



Retirement, farewell reception planned May 2

Four employees contributed near 100 years service

By Debbie Schwanke
Public Information Officer

Four Colby Community College employees with a combined total of 94 years of service will be honored at a public reception starting at 3 p.m., Friday, May 2, in the Robert Burnett Memorial



Robert



Cameron



Schulte



Coplin

Student Union.

Honorees include Eugene Robert, Alberta Cameron, Dr. Keith

Coplin and Janis Schulte.

Robert, director of buildings and grounds, begin his career at

Colby Community College in 1977.

His wife, Kathy, also a college employee, is an instructor in the physical therapist assistant program.

Cameron began her career in the maintenance department at the college in March 1983.

Her husband, Lynn, retired from the college many years ago.

Janis Schulte is resigning as an English instructor. In addition to her teaching du-

ties, she was the editor for *The Collection*, a published book of Colby College student articles and poems.

Schulte began her career at the college in August 1989.

Dr. Keith Coplin is retiring after a distinguished career at Colby College, which began in August 1989, said Debbie Schwanke, public information officer.

Coplin, who is an English instructor, has received many awards for his articles, short stories, and poems.

His first novel *Crofton's Fire* was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 2005.

Everyone is invited to attend the reception, she said. Refreshments will be served. Along with the four employees leaving the college, Joe Mildrexler, who retired after 42 years, was honored Thursday with a reception recognizing him as the 2008 honorary associate degree recipient.

For questions or other information regarding the reception, call Schwanke at 462-3984.

Concert celebrates Jazz Appreciation

Each year in April the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History, International Association of Jazz Education, and a long list of distinguished partners, schools, organizations and jazz greats band together to celebrate Jazz Appreciation Month.

This international observance encourages people of all ages to discover jazz.

Colby Community College will host their Second Annual Jazz Appreciation Month Concert 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, in the Northwest Kansas Cultural Arts Center located on the CCC campus.

Bill Harshbarger and *The Jazz Traders* will perform at Colby Community College as the featured group along with the Jazz Ensemble directed by Brad Herndon.

The Jazz Traders is a quintet led by saxophonist Bill Harshbarger. Harshbarger, a professional woodwind player and music educator, has had extensive experience performing with such artists as Clark Terry, Bobby McFerrin, The Tommy Dorsey Orchestra, and Louie Bellison.

He has performed with Bob Hope, Wayne Newton, Johnny Carson, and Bob Newhart as well as many symphony orchestras. He is well known as a jazz educator in Kansas and internationally.

Harshbarger has played for four U. S. Presidents, said Debbie Schwanke, public information officer. He is former president of the Kansas Unit of The International Association for Jazz Education and was selected as Wichita's Arts Educator of the Year in 2005.

Bill Glen is featured percussionist for the group. Glen has performed all over the world. He is in demand as a studio drummer. For the past 20 years he has been drummer for the

Vocal, band concerts in May

The college has two additional concerts planned in May. The spring band concert featuring the Concert Band will be held 7:30 p.m., Thursday, May 1, in the Cultural Arts Center.

The spring vocal music concert has been set for 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 6, in the Cultural Arts Center. The spring concert will feature the Sunflower Singers and Concert Choir directed by Dr. Phillip Shuman. All concerts are free and open to everyone.

popular vocal group The Letterman, performing over 154 shows a year.

Pianist for the group is Beau Jarvis. Jarvis is an accomplished jazz pianist and composer.

He has recently returned to Wichita from performing in Los Angeles.

Guitarist for *The Traders* is the distinguished composer and performer Randy Zellers.

He is one of the most sought-after guitarists in the Midwest and has extensive experience in the studio.

He is very popular as a private guitar teacher.

Miki Masuda from Tokyo, Japan, is the talented bassist for the ensemble.

She has served as a graduate assistant in the music department of Wichita State University.

She will receive her master's degree in Music this spring. She was recently selected by competitive audition to be a staff musician for the acrobatic troupe Cirque du Soleil.



DEBBIE SCHWANKE/Colby Free Press

Colby High School sophomore Jaylea Black and Colby Community College student Tyler Anderson of WaKeeney participate in a "Gathering" exercise as part of the Leadership Thomas County Student program. Co-facilitated by Leilani Thomas and Cindy Black, the students met Wednesday, April 16, on campus. Colby Community College criminal justice and education majors participated.

College hosts leadership program

By Debbie Schwanke
Public Information Officer

In conjunction with the Kansas Health Foundation's mission to make Kansas the best place to live and raise children by the year 2020, the Thomas County Leadership program is sponsoring the 2008 Student Leadership Program.

The program, which includes 13 area high school students, is co-facilitated by Leilani Thomas and Cindy Black. The group met Wednesday, April 16, in a CCC

classroom for a day-long training session.

"The purpose of this program is to empower our youth to make the right choices at the right time, to help them identify expectations, develop constructive use of their time with a commitment to learning and positive values," said Black. "Skills and assets are developed in this program through a series of fun activities."

Students who participated from Golden Plains High School were Alyssa Babcock, Aisha Walter and

Dylan Moss. Brewster High School students were Braden McKee, Ryan Allen and Ashton Domsch and those from Colby High School were Anna Juenemann, Jill Withington, Jaylea Black, Collin Rous, Dani Dietz and Allison Boyd.

Each student leadership class completes a project during the 30-hour program. The 2008 class chose to contact all first-grade teachers in Thomas County to develop a "wish list" of items for each classroom.

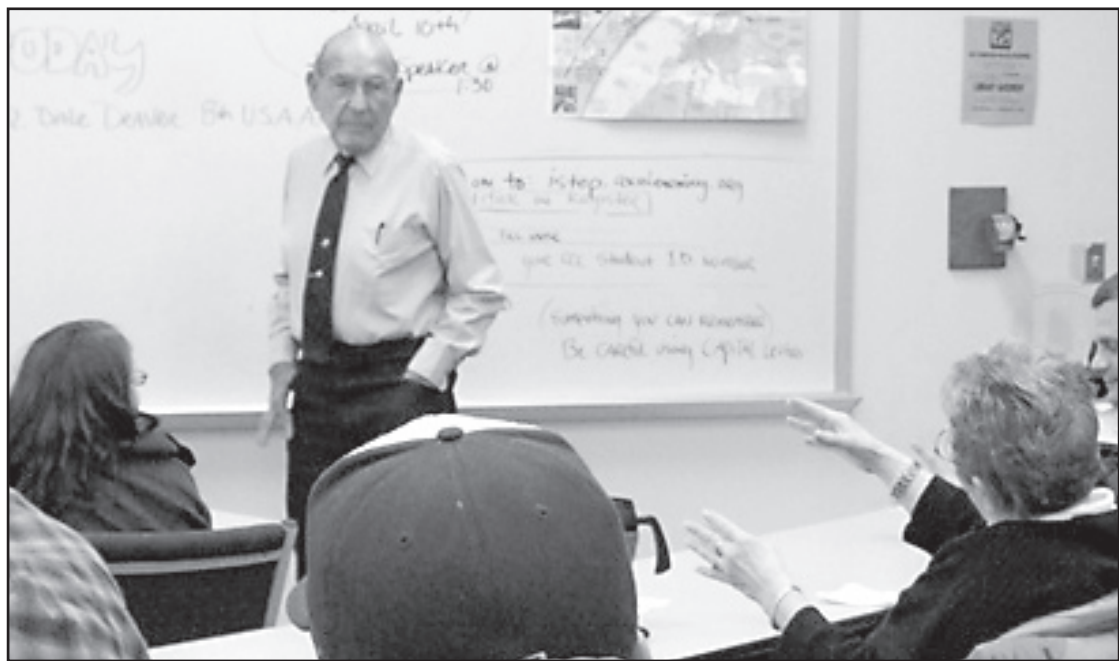
The group will collect those lists, review them Wednesday, May 7,

and then deliver a donation of \$525 to each first grade instructor to purchase these requests for their classrooms. The students will also serve lunch May 7 at the Senior Progress Center in Colby.

"The goal is to introduce and promote youth making the right choices by developing practical leadership and life skills," said Black. "The program focuses on positive values, social competency and positive self-identity. Simply stated, our goal is to give each youth life-long skills for success."

WWII vet talks to students

World War II veteran Dale Deaver spoke to a packed classroom on the Colby Community College campus April 10 about his experiences flying with the U.S. 8th Air Force. Deaver was the forward gunner on B-17 bomber missions over Germany. Colby Community College offers a World War II course taught by Tom Moorhous during the spring semester.



DEBBIE SCHWANKE/Colby Community College

Chapter recognized

For the 17th consecutive year, the Colby Community College branch of the Kansas National Educators Association Student Program received the Chapter Excellence Award at the

group's annual assembly held earlier in April, said Carolyn May, college advisor. "No other Kansas college or university has received this award for so many consecutive years," she said.



Peterson

"Our group also won the banner contest."

In addition, a photo of the banner will be included in the association's 2008-09 state publications and will be shown at the 2008 Kansas National Educators Association Representative Assembly.

It reads: *Helping Hands in Education Grow to New Heights*, May said.

Former Colby association student, Maret Peterson, was elected the state organization's president for the 2008-09 year, which includes 1,631 members representing 18 colleges and universities in Kansas, she said.

Peterson is currently attending Emporia State University.

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