

May

SCC announces Rogers Scholars scholarships

Somerset Community College announced on May 8 that it will sponsor scholarships for graduates of the Rogers Scholars youth leadership program beginning in the 2006-07 school year.

SCC President Dr. Jo Marshall opened the announcement ceremony with words of praise for Rogers Scholars graduates and expressed appreciation to Congressman Rogers for his ongoing efforts on behalf of the region's youth. "Somerset Community College is proud to announce that we will offer each Rogers Scholars program graduate a full-tuition scholarship to SCC. Graduates of the program are outstanding representatives of the finest resource we have in this beautiful region of Kentucky -- our young people. I applaud the Congressman for his desire and his dedication to help provide the next generation the best opportunities possible. We are honored to support his dream for young people to find an amazing future right here in their home area," said Marshall.

Congressman Rogers was in attendance for the announcement and had many kind words for the college and its vision. "I am pleased to join President Marshall in announcing these scholarships, which represent a significant investment in the future leaders of our region. The goal of the Rogers Scholars program is to challenge our students to use their skills and talents to make their communities and our region a better place. I could not be more pleased to see Somerset Community College rewarding the hard work of these bright young men and women by providing them with greater access to a quality education here in Kentucky," said Rogers.

"To date, 419 of our best and brightest students have graduated from the Rogers Scholars program and we will have another 60 exceptionally talented young minds begin the class of 2006 in a few short weeks," said Center President and CEO Lonnie Lawson. "I applaud President Marshall and Somerset Community College for taking a leadership role in the future development of our region's youth and the region itself."

Somerset Community College joins Lincoln Memorial University, Lindsey Wilson College, Morehead State University, Pikeville College, Union College and University of the Cumberland offering scholarships to Rogers Scholars graduates. Visit www.rogersscholars.com for more information.

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- The Kentucky Watercolor Society 2005/2006 Aqueous Travel Show will be on display at The Center until June 1.

Founded in 1977, the Kentucky Watercolor Society (KWS) encourages the development of water-based media as fine art form and works to educate the public about the best of watercolor.

The annual juried exhibition, Aqueous USA, is one of the ways KWS promotes the work of watercolor artists from across the nation. The Center for Rural Development is one of the venues where the twenty paintings that were selected from more than two hundred entries will be exhibited during the show. A total of twelve different locations in Kentucky will have the opportunity to display this exhibit. The traveling show enables people throughout the area to view and enjoy these fine works of art.

- On May 26, The Center hosted "Blue Jeans and Tennis Shoes Day" to benefit United Way, The Center's 2006 annual community service activity. All employees were encouraged to participate by donating five dollars-\$2.50 to wear jeans and \$2.50 to wear tennis shoes on Friday. A total of \$118 was raised.

The local United Way supports 26 area agencies with much-needed funding to serve citizens living in the region.



THE CENTER

For Rural Development

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Review a look ahead... Preview

June

First class of Rogers Scholars arrives June 25

The first class of Rogers Scholars will arrive at The Center on Sunday, June 25 to embark on a week-long journey which includes hands-on learning in engineering, video production, or information technology. Scholars also participate in entrepreneurial training sessions and interact via videoconference and in person with some of the nation's most renowned speakers and business professionals.

During the week, scholars will be involved in exercises designed to build leadership and cooperative skills. "There will be serious instruction, but it will be presented in a fun and exciting learning environment," says Lonnie Lawson, President and CEO of The Center. "Students will develop bonds and relationships they can carry throughout their lives."

For more information, please contact Jessica Melton, Rogers Scholars program coordinator, at jmelton@centertech.com or call at (606)677-6000. Please visit the website at www.rogersscholars.com for more program details.

First ever Rogers Explorer group meets in June

The Center for Rural Development has implemented a pilot youth leadership program for rising ninth-graders modeled after the Rogers Scholars program. Rogers Explorers are selected through a competitive process and will attend the program during the summer before ninth grade.

Rogers Explorers is a hands-on three-day, two-night program focusing on defining skills in mathematics and science. 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 will be hosted at The University of the Cumberland from June 7 – 9 with activities taking place both on campus and in the surrounding area. Students are housed on campus, and all lodging, meals, and program expenses (with the exception of transportation to and from the program) are free to the student.

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- In an effort to develop future business leaders and entrepreneurs in Southern and Eastern Kentucky, The Center for Rural Development will host an Entrepreneurial Leadership Institute in Somerset from Sunday, June 11 through Friday, June 16. This intensive one-week program will focus on developing creativity, teamwork and business skills and encourage our youth to consider starting a business as a career option.
- Tara Conner, Miss USA® 2006 will visit The Center in June for homecoming activities including a live videoconference and a reception in her honor. The reception is Sunday, June 11 at 2 p.m. and is open to the public. The event is first-come, first-serve theatre seating and the doors open at 1:30 p.m. Ms. Conner will also be available for autographs and photos in the lobby after the program. All donations will benefit the Gilda's Club of Louisville.
- On June 22, The Center will host their first regional forum of the year in Wolfe County at Campton Elementary School. Elected officials and other community representatives will be invited to attend and discuss how The Center can help improve the quality of life for citizens in their communities.
- The Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce will host their monthly meeting at The Center on June 6. The featured speaker will be Karen Engle with UNITE.