

Randy Severe makes it into the Hall of Fame

Pendleton Round-Up and Happy Canyon Hall of Fame announce HOF inductees for 2022

East Oregonian

PENDLETON — The man known as Mr. Round-Up now is in the Pendleton Round-Up and Happy Canyon Hall of Fame.

Randy Severe is a “Special Inductee” for 2022 and joins three others: Rusty Black in the Early Years category, Bob Forth in the Happy Canyon Volunteer category and Jerome Robinson in the Contract Personnel category.

The Hall of Fame revealed the inductees following the board of directors meeting Tuesday, May 10.

According to the announcement from the HOF, the board has held the ability to induct an individual into the Hall of Fame in consideration of special circumstances.

“Randy’s induction is based on his contributions as a contractor, volunteer and commitment to the professional rodeo cowboys, many of whom he considered friends, in a city that he loved very much,” according to the announcement.

Severe died in November 2021. He was 70.

He spent 47 years as a saddle maker for Severe Brothers Saddlery, following in the footsteps of fellow Hall of Famers, his father Bill Severe and his uncle, Duff Severe. For approximately 20 of those 47 years, Randy Severe was at the forefront of Severe Brothers as a master saddle maker.

From 1968 to his death in 2021, Severe Brothers built 250 of the 402 championship saddles of the Pendleton Round-Up, according to the HOF, and he is credited for making more than 530 saddles inclusive of the championship saddles during his life.

Severe also kept the legendary Hotel de Cow Punch doors open at the saddlery on Airport Hill.

“The legacy of the Hotel was 73 years strong at Randy’s passing and had seen the likes of rodeo contestants from the early years of the Rodeo Cowboy Association to the modern-day Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association,” according to the Hall. “The Hotel was not only a place of



East Oregonian, File

Randy Severe made more than 200 championship saddles for the Pendleton Round-Up. He died Nov. 21, 2021, at the age of 70. Severe is a “Special Inductee” for 2022 into the Pendleton Round-Up and Happy Canyon Hall of Fame.

refuge and relaxation for rough stock cowboys during Round-Up week but saw the coming and goings of cowboys almost year-round.”

Severe also was a volunteer for the Pendleton Round-Up for 26 years, including 10 years on the Round-Up board, two of which he spent as president. His presidency included the 2010 Centennial Year of the Pendleton Round-Up.

Beyond his contribution as a championship saddle maker and volunteer for the Round-Up, Severe was an ambassador for everything Pendleton.

“Unexpected visitors were always present at the saddle shop, whether it was a tourist who heard it was the place to get a real look at the West and Pendleton, friends and acquaintances or even a celebrity now and then,” according to the Hall, “all of which were welcomed with a smile and strengthened with discussion that professed the attributes of his hometown.”

These are the biographies of the inductees.

Rusty Black — Early Years

The Early Years category honors individuals who have made exceptional contributions to the development, continuation and advancement of the Round-Up and/or Happy Canyon, with their service beginning prior to 1960.

Rusty Black began volunteering for Happy Canyon in 1956 at the age of 15 where she trained her first

Happy Canyon horse, Domino. This began the start of her legacy with Happy Canyon, and she never missed a show until her passing in 2021.

Rusty had more than 65 years of volunteer service and put numerous hours into the show, and provided seven beautiful horses for the key horse part of the show. Her horse Chinook also was used for the Grand Entry, ridden by Bryson Bronson, and the pair also presented the colors at the 2015 National Finals Rodeo. Rusty was awarded the Happy Canyon Appreciation Award in 1992. Her horses Domino and Cataldo were both inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Bob Forth — Happy Canyon Volunteer

The Happy Canyon Volunteer category honors individuals who have made exceptional contributions to the development, continuation and advancement of the Happy Canyon through their volunteerism, above and beyond what is expected.

Forth has been a Happy Canyon volunteer for 59 years. He is best known for his work on the West Gate during the Happy Canyon Pageant, a position he has filled for 57 years. He has also assisted with work parties, volunteered with behind-the-scenes preparations and has helped with management of the show’s livestock.

He also works year-round with maintenance of the rolling stock.

Forth received the Happy Canyon Appreciation Award in 1999 and served on the Hall of Fame Board from 2009-13 as inductee director. He also is an active volunteer for the Round-Up as an integral part of the Westward Ho! Parade team, helping to repair and maintain the rolling stock. Forth was honored with the Round-Up Appreciation Award in 2016 and the Orville Gerberding Award in 2014.



Forth

Jerome Robinson — Contract Personnel

The Contract Personnel category honors individuals who have had significant achievement at the Round-Up as participants, success in rodeo on a regional and national level and exemplified the ideals of rodeo and the western heritage.

Robinson was the arena director for PBR. He had a talent for production, and all aspects of the event always were covered. In addition to production, Robinson provided infrastructure, including chutes, arena and stock pens for the event and brought his crew every year to oversee the set-up and work the stock pens to ensure the event ran smoothly. Robinson was a crucial part in front of the chutes at the Pendleton PBR events.

During his time in the professional ranks, Robinson served as the Bull Riding Director on the PRCA board for four years, vice president for one year, served a term on the National Finals Rodeo Commission and was on the PRCA research and development committee for the building of the Colorado Springs headquarters and PRCA Hall of Fame.

Robinson made a lasting contribution to rodeo in 1975 when he helped institute the centralized computer entry system known today as PROCOM. He was honored by Round-Up and Happy Canyon in 2019 for his unwavering support and dedication to PBR events in Pendleton.

Robinson died in January.



Robinson

COMMUNITY BRIEFING

OES youth ensembles offer free performances

PENDLETON — Spring is in the air — and so is music. The Oregon East Symphony Youth Orchestra will present a pair of free spring performances, including an outdoor concert.

The ensemble will take the stage Thursday, May 19, 7 p.m. in the Vert Auditorium, 480 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. The other performance is Friday, May 20, 5:30 p.m. Held in conjunction with the Pendleton Farmers Market, the musicians will play on Main Street in downtown Pendleton.

The intermediate level preparatory orchestra is under the direction of Zach Banks, OES education director. The program features several classic pieces, including Tchaikovsky’s “Themes from Romeo & Juliet” and the “Finale” from Beethoven’s “Fifth Symphony.”

Both concerts will include several selections by Preludes Orchestra. The beginning level preparatory orchestra is under the direction of Viet Block, OES educator and assistant concertmaster.

Also, during the Vert concert, students from the Symphony Strings after school program will present their first in-person performance. Produced in collaboration with the Pendleton School District, the beginning classical strings education program is open to area fourth and fifth grade students.

For more information about the symphony’s youth music education programs, visit www.oregoneastsymphony.org/education or call 541-276-0320.

— EO Media Group

I think we need more smart, successful business people in our Government. People that sign the front side of the check, have common sense and have Oregon's best interest in mind not self interest. I support candidates that have experience, knowledge and are Constitutional Conservatives. I do not support the establishment, the swamp, or single issue candidates.

I have seen many of these candidates in various settings, have researched how they handle campaign money or if they have reported any. Money is a big deal when you are electing someone to represent you and handle budgets. Are their own finances sound? Is their campaign upside down financially? There are many ways to look at a candidate.... not just the glossy mailers or tv ads.

I am getting many inquiries asking who I support in the primary. Here are my choices and opinions. Remember we will not agree with any one candidate 100%, so let's agree 80% and WIN for Oregon. As a regular person, PCP and even a Chair I do have a voice. I have held back and now it's time to voice my own opinion as a Citizen of the greatest Nation on earth.

US Senator Sam Palmer- Sam has experience and accomplishments as a County Commissioner that are needed. He can win in the General election.

US Representative Cliff Bentz - Cliff is doing a good job and represents us well. He is the person we need for the times we are in.

Governor Kerry McQuisten - Kerry is truly grassroots and MAGA. Full disclosure: I am her campaign manager, formerly her finance director. Kerry can win the General election and has what it takes to turn our state around. Kerry does NOT have the baggage other candidates do, which will come out more after the primary. Believe me the media is holding back the dirt on candidates until after the Primary. Think swinger, think dancing, think voting records and imagine what the mainstream media and Dems will do between the primary and general election. The conservative voter will be repulsed and told to hold their nose and vote. Heck I've had to say that and don't want to say it again. I want a true conservative to win the Primary that can win the General. We have to think about the long game. Conservative candidates are winning all over the Country and Kerry can win in Oregon too! A conservative candidate CAN win in Oregon statewide!!

Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) Cheri Helt - Best choice.

Judge Court of Appeals #3 Vance Day - Vance is a true patriot fighting for our Constitution and equal justice for all.

County Commissioner #1 Cindy Timmons - Cindy will best represent the citizens and is knowledgeable about many of the issues facing our County. Cindy is a successful businesswoman, fair, smart and is NOT owned by any politician or special interest group. If you attended more than one of the candidate forums you saw Cindy did not flip flop on any issue. Cindy does NOT want a County manager, which 4, yes four, of the other candidates want. A county manager will silence our vote, which is our voice, in the management of our County. We already have one Commissioner that wants a county manager, let's not elect another one that does. Cindy does not support mandatory masks or shots. She believes in following our Constitution and knows what our County Home Rule Charter means.

County Commissioner #2 John Shafer - John has served us well. John does NOT support having a County manager, he voted NO on a county manager. John voted NO on mandatory Vaccines. We need John to continue bringing balance and common sense to our County.

City of Hermiston:
Municipal Judge - Cameron Bendixsen
Council, Ward I - Lori Davis
Council, Ward II - Stan Stradley
Council Ward IV - David McCarthy

City of Milton-Freewater:
City Council are unopposed - vote for each candidate

City of Pendleton:
City Council are unopposed - vote for each candidate

Vote for all Republican PCP's in Umatilla County.

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Remember this is NOT an endorsement by UCRP but my personal opinion. Let's choose wisely.

Suni Danforth • UCRP Chair

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