



Catching up with KC

College News

90th Anniversary Celebration



KC marked a historic milestone Sept. 15 with a community celebration recognizing the college's 90th anniversary. The event was held at the new Pedestrian Bridge on the Kilgore campus, bringing together students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members to honor nearly a century of educational excellence.

The morning ceremony began at 9 a.m. with a program that included remarks from both college leaders and local officials. KC President Dr. Brenda Kays welcomed the crowd, reflecting on the college's legacy and continued commitment to student success. She was joined by past president Dr. William Holda, KC Board of Trustees President Josh Edmonson, Vice President of Organizational Effectiveness and Excellence Dr. Staci Martin, Kilgore Mayor Ronnie Spradlin, and Gregg County Judge Bill Stoudt, each offering words of celebration and support.

Adding to the festivities, the KC Connection vocal ensemble performed musical selections that highlighted the pride and tradition of the institution. Guests also received a commemorative program featuring quotes and well-wishes from former faculty and staff.

[SEE PHOTOS HERE](#)

[SEE COMMEMORATIVE PROGRAM HERE](#)

9/11 Remembrance Ceremony



A bagpipe player performs “Amazing Grace” during Kilgore College’s annual 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony, held Sept. 11 in the Devall Student Center Ballroom.

The ceremony honored the victims of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks and paid tribute to the courage and dedication of first responders, emphasizing the sacrifices of the flight attendants that day.

[SEE PHOTOS HERE](#)

Dr. Brenda Kays Announces Retirement



Kilgore College President Dr. Brenda Kays Announces Retirement Effective February 2026

After nearly a decade of leadership at KC, Dr. Kays reflects on her career, achievements, and the college community she calls “extraordinary.”

At the September meeting of the Kilgore College Board of Trustees, Board President Josh Edmonson read aloud a heartfelt letter from Dr. Brenda S. Kays, announcing her intention to retire as president of Kilgore College, effective February 28, 2026.

[READ MORE HERE](#)

Dr. Staci Pollan Martin Named Interim President



The Kilgore College Board of Trustees voted Oct. 20 to appoint Dr. Staci Pollan Martin as the interim president of the college, effective Nov. 1.

Martin, who currently serves as KC's vice president of organizational effectiveness and excellence, steps into the interim role following the transition of Dr. Brenda Kays, who has been named president emeritus in recognition of her service to the college. Kays will continue to work for the college to assist with the transition until her retirement on Feb. 28, 2026.

[READ MORE HERE](#)

Alumni News

Ranger Shootout

2nd Annual Kilgore College Alumni & Friends Golf Tournament



We are excited to share the fantastic success of the 2nd Annual Kilgore College Alumni & Friends Golf Tournament, which was held on October 10, 2025, at the beautiful Tempest Golf Club.

Our participants enjoyed a fantastic day on the greens while coming together to uplift the Kilgore College community. We are thrilled to announce that we significantly surpassed our fundraising goals! The funds raised will be essential in strengthening the Kilgore College Alumni Association.

Thank you to all the players, sponsors, and volunteers who made this event possible. Your enthusiasm and support were truly the key to our success.

We look forward to seeing everyone at our next tournament in 2026—it promises to be another unforgettable event! Look for more details in the coming months. Let's continue to celebrate and support the Kilgore College spirit!

[SEE PHOTOS HERE](#)

MLK Breakfast



**CONTINUING THE DREAM
THROUGH EDUCATION**

■
JANUARY 16, 2026
7:30-9:00 A.M.
■

Devall Ballroom • Devall Student Center • KC Campus

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
DUAL CREDIT SCHOLARSHIP BREAKFAST

Be a part of the MLK Breakfast at Kilgore College!

We're thrilled to invite you to the Martin Luther King Jr. Dual Credit Scholarship Breakfast happening on January 16th, 2026. This special occasion honors Dr. King's legacy and brings our community together to acknowledge his enduring impact.

Make sure to reserve your table now to join us for this significant event! By attending, you'll enjoy a delicious breakfast while supporting a noble cause—our dual credit students on their educational journey.

If you would like to book your table or for more details, please email [Merlyn Holmes](mailto:Merlyn.Holmes@kilgore.edu) or call the Kilgore College Foundation office at 903-983-8182.

Don't miss this chance to celebrate, connect, and uplift our community's future leaders.

We can't wait to see you there!

Tom H. Brown
Honorary Scholarship



Celebrating a Legacy of Service: Thomas H. Brown's Impact on Roy H. Laird Memorial Hospital

For over two decades, the Kilgore community has benefited immensely from the dedication of Thomas H. Brown, whose commitment to both the Roy H. Laird Memorial Hospital and the Roy H. Laird Memorial Hospital Foundation has left an indelible mark on healthcare in the region. As a practicing lawyer for many years, Brown has utilized his legal expertise to navigate the complexities of the healthcare landscape, guiding the hospital and its foundation through numerous challenges and successes—all without seeking any compensation.

His contributions have been pivotal, particularly as the hospital transitions into its new role as a teaching center and emergency facility under the Christus Good Shepherd Medical Center banner. Brown's insights have not only helped strengthen the hospital's operations but have also paved the way for new clinics and educational initiatives, ensuring that quality healthcare continues to flourish in Kilgore.

Earlier this semester, the Roy H. Laird Hospital Foundation recognized Brown's unwavering service by presenting him with the Thomas H. Brown Honorary Scholarship Endowment. This \$30,000 scholarship is a testament to his legacy, further underscoring his belief in the importance of education and support for future generations in the medical field.

As we celebrate Brown's contributions, we reflect on the impact one individual can have on a community. His tireless work and passionate dedication to improving healthcare in Kilgore are truly inspirational. The community looks forward to continuing this legacy, thanks to leaders like Thomas H. Brown, who have selflessly given their time and talent to make a difference.

For those interested in contributing to this important cause or seeking more information, please contact [Merlyn Holmes via email](mailto:Merlyn.Holmes@christusgood.org) or call (903) 983-8182.

Together, we can help ensure that the legacy of service continues for years to come.

Bindy Tice Endowed Scholarship



Bindy Tice's family is working with the KC Foundation to establish an

endowed scholarship in her memory.

The scholarship, initiated at the request of Tice's brother, will provide financial support for KC students and serve as a lasting tribute to her life and impact on the community.

"Bindy touched so many lives with her spirit and dedication," said Kilgore College Foundation and Community Relations executive director Merlyn Holmes. "This scholarship will honor her memory in a meaningful way by helping future students achieve their educational goals."

For more information or to donate, email [Merlyn Holmes](mailto:Merlyn.Holmes) or call (903) 983-8182.



When did Kilgore College officially start its first classes? Everyone who guesses correctly will be entered into a drawing to receive a free Ranger Yearbook of your choice (dependent upon availability). Additional yearbooks are available with a donation to the KC Foundation. Email [Rachel Stallard](mailto:Rachel.Stallard) for more details.

The original dance studio on the Kilgore College campus was constructed in 1979. Please let us know if you guessed correctly!

Embrace the Spirit of Fall: Your Generous Donations Can Change Lives! Let's Spread the Warmth Together!

Go to [GIVING](#) and make a donation to one of nearly 300 projects destined to make a difference in the lives of current

Kilgore College students.

Thanks

**YOU MAKE IT
ALL POSSIBLE.**

Kilgore College Foundation | 1100 Broadway | Kilgore, TX 75662
903-988-7523 | [KC Foundation](#)



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