE FOOTBALL GAMES:

The Kilgore College Rangers' season kicks off 7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 27, at Tyler Junior College. The Homecoming game begins 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 29. View the rest of the KC football schedule at www.kilgore.edu/athletics-organizations/football/schedule.

Kicks & Cadence

Tales from the continued adventures of Foreverers and supporters



PHOTO COURTESY OF ASHLEY BONNER

ASHLEY BONNER, 72nd Line, is the new assistant director of the Legacies dance team at Vandegrift High School in Austin. Holly Williams Lyons, 54th Line, is the team's director.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SYDNE MILLER

SYDNE MILLER, 71st Line, is director of the Dallas Wings' Flight Crew co-ed hip hop dance team. [Click here](#) to read more about the new WNBA team and Miller's involvement in this Kilgore News Herald article.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KRISTEN SCHAEFER

KRISTEN ROSS SCHAEFER, 62nd Line, opened Revolution Dance Center in Porter.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DCR&B

CASSIDY KAY HALE, 74th Line, made the Dallas Cowboys Rhythm and Blues co-ed dance team.

JEANNINE PAUL WATSON, 50th Line, is the new director of the Chato dance team at La Porte High School. **ERIN OIAN BOYD**, 61st Line, will teach dance and be the assistant director. Boyd was resident manager of the Rangerette Residence from 2006 to 2013. Both women were Chatos themselves.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ERIN BOYD

Jeannine Paul Watson, left, and Erin Oian Boyd will lead the Chatos.

Please see more **Kicks & Cadence** on page 13.

★
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.

Kicks & Cadence

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12



PHOTO COURTESY OF M'KAY HALL

After five years with Uplift Education, **M'KAY COX HALL**, 58th Line, will teach kindergarten next year at Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATIE REEVES

KATIE REEVES, 69th Line, is starting the dance team and dance department in Leander ISD's newest campus, Glenn High School.



PHOTO/HRPD

CASEY POTTER, 68th Line, is a Houston Rockets Power Dancer for a third season and is team captain.

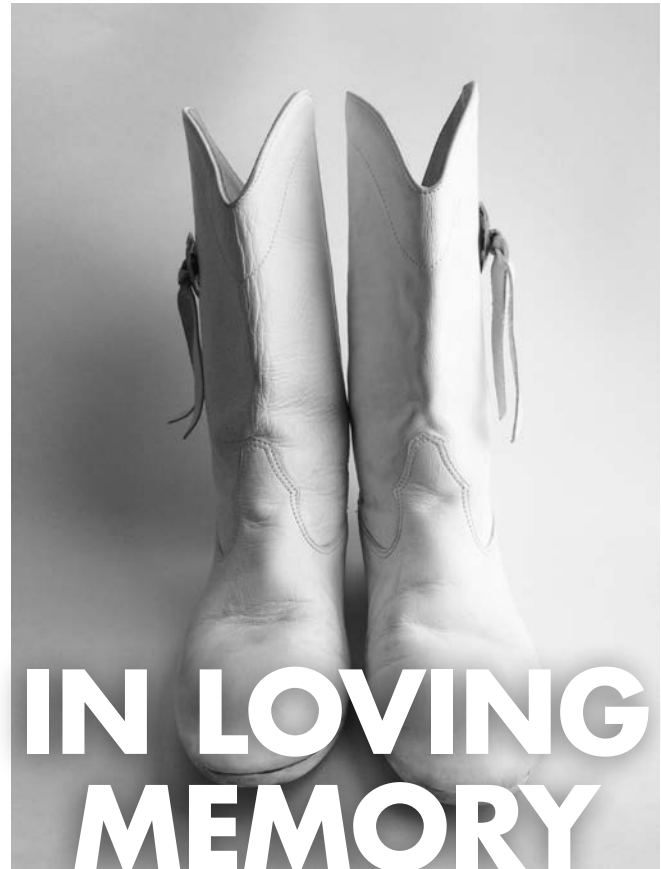


PHOTO COURTESY OF APRIL FARMER

APRIL PICKRAL FARMER, 59th Line, was promoted to senior vice president of business development at Justice Benefits Inc. She has worked for the Irving-based company for 11 years.

★

GIVE A LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP Looking for a gift for your adopted Kilgore College Rangerette? Or a present for your favorite Forever? Annual dues are \$20, but you can become a lifetime member for \$150 — at any time. Life members receive a 7-by-9-inch plaque. Membership benefits include priority purchasing for Revels tickets, travel opportunities and social events. Send your check to Rangerettes Forever, 1100 Broadway, Kilgore, TX 75662.



Our thoughts and prayers are with the families and loved ones of these Foreverers who have left us.

DEANA BOLTON COVIN, second director of the Kilgore College Rangerettes, passed away June 28. Read more about her life and legacy, beginning on page 1.

LELA COX KELLY, captain of the 30th Line, passed away May 16. [Click here](#) to read her obituary.

DORIS MERCER NYVALL, a member of the first Rangerette line, passed away May 6, in Kilgore. She was 93. [Click here](#) to read her obituary in the Longview News-Journal.

JOAN HILL passed away in November 2015. She was a Rangerette from 1967 to 1969. [Click here](#) to read her obituary.

Kilgore College President Dr. Brenda Kays, center, traveled with the Rangerettes to Walt Disney World in March. KILGORE COLLEGE PHOTO



FIRST IMPRESSIONS

New Kilgore College president admires Rangerettes' dedication and drive

BY ASHLEY AUSTIN JONES

Dr. Brenda Kays is the ninth president of Kilgore College, the only woman to ever hold the office. Taking over the office after the retirement of Dr. Bill Holda in late January, Kays has worked with many KC organizations in recent months. She even attended Rangerette Revels in April. Kays answered a few questions especially for the Rangerettes Forever Newsletter about her time in Kilgore so far and her plans.

What was your overall impression of this year's Rangerette Revels? Nothing could have ever prepared me for my first Revels experience. The degree of talent and professionalism left me awestruck and also provided me with an even greater appreciation for Dana and Shelley. Kudos to our directors for staying on the cutting edge of the drill team world and being able to continuously recruit top-level talent to Kilgore College.

Did you have a favorite number or part of the show? I had multiple favorites (i.e. costumes, choreography, music, etc.); however, if I had to select just one overall favorite, it would have to be the Italian number.

"Nothing could have ever prepared me for my first Revels experience."

BRENDA KAYS
KILGORE
COLLEGE
PRESIDENT

comprise a new line each year. I am eagerly anticipating the opportunity to welcome the 77th Line to Kilgore College this fall. I admire their dedication and drive. I want them to feel that I am a part of the support system that exists for them during their time at Kilgore College. I also look forward to working with the Rangerette directors. My role will also be support driven in this arena. I will be working beside Dana and Shelley to secure the resources that they

BEFORE KILGORE

Dr. Brenda Kays most recently served as president of Stanly Community College in North Carolina, from 2011 to 2015. Kays holds a master's degree from Midwestern State University and a doctorate from the University of North Texas.

need to continue the tradition of excellence in all things Rangerette at Kilgore College. And, finally, I look forward to working with the Rangerette Forevers organization. I am grateful for this organization's continued commitment to and support of the program.

What are you most looking forward to doing during your tenure as president? Working with our students. I have had the opportunity to meet with various groups and classes and without exception, I find our students to be second to none. I am honored to find myself in a position where I may, in tandem with our dedicated faculty and staff, help Kilgore College students recognize their educational and career goals. ★