



Ben Lonergan/East Oregonian

A quilt for the EOD Wounded Warrior Foundation Auction, created by Annette Frye of Pendleton, hangs on the wall Thursday, March 17, 2022, at Mama Bear's Quilt Shop in Stanfield.

Pendleton woman stitches support for troops

Quilt to benefit wounded warriors scholarship fund

By TAMMY MALGESINI
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — About eight years ago, a proud military mom learned a new craft. Annette Frye, whose son, Air Force EOD Master Sgt. Ronnie “Bo” Brickey, asked her to create a quilt honoring his 20 fallen Explosive Ordnance Disposal comrades.

Despite the fact she hadn't used her sewing machine in more than three decades, she took on the assignment. Calling herself a “military brat,” Frye has a special place in her heart for those who serve in the military.

“Over the past 20-plus years of my adult life, I have felt like I too am in the military,” she said. “It is a chal-

lenging lifestyle for the entire family.”

The finished product was up for bid during the 2015 EOD Wounded Warrior Foundation Auction. Since then, the Pendleton woman has spent a lot more time in front of her sewing machine. In 2018, she began working on a second specialty quilt for the 2019 EOD auction. And she recently finished up a third one, which will be auctioned off May 6 at the Emerald Coast Convention Center, Fort Walton Beach, Florida. While select items will be available for online bidding, Frye is uncertain if her quilt will be among those.

With each of the three quilts, Brickey, who retired from the military Dec. 1, 2021, after serving 22 years, has provided his mom with basic design guidance. The most recent one is based on a mural that fellow EOD Tech. Charles de Guia painted on the wall at Hurlburt Field,

an Air Force installation in Okaloosa County, Florida. Gaining inspiration from Michelangelo's “Creation of Adam,” the mural features an EOD technician with his robot.

“The mural is a representation of how important the robot is to us, much like how important we (Adam/humans) are to God,” Brickey said.

In addition to creating the quilts for the EOD, Frye has worked with others to send an endless number of care packages to the troops — everything from dried apples, homemade jerky and coffee to cookies, medications and Christmas cards. And when COVID hit, she rallied “her troops” and created more than 2,000 masks, which were shipped to soldiers across the globe.

In an article provided through the Defense Visual Information Distribution Service by Sgt. Andrew

Winchell, Vietnam veteran Bill Dochnahl had high praises for Frye and her efforts. The Pendleton man called his friend a “modern-day Rosie the Riveter.”

Her first two quilts, Frye said, raised \$2,000 for the EOD Foundation. Frye said the money goes to a scholarship fund for children of EOD technicians who paid the ultimate price.

The quilt is on display through the end of March at Mama Bear's Quilt Shop, 170 S. Main St., Stanfield. For more about the EOD Wounded Warriors Foundation and the auction, search www.eodwarriorfoundation.org.

COMMUNITY BRIEFING

Oregon sheriffs' association offers scholarships

SALEM — Students interested in pursuing a career in law enforcement can apply for \$1,600 scholarships awarded by the Oregon State Sheriffs' Association.

Each year, the association awards multiple scholarships, both to graduating high school seniors and students who are already enrolled and attending a community college or university. The scholarship committee may interview finalists.

Applicants will be evaluated on a submitted essay, scholastic achievements and attention to detail in completing the application process. Winners will be notified by July 15.

The deadline to apply is May 1. For additional information and the application, visit www.oregonsheriffs.org/scholarship.

Abortion survivor shares story at TruCare event

HERMISTON — Weeks after undergoing an abortion, Claire Culwell's mother still was pregnant — she had survived the procedure that took her twin's life.

An international speaker and author of “Survivor: An Abortion Survivor's Surprising Story of Choosing Forgiveness and Finding Redemption,” Culwell

will share her story during a TruCare Pregnancy Clinic fundraiser. The free event is Sunday, March 20, 5-7 p.m. at Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center, 1705 E. Airport Road, Hermiston. The evening includes dinner and an opportunity to donate to TruCare.

After giving birth to the surviving baby, the teen mother put Culwell up for adoption. Although it was a closed adoption, she reached out and met her birth mother in 2009.

For more information or to register, visit www.eventbrite.com or via a link on TruCare's Facebook page. For questions, contact 541-567-2393 or info@trucarepc.com.

BMCC Foundation seeks scholarship applicants

PENDLETON — The 2022-23 application for Blue Mountain Community College Foundation Scholarships is available on the WolfWeb Student Portal. The deadline to apply is March 31.

To access a link to the WolfWeb, visit www.bluecc.edu/about/foundation. The foundation webpage also has information about additional scholarships and tuition assistance programs. For questions or additional information, call 541-278-5762 or email ecorbett@bluecc.edu.

— EO Media Group

Andrea R. Timmermann

July 24, 1939-March 10, 2022

Pendleton's “First Woman Citizen” of 1988 passed away on Thursday, March 10, 2022. Andrea R. Timmermann died with family nearby following complications from an autoimmune disease. In early February, she was life-flighted to St. Alphonsus Medical Center in Boise, Idaho, where she was on a ventilator for more than two weeks. Choosing not to have a permanent tracheostomy, Andrea chose to return to Pendleton and hospice comfort care. She returned home to McKay Creek Estates where their wonderful staff and the Hermiston Hospice Care team helped make her last days comfortable. Andrea was filled with happiness as neighbors and other friends came by to briefly visit. This home reunion was very gratifying and gave her peace during her last days.

Born July 24, 1939, in Pendleton, she lived her early years with her parents, Raymond and Lorna Rees, and her younger brother, Raymond “Fred” Rees, on the family farm just north of Helix. Her cousin, Carol (Rees) Monahan, was a constant companion starting as early as their memories began. They remained close all these many years. Having skipped first grade in elementary school, Andrea graduated from Helix Griswold High School in 1956. In school, she began her lifelong commitment to participating fully in a variety of organizations. She held offices in student council, Girls' League and edited the school's printed newspaper. Throughout, she participated in school plays and played in the band. Her piano skills allowed her to accompany soloists and groups which continued into her adult years.

Following high school, Andrea attended the University of Oregon and while there continued her strong academic and volunteering ways. She was chosen for the sophomore women's honorary, was selected for Mortar Board women's honorary, was treasurer and president of her Delta Delta Delta Sorority, was the secretary of the Panhellenic Council and held several professional honoraries. She graduated from the University of Oregon in 1960 with a degree in business administration and merchandising. After graduation, she worked as a buyer for Joseph Magnin in San Francisco before returning to Pendleton where she owned and operated a children's clothing store. She married Lynne E. Timmermann in September 1961. The store was sold, and she became the office manager for their heavy equipment business and farming operation.

Volunteerism continued for Andrea even as she and Lynne raised their two children, Katherine (Katy) and Mathew (Mat) Timmermann. AAUW, Altrusa, Christmas Cotillion, Salvation Army board, Current Literature Club, Daughters of The Nile, Tuesdays At Two (TAT), Umatilla County Historical Society board and Round-Up Republican Women found Andrea's commitment to volunteerism an

integral part of their organizations.

AAUW selected Andrea as their vice president in charge of membership within her first year in the organization. She

held the office of treasurer several times and chaired the Education Foundation Program, which provides scholarships for women returning to school. One year, the local chapter named their contribution to that fund for Andrea, the highest tribute that can be paid to an AAUW local member.

Altrusa, also, benefitted from Andrea's volunteerism and leadership skills. She served on their board as president, first and second vice president, corresponding secretary, the bulletin editor for District 12 and chaired anniversary celebrations over the years. On Jan. 7 of this year, she received notice of the honor of achieving Emeritus status in Altrusa International of Pendleton, Inc.

While serving on the Salvation Army Board Of Directors, she was involved in the development of Pendleton's Salvation Army Community Center. Not to be left out Current Literature, Daughters of the Nile, and Round-Up Republican Women had Andrea hold offices while she actively participated in their organizations.

It is without a doubt why she was named Pendleton's “First Woman Citizen” in 1988. She said of that selection, “It is really an honor!” At that time, she said, “I am not a perfectionist but I want to make sure that I cover all the bases.” She attributed her leadership commitment to her parents and the Helix community. In current terminology, Andrea “paid it forward.” She strongly felt if she were capable she would find a way to serve her community and find great joy in doing so. She will be missed by many.

Andrea was predeceased by her parents and her husband, and is survived by her children, Katy and Mat; her brother, Raymond “Fred” Rees (Mary Len); local cousins, Carol Monahan, Nancy Rees Duff (Frank) as well as other cousins, nieces and nephews around the world.

Andrea's family expresses thanks to the caring medical, McKay Creek Estates and Hermiston Hospice staff who watched over her so lovingly. They especially want to convey appreciation to the many friends whose condolences and story sharing have included their admiration for Andrea's warmth and generous spirit.

The funeral service will be held at Pendleton Pioneer Chapel on Friday, April 1 at 10 a.m.,

followed by a reception at the Pendleton First Presbyterian Church until 1:30 p.m. The burial will be 3 p.m. at the Helix Cemetery.

Memorial donations in Andrea's honor can be given to the Pendleton Presbyterian Church or any of the organizations to which she gave so tirelessly in care of Pendleton Pioneer Chapel, 131 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton, OR 97801.

Share online condolences with the family at www.pioneerchapel.com.

Robert 'Bob' Edwin Thompson

April 19, 1952 - March 8, 2022

On Tuesday, March 8, Bob Thompson, loving husband, father and grandpa, passed away in his home at the age of 69.

Bob was born on April 19, 1952, in Portland, Oregon, to Sid and Dottie Thompson. The family moved to Pendleton in 1953 and were known for their family-owned and operated car dealership. Bob attended and graduated from Pendleton High School in 1970, and went to college at Blue Mountain Community College.

He later took on the legacy of his father and continued to be in the auto industry. As an avid motorcycle racer, Bob also sold Hodaka motorcycles, made in Athena Oregon. Bob had many adventures racing all over the Pacific Northwest on his motorcycle with his closest friends. This was only the start of a long history with dirt bikes, street bikes and other power sports. Bob was also an avid hunter and fisherman and loved to go camping. His love of camping grew into adding RVs and campers at his auto dealership, which later became Thompson RV.

In 1976, he met the love of his life, Carolyn Lawson, while she was working for U.S. Bank. The two were wed a few months later, and in 1979 welcomed their first child, Burton Thompson. In 1982, they welcomed their second child, Corrin Thompson. Bob was an excellent father and was very committed to his children.

He spent many hours on the ballfield coaching his children and others in baseball, softball and in later years supporting all youth sports.

Bob spent much of his time in the mountains, hunting and fishing with his brother, his son and his hunting buddies. As an avid hunter, he hunted in New Mexico, Colorado, Nevada, Wyoming, Idaho and Oregon, and was often the one who came home with a trophy. He would often say that it was just good luck...

His love of hunting transitioned into his love of competitive shooting. He enjoyed shooting trap and sporting clays but really thrived competing in the USPSA Handgun and 3-Gun Events. For over 10 years Bob and his son, Burton, competed in handgun and 3-gun matches. Bob being of a competitive nature from his earlier years in motorcycle competitions seem to carry over into the competitive shooting world. Bob thoroughly enjoyed the travel to and from all the events throughout the United States with his son. Bob enjoyed spending time with friends in the shooting world as a member of the Pilot Rock Gun Club USPSA, 3-Gun Nation, Rattlesnake

Mountain Shooting Club and other gun clubs he could find that were putting on a shooting event.

Bob was very active in the community serving as an ambassador for the Pendleton Chamber of Commerce, supporting the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, and was president and served many years on the National Wild Turkey Federation. He was a vital helper in reintroducing the wild turkey all around Oregon. He loved to help out Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife trap and relocate turkeys.

Bob lived an extremely active lifestyle. In 2011, he and his wife hiked the Grand Canyon Rim to Rim. They could also be seen tooling down the road on his Moto Guzzi enjoying the day. Members of the community would often see Bob walking around Pendleton training for his next hunt.

In the last few years, Bob retired from the daily duties of Thompson RV but was still active behind the scenes. He enjoyed spending time in his shop with his classic cars, motorcycles and hours of adventures with grandchildren.

Being a former car dealer, Bob was also a car buff. He loved to tinker in his shop on his old trucks and cars. In 2021, he got to cross off a bucket list item by participating in the “Great Race,” in which drivers race across multiple states in a vintage or antique collector car, his being a 1969 Corvette Stingray Convertible. Along with his lifelong friend and navigator, Wade McDougal, they placed sixth in the rookie division out of 40 rookie teams, and they placed an impressive 46th overall out of 105 teams.

Bob is survived by his wife, Carolyn; his son, Burton, and wife, Jamie, and two grandchildren, Gwen and Bryce; his daughter, Corrin, and her three sons, Grady, Riven and Thor.

A celebration of life will be held Saturday, April 2, 2022, at 3 p.m. in the Roy Raley Room at the Pendleton Roundup Grounds.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to: Blue Mountain Shooters (Funding for Youth Shooter Training), 1428 S.W. 45th St., Pendleton, OR 97801.

Other donation suggestions would be the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, National Wild Turkey Federation, NRA or the United States Practical Shooting Association.

