Please consider sustainability of our environment before printing this newsletter.

New this week

Employee Benefits Fair will be 10/29

An Employee Benefits Fair will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 29 in the Iroquois and Cavalier rooms. An agenda is available in the faculty/staff section of the KCC website on the human resources page.

"All full-time employees are strongly encouraged to attend to learn about the new benefit changes," said David Cagle, director of human resources.

Featured presentations/events will include:

-- Presentations from State Universities Retirement System, BlueCross BlueShield, Benefits Planning Consultants, and Employee Assistance Program.
-- AFLAC and our 403 deferred compensation vendors have been invited to attend.
-- A complimentary lunch will be served from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.
-- Flu shots will be administered from 9 a.m. to noon. A $25 fee applies and preregistration by Oct 19 is required. See related article, "Flu info sessions: 10/12," which includes details in the section titled "Flu immunization registration deadline: 10/19."

Be a blogger ... no experience required

KCC is exploring expansion into blogging as a new method to engage our online community.
"We'd like to expand our efforts to include blogs in our social media mix of Facebook, Twitter and YouTube," said Nancy Schunke of the marketing and public relations staff. "Social media outlets are used to share college announcements, events and happenings with students, alumni, staff and the community."

The KCC social media team is looking for faculty, staff and students interested in blogging on topics such as current events, technology, culture, art and literature as they relate to the college experience. If you or someone you know would be interested in participating, contact Nancy at ext. 8266 or e-mail nschunke@kcc.edu.

Halloween competition offered

The staff of the Room L355 academic divisions office and the office of Admissions and Registration would like to challenge other areas on campus to join the annual Halloween competition.

For four years, those two areas have competed against each other for the best Halloween costumes and office theme.

"This is the second year the entire campus has been invited to participate, and there was some stiff competition last year," said Alison Nakaerts, one of the competition organizers. "We look forward to all the new competition and hope you will join us! So gather your co-workers and get working on your theme for this year."

Each area's theme must be kept under wraps to keep the competition from borrowing ideas. As incentive, the winning department will keep the Traveling Tacky Trophy (shown at left) until the 2011 competition.

There also will be a Traveling Tacky Trophy for best costume.

Note: This event coincides with the Benefits Fair, if you cannot make it around to see the decorations and costumes, there will be photos of each area on the O share drive.

To help with theme ideas, here are some past themes: Room L355 and Admissions and Registration have used: TV/movie witches, above/under the sea, fairies, Mardis Gras, a candy dish, pirates and a circus.

If your department or staff in your area would like to get into the spirit of the day, please let Alison know at anakaerts@kcc.edu or ext. 8654.

Session offered on basics of data gathering
Submitted by Monica Quinlan, coordinator, Office of Institutional Research

Need data? It is often difficult to get the data you need from Datatel in a workable format.

"Informer" is a web-based reporting tool to help you pull data out of
Datatel.

Two upcoming sessions will provide the basics of running existing reports that have already been created. Sessions are scheduled Wednesday, Oct. 20, 1:30-2:30 p.m. and Thursday Oct. 21, 9:30-10:30 a.m. You only need to attend one session.

The sessions will also cover the most useful feature of Informer, having data exported into an Excel spreadsheet so that you can make any formatting changes you may need.

To reserve a seat, please get your supervisor's approval and e-mail me, Monica Quinlan, at mquinlan@kcc.edu with your chosen session.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at ext. 8259.

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Financial aid seminar info

The Office of Financial Aid has announced dates for upcoming information and workshop sessions.

Anyone who would like to order fliers for their work area can contact the financial aid office with the number requested.

The free Information Nights provide an overview of the financial aid process for students and parents. The free workshops provide step-by-step assistance necessary to correctly fill out the FAFSA.

Three Financial Aid Information Nights will be offered, 7 to 8 p.m. each night: Tuesday, Nov. 30; Wednesday, Dec. 8; and Tuesday, Jan. 25.

Two Financial Aid Workshops will be offered, 6:30 to 8 p.m. each night: Tuesday, Feb. 22; and Wednesday, March 2.

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Spooktacular haunts the College Center: Oct. 29

The ninth annual Halloween Spooktacular children's show will be Friday, Oct. 29 at 7 p.m. in the George H. Ryan activities building.

Renowned children's entertainer Dave Rudolf will amuse goblins of all ages with fun songs and stories. Children will be invited on stage to perform The Frankenstein Dance and The Ghoul Limbo, to help put bones back together during Skeleton Bones, and to sing along with Rudolf's award-winning songs. Musical parodies, bubbles, hula hoops and other fun props will add to the entertainment.

Children are encouraged to wear their Halloween costumes. Adults can wear costumes as well. Photography will be allowed.

This event is open to the public, and admission is $1.

Rudolf has received award nominations 15 times from the National Association of Campus Activities. He also has a gold award from Disney® for writing Owl's Song, from the album "Take My Hand - Songs from the 100 Acre Wood."
For more information about the Halloween Spooktacular, contact Sarah McIntosh-Zirkle, coordinator of student life, at ext. 8628, or e-mail smcintosh-zirkle@kcc.edu.

WeightWatchers Open house: 11/9

There will be a WeightWatchers Open House from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 9 in the Iroquois Room.

Memory Walk participants raise $2.3K

KCC Health Careers faculty, students, and families participated in the Kankakee Alzheimer's Association Memory Walk on Sept. 20.

The team of 41 walkers raised $2,329.00 for research into prevention, treatments and a cure for Alzheimer's. Ashley Perry, a Physical Therapist Assistant student, was the top fundraiser for the team. She raised $630.

Currently more than 5 million Americans have Alzheimer's, according to www.cdc.gov, and there are 78 million baby boomers at risk for the disease.

Donations are still being accepted at the Memory Walk website.

Win a Bears gnome!

He's cute ... He's almost cuddly ... He'll look great in your garden or in the house!

A Bears gnome raffle is underway, with all proceeds benefiting Susan G. Komen for the Cure. Tickets are just $1 each, or six for $5.

Several locations are selling tickets. They include the Bookstore, First Floor Information Desk, Information Technology Services Helpdesk, Registrar's Office, Room L274 - Media, Room L355 and Room W102.

The Bears gnome drawing will be Friday, Oct. 29 at the KCC Employee Benefits Fair.

Note: Another way to contribute to Susan G. Komen for the Cure is to participate in the Denim Day on Oct. 15.
Thank you for condolences

I would like to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to everyone at KCC for all the cards, prayers, visits, e-mails, memorial contributions, and phone calls during the recent passing of my father and mother-in-law. Your kindness and support helped immensely during this difficult time for me and my family. Thank you.

- Darla Jepson

Events this week

Flu info sessions: 10/12

Learn about the flu and vaccinations

Information sessions regarding the flu will be offered by KCC Nursing Professor Barb Darling, who also is an infection control nurse, at the following times:

- Tuesday, Oct. 12: 12:30-1 p.m. Auditorium
- Tuesday, Oct. 12: 1:15-1:45 p.m. Auditorium

Flu immunization registration deadline: 10/19

Flu shots will be offered at KCC for all employees and students--including full-and part-time faculty and staff.

The date is Friday, Oct. 29, 9 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. in Room D151.

To participate, you must register by Oct 19. To register, for a flu shot, see Linda Antons or Judy Spence at the first floor receptionist desk.

The cost is $25, payable when you receive the shot. KCC’s insurance policy does not include flu shots. The program is being offered through the Wellness Committee and Health Careers Division.

Any questions should be directed to Jane Clark at ext. 8146 or Sheri Sikma at ext. 8826.

"Give a Little Bit" 5K for the United Way: 10/13

The "Give a Little Bit" 5K for the United Way will be Wednesday, Oct. 13.

The event will start and finish on KCCs campus.

Check-in is from 3 to 4:15 p.m. at the pavilion on the east side of main campus. The run/jog/walk begins at 4:30 p.m. The minimum donation to
participate is $20. Donations go to United Way of Kankakee County.
All participants will receive an event T-shirt, participant ribbon and
refreshments after the race. Numerous door prizes also will be given
away.
The event registration form is attached and also is available in the
human resources office.
For more event information, contact David Cagle at ext. 8128.

Schwan's visit/United Way fundraising: 10/13

Schwan's online grocery and food delivery will
visit on Oct. 13, from noon to 3 p.m. in front of the
main building and 3 to 6 p.m. in the east parking
lot.
If sales total more than $1,000, Schwan's will
donate 20 percent of the purchase total to KCC's United Way campaign.
To date, $600 for the United Way has been raised in this manner.
Purchases can be made from stock brought that day, or from
pre-order options which offer more variety. The advance order deadline
is Oct. 11 at 11 p.m.
To place an online order, visit
www.schwans.com to choose
products. Then go to
www.schwansfundraising.com and click "Place an Order." Enter the
campaign ID (30703), your name and the three digit code(s) for the items
you wish to order.
To call in an order, phone 1-888-SCHWANS (1-888-724-9267),
choose option 4. Inform the representative that you would like to
preorder for a fundraiser or order a gift certificate which supports a
fundraiser. Provide the campaign ID number (30703) and event
information. You will receive an order confirmation e-mail.
For more information, contact David Cagle at ext. 8128 or
dcagle@kcc.edu.

Opportunities for casual dress: 10/15 & 10/22

For breast cancer awareness: Oct. 15

The denim day on Friday, Oct. 15 will raise funds for
Susan G. Komen for the Cure.
The goal of Susan G. Komen for the Cure is "to
eradicate breast cancer as a life-threatening disease by
advancing research, education, screening, and treatment"
according to several websites.
To participate in the denim day, please make a minimum $5 donation
to Kathy Weber in Admissions & Registration by Oct. 15.
Note: Another way to contribute to Susan G. Komen for the Cure is to purchase raffle tickets for the Bears gnome. See the article in the "New this week" section.

For United Way: 10/22

KCC will participate in a "Dollars for Denim" Jeans Day on Friday, Oct. 22. The event will help United Way fund 45 charitable programs in 24 member agencies. Bring a $5 donation to Mary Posing or David Cagle, co-chairs of KCC United Way campaign. Participants will receive a sticker to wear Oct. 22. Last year, 40 employees participated, raising $200. This year, KCC is hoping for at least 50 participants for a minimum goal of $250.

Art show ends: 10/15

"Metaphors • Symbolism" KCC's National Hispanic Heritage Month art exhibit will continue through Oct. 15. It is on display in the Learning Resource Center art gallery. The show features works by Oscar Martinez, Alberto Paniaya and Luis DeLaTorre.

Upcoming events

Event for veterans: 10/21

KCC and the Illinois Department of Employment Security will sponsor the third annual Veterans Job Fair and Resource Network event from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 21. The event is open to the public. Admission is free. This event is a good opportunity for veterans to learn more about current job opportunities and local resources, said Mary Posing, director of Continuing
Education and Career Services. Participants are encouraged to dress for success and to enjoy the experience of meeting employers and agencies from throughout the area.

Booths also are available, free of charge, for area businesses to participate. The reservation deadline is Oct. 15.

For further information about the event, contact Mary at ext. 8202 or e-mail mposing@kcc.edu.

News and information

Teaching and Learning Center October highlights
Submitted by Jessica Fehland, assistant professor of education, coordinator of instructional technology

One-on-one ANGEL assistance, and ANGEL training by appointment are both offered.

For one-on-one assistance with an ANGEL question, please visit Room V108 on Wednesdays from 1-3 p.m. to work with an ANGEL mentor.

For ANGEL Training, please e-mail angelhelp@kcc.edu to schedule a day and time to learn more about our online course management system.

Green flash sustainability message
Submitted by Rich Schultz, coordinator of Sustainability Center, sustainability & planning

Here are a dozen more ways to be more sustainable in your everyday activities:

1. Shop for clothes and household items at resale shops. You'll save money, too!
2. Go paperless by paying bills online.
3. Read on a Kindle or other e-book reader, or visit the library for books.
4. Dress for the weather and leave the thermostat alone.
5. In winter, close the curtains at night and open them during the day to let the sunlight help to warm your space. In the summer, keep curtains closed during the day to reduce the heat effect of the sun.
6. Use natural cleaning supplies.
7. Travel and drive efficiently. Group your errands together, don't speed, and stop. Accelerate gradually to reduce gas consumption.
8. Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth. You'll save about 9 liters of water each time.
9. Use reusable shopping bags. Keep some in your car and near the door so they're available when needed.
10. Optimize your energy savings by setting your water heater's thermostat at 120 degrees.
11. Plant things that attract (and feed) birds and butterflies to your landscape.
12. Save on heating and cooling costs by making sure your attic and sidewalls are well insulated.
Questions? Comments? Contact me at ext. 8243 or Bert Jacobson at ext. 8242