

## June

The Center hosts entrepreneurial institute

In an effort to develop future business leaders and entrepreneurs in Southern and Eastern Kentucky, The Center has developed the Entrepreneurial Leadership Institute. The inaugural class was held June 11-16 with a program focused on developing creativity, teamwork and business skills.

Each participant in the program will be invited to attend the 2006 Excellence in Entrepreneurship Awards held at The Center on September 11 where there will be special recognition of the class of 2006. In addition, those students interested in pursuing starting their own business will be eligible for mentoring opportunities from entrepreneurs and business leaders in their home county.

For more information about the program, contact Terry Burkhardt at 606-677-6000 or by e-mail at [tburkhart@centertech.com](mailto:tburkhart@centertech.com).

Rogers Explorers get a taste of college life

Rogers Explorers is a hands-on three-day, two-night program focusing on defining skills in mathematics and science for students starting their ninth-grade year. Explorers are able to participate in the focus areas of mathematics, science, engineering and community service— all taught by professionals and experts. This program allows students to meet people and enjoy experiences that provide them the opportunity to broaden their horizons and consider their future from a new and different perspective.

The 2006 program was hosted at The University of the Cumberland from June 7 – 9 with activities taking place both on campus and in the surrounding area. Students were housed on campus, and all lodging, meals, and program expenses (with the exception of transportation to and from the program) were free to the student.

First summer class of Rogers Scholars arrives

Rogers Scholars is a unique and exciting learning opportunity for a select group of juniors from 42 counties in Southern and Eastern Kentucky. During the intensive, one-week session in June, 30 students participate in hands-on learning in engineering, video production, or information technology. Scholars also take part in entrepreneurial training sessions and benefit from the opportunity to interact via videoconference and in person with some of the nation's most renowned speakers and business professionals.

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- Tara Conner, Miss USA® visited The Center for some special homecoming activities after being crowned in April. While here, Tara, along with her mother and father, connected via CenterNET2 videoconferencing technology to her brother serving in Italy, as well as Kentucky Military Personnel serving in Iraq and loyal fans across the Commonwealth. In addition, a special recognition ceremony and reception was held at The Center, where Congressman Hal Rogers, Dr. Jo Marshall President of SCC, and others presented Tara with various awards recognizing her accomplishments. The public was invited to attend an autograph and picture session where donations benefited the Gilda's Club of Louisville.
- The Center for Rural Development presented a community development forum at the Campton Elementary School in Wolfe County on June 22. The Campton event was the first of five planned across the region to determine how The Center can be of greater assistance in its 42-county service area. Some items of discussion included how The Center can be beneficial in helping communities facilitate links between local agriculture and economic development, implement health and wellness programs that would be effective in the community, and provide models and training for effective community leadership—particularly for the communities that will be under new leadership after the fall elections.



*For Rural Development*

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# Review a look ahead... Preview

## July

### The Center and Midway College partner

The Center and Midway College have partnered to offer a Bachelor degree in Homeland Security Assessment. The classes will begin in October and will expand to other locations in the months ahead.

Each year, 15 students will be admitted into the program and will receive training via videoconferences or Web-based programs. Students who elect to take lower-division courses at Somerset Community College, or any KCTCS institution, may do so and still fulfill Midway's residency requirement.

### EKU offers scholarships to Scholars

As of July 6, Eastern Kentucky University will award up to 10 Presidential Scholarships each academic year to graduates of the Rogers Scholars program. The Presidential Scholarships cover one-half of in-state tuition and are renewable for up to eight semesters. Criteria for selection include a high school GPA of 3.4 or above, an ACT composite of 23 or higher, service in the high school or community, and an essay describing the impact the Rogers Scholars program had on the student's life.

### CenterNET2 hosts educational workshop

CenterNET2, The Center's videoconferencing service, hosted the National Education Computing Conference (NECC) annual educational workshops program on July 5. NECC 2006 content included workshops that showed first-hand how visual communication can bring lessons to a whole new level of learning for students.

This videoconference was also an example of the free-view service The Center provides. The connection was available to anyone who was registered from a desktop computer and was available to CenterNET2 sites free of charge. Internet access was all that was needed to view this workshop valued at \$3,900.

Participating sites included The Center, the University of the Cumberlands, Breathitt/Lee Campus, and Big Sandy Technical College.

For more information concerning videoconferencing opportunities, contact Robyn Phillips at 606-677-6000 or by e-mail at [rphillips@centertech.com](mailto:rphillips@centertech.com).

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- On July 9, the second class of Rogers Scholars arrived at The Center for an intense, one-week of hands-on learning in engineering, video production, or information technology. In addition, graduates of the program can receive a variety of scholarships from higher education institutions across the state. For more information, visit [www.rogersscholars.com](http://www.rogersscholars.com).
- The Center will host the second of five regional forums on Wednesday, July 26 at 10:45 a.m. at the Pikeville College Community Technology Center. Invited attendees will discuss ways in which The Center can be more relevant in the region it serves. Counties invited to participate in this forum are Pike, Martin, Floyd, Lawrence, Johnson, and Magoffin.
- The Center will host a Small Business Development Conference on Tuesday, August 1 from 8 a.m. -4:30 p.m. Call the Small Business Development Center at 606-678-3042 for more information.
- There will be a public meeting regarding I-66 at The Center from 5-8 p.m. on Tuesday, August 8. A draft of the environmental impact statement for the proposed Somerset to London route will be available. For more information, call 606-677-4017.