

BMCC sends off the Class of 2022



The Blue Mountain Community College Class of 2022 stands and turns tassels to the left Thursday, June 9, 2022, to commemorate graduation.



Blue Mountain Community College students Thursday, June 9, 2022, wear caps they decorated for BMCC's graduation at the Pendleton Convention Center.



Blue Mountain Community College instructors cheer students Thursday, June 9, 2022, at the Pendleton Convention Center during commencement.

Photos by Yasser Marte/East Oregonian

STUDENTS

Helix announces fourth quarter honor roll

HELIX — The Helix School District announced the fourth quarter 2021-22 honor roll for middle school and high school students:

Griswold High School, 4.0 GPA: Dean Boland, Blake Harper, Vicky Morris, Elizabeth Reeder, Ethan Reeder, MayaBella Texidor; **3.25-3.74:** Kolby Ash, Caiden Boatright, Ryan Chalmers, Ainsley Curtiss, Ellery Flerchinger, Brandon Hoffman, Darla Holden, Kerry Jensen, Victoria Keene, Cody Kinnaman, Sasah Kovalak, Sam Kubishta, Brianna Makin, Anitohi Mercer, Sydney Moore, Sean Phillips.

Helix Middle School, 4.0: Kennedy Alvarado, Natalie Boland, Brinley Curtiss, Sophia Estrada, Andrew Kubishta, Ellie Morris, Evan Reeder, Marissa Smith; **3.75-3.99 GPA:** Kallie Joe Campbell, Kayleigh Coiner, Larman Coiner, Emilee Dean, Avery Hayes, Lane Levy, Lillianne Madden, Elizabeth Ottosen, Sophia Villanueva-Rock, Emma Ware; **3.25-3.74 GPA:** Sophia Anderson, Andrew Carmichael, Jace Hales, Ethan Harlow, Katherine Hill, Campbell Kinnaman, Makayla Makin, Malaeloa Malumaleumu, Nola Miller, Emmy Nava, Cara Phillips, Kaylee Rand, Paxton Rasmussen, Callahan Sovince, Kyara Thomas.

Pendleton Rotary club awards scholarships

PENDLETON — A handful of 2022 Pendleton High School graduates have been awarded scholarships from the Rotary Club of Pendleton. Each of the recipients received \$2,000.

Those receiving the Don Fossatti Scholarship are **Ashtyn Brown, Keri Kunz, Kendall Moore, Anahi Ponce Palomera** and **Andrew Williams**. And the Gordon George Memorial Scholarship was awarded to **Anders Edward Oja**.

The scholarship recipients were chosen based on academic qualifications and a demonstrated ability to achieve success in their chosen field of study, financial need and a reflection of the Rotary motto of service before self in the students' lives.

Pendleton Foundation Trust awards scholarships

PENDLETON — A trio of 2022 Pendleton High School graduates received scholarships from the Pendleton Foundation Trust.

According to a press release, the amounts were increased this year, and for the first time, the total award will be disbursed in two equal awards for each student's first two academic years. The scholarship awards and the recipients are:

The Jiggs and Maxine Fisk Memorial Scholarship totaling \$6,000 was awarded to **Anders Oja**. He plans to attend Princeton University to study environmental engineering or an affiliated field.

Keri Kunz and **Alara Campbell** both received a Pendleton Foundation Trust — Dudek Scholarship, totaling \$4,800 each. Kunz will attend Central Washington State University to study STEM courses and prepare to teach in a secondary school. Campbell plans to attend Washington State University's Honors College, to study zoology.

Founded in 1928, Pendleton Foundation Trust was the first permanent trust fund of its type in Oregon. In addition to funding scholarships, grants from interest earned on estate gifts and donations to the trust are awarded through twice-yearly grant cycles to Pendleton's civic, educational and charitable organizations. For more information, visit www.pendletonfoundationtrust.com.

—EO Media Group

Abel Coronado

August 4, 1953 - May 21, 2022

Abel Coronado passed away unexpectedly at the age of 68 on May 21, 2022, at St. Alphonsus Medical Center, Baker City, Oregon. He was born on Aug. 4, 1953, in Walla Walla, Washington, to Lucio H. and Ramona Coronado. He grew up in Walla Walla with his five siblings and numerous cousins, sharing many happy times.

He attended Davis Elementary School, John Sager Middle School, Garrison Junior High School and Walla Walla High School, graduating in 1972. He enjoyed track in middle school and loved baseball. Abel attended Walla Walla Community College. He was employed for many years by Hatfield's Department Store in Moses Lake, Bend, Walla Walla and Pendleton before opening his own store "Abe's Clothing and Footwear" in Pendleton, Oregon. After closing his store, Abel worked as a correctional officer for EOCI in Pendleton, Oregon, and for Powder River Correctional Facility in Baker City, Oregon, until his retirement.

Abel married his childhood sweetheart, Kathy Knopf, later divorcing after years of marriage. Abel and Kathy had three sons, Tom, Jason and Justin. Abel was a loving and supportive father and his love for his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren was immeasurable. Abel married Sandy Perkins, of Baker City, Oregon, and later divorced.

Abel loved music, dancing and spending time with his family and friends. He made connections with everyone he met, loved all people and loved life. He was

the heart of our family and his smile and laughter will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Abel was predeceased in death by his parents, Lucio H. and Ramona Coronado. He is survived by his sons and their spouses, Tom and Claudia Stephenson, Jason and Wendy Coronado, Justin and Dawna Coronado; grandchildren, Jessika (John) Salinas, Kylie (Dylan) Long, Issac Coronado, Issa Stephenson, Roberto Vela, Alex Coronado, Taylor Kiesau and Blake Kiesau, Jaxon (Brooklyn) Coronado and Jordon Coronado; great-grandchildren, Jayden Salinas, Blakely Salinas, Deklyn Salinas, and Emerson Long; siblings, Genaro Coronado, Irma (Frank) Leonetti, Rebecca Cruz, Ricardo Coronado and Diana (Ron) Coronado Wheeler; aunts, Luz Cabrales and Ina Coronado; uncle, Luis Coronado, and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Burial services will be held on Tuesday, June 14, 2022, 12:30 p.m. at Mountain View Cemetery, 2120 S. 2nd Ave, Walla Walla, Washington, with a celebration of life gathering immediately following at College Place Lions Club. Memorial contributions in Abel's memory may be made to the Pendleton Little League or the Baker City Little League through Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel at 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814.

To leave an online condolence for the family of Abel, please visit www.gray-swetco.com.



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Richard Dale Hopper

August 9, 1945 - November 8, 2020

Richard Dale Hopper, 75, passed away unexpectedly on the banks of the Snake River, near Oxbow, Oregon, while on a camping, fishing weekend trip, on Nov. 8, 2020. He died peacefully with the sounds of nature all around him.

Dick was born on Aug. 9, 1945, in Lamar, Colorado. The youngest of four children born to John and Lydia (Steinley) Hopper, he was raised and attended school in Greeley, Colorado.

Dick met Shirley Gerton while she was working at city hall in 1980. They married on Dec. 31, 1988, at the Chapel of the Bells in Reno and shared almost 32 wonderful years of marriage.

Dick is survived by his wife, Shirley; daughters, Kristy (Todd) Crum, Welling Oklahoma; Cindy Hopper, Pendleton; and Patricia (Norv) Landrum, Pendleton; sisters, Beverly Taylor and Donna Allbritton, both of Grand Junction Colorado; and sister-in-law, Peggy Hopper, Grove Oklahoma. Surviving grandchildren include Joshua (Karen) Robarge, Kayla Clark, Osa (Adam) Lange, Ana (Jarred) Cope, and Jonathan (Phyllis) Clark; and great-grandchildren, Mariea, Sophia, Matthew, Noah, Evan, Savannah, and Jonathan.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brother, Stanley Hopper; and brothers-in-law, Owen Taylor and Tony Allbritton.

Dick was a very caring, giving person who was extremely proud of his family. He loved to be outdoors, whether he was camping, fishing, bow hunting, or just hiking in the woods. He enjoyed golfing, playing poker, and working in his garden.

Dick served in the Air Force from 1962 to 1966. Following his discharge, he began his career in the fire service. He joined the La Grande Fire Department in 1966 and was assistant chief/fire marshal when he resigned. In 1977, he moved his family to Albany, Oregon, where he was acting chief, resigning in 1980.

In February 1980, he became Pendleton's fire chief. He was the fifth paid chief, and the third since 1932. He continued to attend educational classes, including an executive development class at the National Fire Academy. Dick retired in 2000, ending a 34-year career in the fire service. He received recognition for 20 years of service to the Round-Up Association.

A member of the Oregon Fire Chiefs Association, Dick was installed as president for 1990-91. He was the first president from Eastern Oregon since former Pendleton Fire Chief Blackie Batchelor held that post in 1940. We enjoyed many travels throughout Oregon during his years as an officer on the OFCA Board.

In 1984, Dick joined the Kiwanis Club of Pendleton. From 1990-91, he served as president, and in 1998 was

named Pendleton's Kiwanian of the Year. He was active in Kiwanis, working on many service and community projects. He received a Hixson Fellow award in 2001.

He served Kiwanis and our community until 2006.

Dick joined the Pendleton Country Club in 1984. Over the years he golfed several days a week. Early in his golfing career, he could frequently be found with a five-gallon bucket of golf balls practicing at the driving range. He had six hole-in-ones. He served a term on the Board of Directors, and in early 2005, he volunteered as interim manager for a few months.

He participated several times in the Police and Fire World Games (a sporting event for police and firefighters with an Olympics format held every two years in various places around the world). Those travels took us to many places, including New York City and Belfast, Northern Ireland.

Dick was a member of the Thursday Night Gathering, Pendleton Professional Poker Players. He also enjoyed playing poker at Wildhorse Resort & Casino, advancing to the final table in one spring and two fall major poker tournaments.

In 2018, he began woodworking and the art of inlay. He made many pieces, from a Santa, birds, abstracts, animals and more. He shared several of his creations with friends. When encouraged to sell them he said then it would be a job. He simply enjoyed sharing.

Dick was proud of his Volga German history. In 2013, we traveled to Europe and Russia to see where his family originated. His sister, Donna Allbritton, joined us on that adventure.

We enjoyed traveling and visited many places in the U.S. and especially the trips to the Oregon coast and throughout the Pacific Northwest.

Dick led a life full of adventure and accomplishments. He was a family man who taught his daughters and others that you can do anything you want in life if you choose to invest your time to do it well. As a role model, he did just that and lived life on his own terms with few compromises. He is missed dearly by his family, friends and the community.

There will be a celebration of life on June 18, 2022, 1 p.m., at the Golf Course at Birch Creek. Dick will be buried at Veterans Memorial Cemetery of Western Colorado, in Grand Junction. The family requests memorial donations in Dick's memory be made to Kiwanis Doernbecher Children's Cancer Center, 2870 N.E. Hogan Drive, Suite E., PMB#155, Gresham OR 97030 or online at www.kiwanisdoernbecher.org/give/donate. Online condolences may be shared at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com.

