

The Trojan Times

A publication of the Colby Community College Endowment Foundation



55th Anniversary Celebration

On Saturday, Jan. 18, the community is invited to help Colby Community College celebrate the institution's 55th anniversary with activities on the campus.

The events begin with tours at 10:00 a.m. while children play on inflatables in the campus gym. From 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., attendees can enjoy lunch. At 12:30, past CCC presidents take the stage to say a few words.

Later, CCC will honor the class of 2019 Hall of Fame inductees with a 2:00 p.m. reception in the lower level of the Colby Community Building. The Trojan basketball teams host Barton Community College beginning at 3:00 p.m., and the inductees will be recognized at halftime of the women's game. At intermission of the men's contest, the 1999 national champion wrestling team will be recognized.



Foundation Update



"We don't want anyone to miss out on the opportunity to attend our beautiful campus and meet the outstanding leadership. We would like to be able to help every person become part of the CCC family."

~ Darvin Strutt, alumnus and co-chair of the Annual Giving Campaign



Completion of the Big Blue Barn athletics practice facility is nearly complete. Please join us for the ribbon cutting on January 16. More details will be posted on the CCC website and social media pages.

Annual Giving Campaign

There is still time to support the Annual Giving Campaign. The appeal supports the extra resources necessary for academic scholarships and program enhancements. The campaign gives donors the opportunity to designate the program, department or area of interest that they would like to support with their gift. For more information, visit www.colbycc.edu/foundation.

Program for Inmates Supported by County Attorney

The new Colby Community College telecommunications network technician program at the Norton Correctional Facility received a financial boost from the Thomas County Attorney's Office. The donation came after a state grant to help subsidize the program did not materialize.

According to County Attorney Rachel Lamm, her office can provide funding through non-tax payer asset forfeiture funds.

"The State of Kansas has restrictions on how forfeiture funds can be used, but Kansas allows for distribution of funds for law enforcement goals," she said.

The idea for additional education in the correctional facility began in 2018 when CCC adult education instructor Dian Organ attended a conference and learned how a college in another state implemented a similar program.

"I am pleased that Dian approached the Thomas County Attorney's Office with this opportunity to lower inmate recidivism," Lamm said. "An inmate that can immediately enter the job market is essential to their future success. Opportunities like this are few and far between, and I hope they take pride in their work and make every effort to provide for themselves and their families."

The curriculum teaches skills necessary for entry-level positions in the industry to perform fiber

and copper-based network cabling. College and correctional facility officials conduct interviews to select participants, who earn 15 college credit hours and industry-recognized credentials

before their release date. Many students will concurrently complete their high school equivalency diplomas.

CCC Executive Vice President Brad Bennett also believes the program can make a difference in many lives.

"This will lead to job placement and a sustainable wage upon release," he said. "The overall goal is to reduce recidivism and improve the communities we serve."

The inaugural class graduated from the 12-week program on Dec. 16.



Vice President Brad Bennett, County Attorney Rachel Lamm, and adult education instructor Dian Organ.



Remembering Tom Moorhous

Longtime instructor and supporter Tom Moorhous passed away on October 8, 2019.

An alum of CCC, Tom completed half of his 40 years of teaching at Colby as an instructor of history, political science and sociology.

Tom's passion was educating, encouraging and inspiring students to strive for and reach their goals. He never turned away a student who asked for help. He was a private person who was humble about his awards and achievements while sharing his quick wit and great sense of humor.

He taught at CCC from 1998 to 2013. The respect he gained from his students and peers was recognized in 2001 when he won the Tangeman Award for Teaching Excellence. A year after his retirement, he was selected as a member of the 2016 class in the CCC Hall of Fame.

Behind his public recognition, Tom set a philanthropic giving goal that predated his time at CCC. In 1996, he wanted to give \$100,000 to the college before his passing or leaving through retirement. Though he accomplished this goal by 2014, he continued to give more. In 2016, Tom established a scholarship fund in his name that brought his lifetime giving total to more than \$135,000.

Because of his heart to give, Tom's passion for learning and desire to help students achieve their educational goals will continue for many years.



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Colby Community College

Banguria Selected as Top Athlete

Wesley Banguria capped his historic cross country season by earning the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCA) National Male Athlete of the Year award. Twice during the season, he was the



USTFCCA national athlete of the week.

Banguria, a sophomore from Eldoret, Kenya, won the individual title at the NJCAA Division I Championships Nov. 9 in Albuquerque, N.M. He turned in his most dominant performance of the year, clocking 22:55 for the 8K course to win by more than a minute. His time made him just the fourth runner in NJCAA Division I history to finish under 23 minutes at the national championships.

He won all five races he started during the season, including the Region VI Championships, Fort Hays State Tiger Open, Emporia State Invitational and Colorado College Invitational.

Send us your news:

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CCC Endowment Foundation

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ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Landon Reilley

Always interested in various trades, Landon Reilley took advantage of the opportunity to take dual credit Colby Community College classes in sustainable/renewable energy while attending Colby High School. On a busy day in May 2018, he earned his high school diploma and a certificate in solar energy from CCC.



After high school, Landon went to work at Vivint Solar in Denver, Colo., as an install technician for \$20 per hour. He was recently promoted to foreman and saw his hourly wage increase substantially. Adding to the appeal is guaranteed overtime, opportunities to travel, and potential to advance within the organization. Landon is thankful and optimistic about the opportunities CCC has provided him.

He is enrolled as an online student through ColbyConnect, CCC's online platform, and will graduate with his Associate of Applied Science in Sustainable/Renewable Energy in May 2020.

Name: _____

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ENDOWMENT RECEIVES GIFT FOR HEALTH CARE

The Colby Community College Endowment Foundation announced a new scholarship fund after receiving a \$300,000 gift from Ned and Dorothy Lowry of Dodge City. The Ned and Dorothy Lowry Endowed Scholarship Fund will assist students studying in health and animal care majors.

Dorothy Lowry and her daughter Rhenda Field were on campus Sept. 4 for a tour and a check presentation. After a group photo, nearly 50 students lined up to hug her.

"We truly were overwhelmed and so pleased that we chose Colby Community College for a part of our legacy," Mrs. Lowry said in an email to the Foundation. "Best wishes to each of the students. We are glad to be a small part of their lives."

Ned and Dorothy Lowry were born and raised in Norton and Phillips counties. Work with an oil and gas company took them to Nebraska and Oklahoma before they moved to Liberal in 1966. After 19 years as an employee for the same company, Ned decided to start his own oil and gas engineering and lease management company that facilitated drilling, completion and production for independent companies outside of Kansas. He followed

with another company where he managed a fleet of gas compressors and the construction of commercial real estate rentals.

After retiring in 2001, the Lowrys settled in Dodge City. They are enjoying life with their three married children and families that include eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

"It is an honor to receive and establish a scholarship fund that distinguishes a family legacy," said Foundation director Jennifer Schoenfeld. "The Lowry family will be helping students accomplish their educational goals for many years."



Dorothy Lowry, right, holds a check with the donation she and her husband Ned provided to assist students in health and animal care majors.

Colby Community College Endowment Foundation

**1255 South Range Ave.
Colby, KS 67701**

The Colby Community College Endowment Association was chartered in 1964 as a non-profit educational corporation to encourage, receive and administer gifts and bequests for the benefit of Colby Community College, its students and its staff.