



Honorary associate degree recipient selected

Don Kready, longtime Colby businessman and active supporter of Colby Community College for many years, has been selected as the 2007 Honorary Associate Degree recipient.

Kready has been a Colby resident since 1958. He has served seven consecutive four-year terms on the college's board of trustees.

"My wife Jo and I were playing cards at a bridge club," said Kready. "One of the fellows was Junior Weeks. He was a trustee of the college but had decided not to run again. He suggested that I seek a position. I had not considered running prior to that time and didn't even have much of an idea as to what the job entailed. As I gave it more consideration, I decided that Colby had given so much to the Kready family that it was a way I could contribute back to the community."

Kready is widely recognized and respected by trustees at peer institutions and by Kansas legislators. He has been the college's representative to the Kansas Association of Community College Trustees since 1996. Meetings are held across the state requiring extensive travel and

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Don Kready,
Colby College trustee

time commitment.

"It has been a pleasure to have Don Kready represent Colby Community College on the KACCT Board," said Executive Director Sheila Frahm. "He has been the most loyal attendee. He has never missed a meeting or complained about having to travel clear across the state to Kansas City or Parsons. We appreciate his willingness to participate, come prepared, be well informed and assist with the promotion of community colleges statewide."

In addition to his regular duties, Kready served as chairman, vice chairman and treasurer of the Colby Community College Board of Trustees.

"Serving on the board has really

been a learning experience for me," said Kready. "This has been an education that I didn't have to pay for. There have been many changes in the college since I first was elected a trustee. I am so happy that I have had this experience."

Kready and his wife owned and operated the State Farm Insurance Agency for over 35 years. All three of his children attended Colby Community College and continued their education at four-year universities.

Pat Kready Walz attended Colby College and received a degree in elementary education from Fort Hays State. She and her husband live in Denver where she is retired from teaching fourth grade.

After graduating from Colby,

Donna Kready transferred to Emporia State. She has a degree in physical education and master's degree in counseling. She is a counselor at the Washburn Rural Middle School in Topeka.

Rick Kready also attended Colby, transferred to Washburn, and received his degree in business. He is in real estate development in Topeka.

Don and Jo have four grandsons, one granddaughter and twin great-granddaughters.

In addition to his dedication to the college, Kready is a member of the Colby Rotary Club (District Governor 1985-86), very active in the Barbershop Harmony Society and a founder of the Sweet Adeline Chorus.

Kready was a board member when Dr. Lynn Kreider was hired last July as the institution's fourth CEO.

"Don Kready has provided leadership and support for over 28 years to our community and the college," said Kreider. "He has contributed significantly to the education of our students and the citizens of north-west Kansas. I appreciate his dedication and enthusiasm for the col-

lege and his support and assistance during my first year as president of the college. He is very deserving of this honor."

A public reception to honor Kready will be held 3 p.m. Thursday, April 26, in the Multipurpose Room located in the Robert Burnett Memorial Student Union.

The honor degree will be conferred during commencement exercises 2 p.m. Saturday, May 12, in the Colby Community Building.

Colby has presented the Honorary Associate Degree annually since 1986. Previous winners include Helen Frahm, 1986; Don Phillips, 1987; Jimmy Nickel, 1988; Don Crumbaker, 1989; Marilyn Donelan, 1990; Bill Beck, 1991; Les Barrett, 1992; Al and Ruth Lowenthal, 1993; Charles Schiefen, 1994; Gwen Young, 1995; Warren Hixson, 1996; Betty Seccrest, 1997; Jack and Betty Fitzsimmons, 1998; George Elliott, 1991; Charles Davis, 2000; Max Embree, 2001; David and Lois Ferguson, 2002; Matt Hamill, 2003; Kenton and Sheila Krehbiel, 2004; David Jennings, 2005; Jay Donelan, 2006; and Jim and Betty Firestone, 2006.



Don Kready

A willing patient?



DEBBIE SCHWANKE/Colby Community College

Colby Community College nursing instructors Tina Schrick and Jean Ann Wilson check out the latest addition to the nursing department. A human patient simulator created by Medical Educational Technologies, Inc. (METI), can simulate numerous medical predicaments such as heart attacks and sedation. Known as METI-Man, the simulator is designed to act and react exactly as a human patient would under the same circum-

stances. METI-Man simulates breathing, his pupils dilate, his tongue swells and a variety of other physiological conditions. METI-Man is connected to a computer which dictates how and when he acts. His vitals are displayed on the computer screen allowing students to see a variety of health complications and to respond to them without the possibility of causing harm to a patient.

Hands-on experience, instruction key to horse program's success

Dr. Kelly Riccitelli, horse production director at Colby Community College, believes quality instruction and hands-on practical experience are the keys to the success of her program.



Riccitelli

"I teach because I love interacting with students and watching them learn new things," explained Riccitelli. "I grew tired of teaching at four-year universities because there was such a priority placed on research. In many cases the undergraduate students do not get the quality instruction that they deserve because the professors do not get rewarded for

teaching excellence. Courses that I had a passion to teach were given to inexperienced and often unqualified graduate students. I can give students at CCC more hands-on practical experience in two years than I could ever give students in four years at the universities where I previously taught."

Riccitelli started her career at Colby in August 2003. Prior to teaching at the college she and her husband Rob owned and operated a commercial horse breeding business for five years in Texas, breeding over 400 mares per year. She also trained horses from August to January each year in the non-breeding season.

While completing her doctorate in equine reproductive physiology at Texas A&M University, she owned a boarding and training stable in College Station, Texas, for

12 years. She taught at Texas A&M for five years. She also taught beef, swine and horse courses at California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, Calif., for eight years and worked as an exercise rider for thoroughbred race horses during college. Riccitelli has experience with a multitude of different equine breeds as well as various riding disciplines. She also serves as the coach for the Colby Horse Show Team which practices at the college farm located five miles east of Colby.

"Students who are committed to pursuing a job in the horse industry will not find a two-year college with as much opportunity for learning a wide variety of marketable skills as is available at CCC," said Riccitelli. "The college horse herd offers extensive educational opportunities to become a competent horseman."

Career opportunities are plentiful for graduates of the program.

"The biggest demand for graduating students is currently in the horse breeding industry," said Riccitelli. "However, there are jobs available in every part of the industry for those students who are willing to relocate. I cannot fill all of the requests that I get for graduates to manage breeding farms. Other job possibilities are horse trainer, training farm manager, research, sales, public relations, boarding stable manager, horse show judge, horse show manager, riding school instructor, Breed Registry Association employee, horse publication writer, horse sales company employee, equine massage therapist and farrier."

For questions, call Riccitelli at (785) 460-5464 or e-mail: kelly.riccitelli@colbycc.edu.



DEBBIE SCHWANKE/Colby Community College

Dr. Kelly Riccitelli, horse program director, spoke with Colby Community College trustees Kenton Krehbiel, left, and Cleona Flipse during a recent tour of the facility.