

A LOOK BACK

The Pendleton Foundation Trust officially began May 10, 1928. It was quite unique in the State of Oregon as it was the first permanent trust fund of this type to be formed in the state. The creation of the Trust was an outgrowth of Colonel James H. Raley’s interest in a trust that had been created by citizens of the city of Cleveland, Ohio. The Civic Committee of the Pendleton Commercial Association sought to provide a means for citizens to contribute to the community by giving a gift in memory of someone who had passed away as a simple donation for establishing memorial funds through their wills. Each year, it was decided, the income created by interest on the fund would be distributed by the trustees to recipients designated by the Foundation committee. This group consisted of seven citizens selected for their “knowledge of civic, educational and charitable needs of the City of Pendleton” The Portland Oregon Journal newspaper, on July 23rd 1938, noted that Pendleton had established the Trust Fund, and it certainly showed the “spirit” of Pendleton. It added that “Pendleton

has done what Portland has long been urged to do.” E.B. Aldrich, editor of the Pendleton East Oregonian, was an enthusiastic supporter from the very start, keeping readers informed on the Foundation’s development. He wrote, “The Foundation would provide a good way for citizens to remember the city by donating money through their wills.” The early years of the Foundation records were lost when the Strangier Brothers building burned down in 1960, so Alfred L. (Al) Koeppen, a citizen, Pendleton pioneer, local pharmacist and member of the Foundation board for ten years, decided to research the past community records in order to write the history of the Pendleton Foundation Trust Fund. Al worked on this project until just a few days prior to his death in 1978. Because Al did not get to finish his research, Charlie Byler, then a third year history student at Whitman College, graduate of PHS (now a professor of History), completed this project. The board of Directors is grateful to Al Koeppen and Charlie Byler for the many hours of research and work they did to preserve the history of this great foundation.

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1928 - 2007

Pendleton Foundation Trust

Fisk Scholarship Awarded to Katherine Barry

The Pendleton Foundation Trust recently awarded its third annual Fisk Award in the amount of \$5,000. The award is for scholarship and activities and is not based on financial need. This years Fisk Award winner is Katherine Barry, the daughter of Sam and Agnes Barry of Pendleton. She graduated with the Honors Certificate and a GPA of 4.28. She is going to attend William and Mary College in Williamsburg, Virginia. She plans to double mayor in History and Foreign Language and minor in Mathematics. She was president of the senior class; and received the Lantern Cup and the Citizenship Cup. She is also a very gifted singer and was recognized for that talent. She was selected the Fisk winner out of 38 outstanding competitors. The first award was made to Claire James, who enrolled at the University of Portland. She earned a 3.88 grade point average in 2005. In 2006 she attended the University’s mini-campus in Salzburg, Austria. This experience enabled her to visit many cities and countries in Europe while pursuing her major in English and Biology. This fall she is returning to Portland to finish her junior year. In addition to her very busy scholastic schedule, she will be a Resident Assistant at the University. Last years winner, Jessica Baty, will be a sophomore at Western Oregon University. She has been doing very well scholastically with a better than 3.5 GPA. She is involved in Sports Medicine and Research. In addition to her busy scholastic schedule, she plays varsity volleyball and coaches a youth team. She is a very talented musician and plays the violin in the school orchestra. During the summer, she is enrolled in several classes at Western and is holding down two summer jobs. This scholarship honors Jiggs and Maxine Fisk, long-time Umatilla County natives who were generous supporters of the Pendleton Foundation Trust. Their legacy will help educate future generations. It is the largest scholarship given at Pendleton High School.

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Contributions And Memorials Received

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- * **EASTERN OREGON ALCOHOLISM FOUNDATION, \$5,000.00** toward new appliances and furnishings for the new Detoxification Center and Crisis/Respite Facility in Pendleton.
- * **PENDLETON AIR MUSEUM, \$5,400.00** toward the editing of 25 hours of interviews of World War II veterans and civilians of the era which will be reduced to two 30 minute DVD presentations. When completed, these DVD presentations will be provided to the school districts, libraries and the Congressional Library in Washington, D.C. The DVD can also be provided to anyone that makes a request for one.
- * **PENDLETON SKATEPARK, \$15,000.00 IN 2007** and a pledge of \$15,000.00 in 2008 toward the construction of a new skatepark in the Westgate of Pendleton near Bob White Field.
- * **HARRIS JUNIOR ACADEMY, \$5,406.00** toward replacement of two 20-foot Modernfold partitions for the dividing wall between the gymnasium and the cafeteria to increase usability.
- * **PENDLETON HIGH SCHOOL, AGRISCIENCE DEPT, \$6,500.00** to purchase materials to construct a 24' x 72' machinery/hay storage shed. The building will be constructed by the Ag Mechanics class during the 2007-08 school year.
- * **SUNRIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL, \$4,500.00** to purchase 225 padded folding chairs with 5 storage carts for use at the middle school for gatherings, concerts and assemblies.
- * **OREGON EAST SYMPHONY & CHORALE, \$4,000.00** to purchase 12 new Wenger musician chairs for use at the Vert Auditorium.
- * **PENDLETON LIONS CLUB, \$645.00** to restore the flagpole lighting in the complex adjacent to the Pendleton Chamber of Commerce.
- * **PET UTOPIA, \$10,000.00** as a match grant with the City to start a fund for the spay/neuter program for feral cats in the City of Pendleton.
- * **PENDLETON LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL & SOFTBALL, \$8,000.00** toward the paving project for walkways and driveways inside the Little League complex.

Founders Plant Seeds For A Strong Community

The Pendleton Foundation Trust was founded by a group of forward-thinking community leaders in 1928. Patterned after a trust in Cleveland Ohio, this was the first community foundation trust in Oregon. From a very modest beginning the Trust now has over four million dollars invested and it provides grants of approximately \$200,000 annually to the Pendleton community. Since 1928 grants in the amount of \$2,192,375 have been given. The Trust is managed by seven non-paid directors who live in Pendleton and has the low administrative cost of 3% of funds granted. We believe the founders of the trust would be both surprised and pleased at the many good projects it now funds in our community.

Joe & Evelyn Hill Believed in Giving Back

The Foundation recently received a very generous donation from the estate of Evelyn and Joe Hill. Anyone who ever came in contact with Evelyn or Joe knows of their gracious and giving spirit toward Pendleton. They loved the community and showed it in many ways. They both worked hard to help Pendleton, including their donation to the Pendleton Foundation Trust.

Joe and Evelyn Hill moved to Pendleton in 1963 in order to assist in the opening of Hill's Furniture & Manufacturing Co. on Airport Rd. in Pendleton. They were owner/operators of Hill's Furniture from 1963-1985 with Joe's family.

Hill's furniture introduced the in-home movie rental business to Pendleton in 1979 and had the largest fabric & drapery departments in town for many years. The Hill's were owner/operators of Joe Hill's Carpet Warehouse from 1985 until Joe's death in 1992. Evelyn operated the business from 1992 until she sold it in 2002. Over the years, Evelyn enjoyed participating in KUMA's coffee time

radio program and being featured in TV advertisements for the Carpet Warehouse. Joe and Evelyn also owned/operated the Yellow mini-storage in Pendleton from 1990 until Evelyn's death in 2006. Joe and Evelyn were active volunteers and financial supporters for many local sports teams including Little League, Babe Ruth, and High School football. They were also active in 4-H, the Elks Lodge, Altrusa, the Pendleton Junior Livestock Show and Sale, and gave nearly forty years in combined volunteer service to The Salvation Army. Joe led the fund raising campaign for The Salvation Army in the 1980's that raised over \$2 million dollars to build the present facility on Emigrant. The chapel was named after Joe when it was completed in 1985 and he was named outstanding board member of the year by the Salvation Army that year. Both Joe and Evelyn felt that business owners should be involved in bettering their community. Their gift to the Pendleton Foundation illustrates their commitment to the people of Pendleton and their desire for others to continue this tradition of community support in the future. Many individuals and organizations have given small and large amounts to the Pendleton Foundation Trust. Because of



Evelyn & Joe Hill

these generous donations the Foundation has been able to help with so many projects in Pendleton to make our community better. Thank you to Joe and Evelyn Hill who gave so much to our community and continue to give through their donation to the Pendleton

Board Member Appreciates Pendleton People

In 1995, Mayor Bob Ramig appointed Renee Bishop to the Pendleton Foundation Trust Board of Directors. A Pendleton resident from the age of two years, Renee grew up here and attended schools in Pendleton. After graduating from PHS, she attended OSU and returned to Pendleton in 1967.

Together with her husband, Sandy, they bought Folsom's Funeral Chapel and operated it for thirty years. The name was later changed to Folsom-Bishop Funeral Chapel. She and Sandy have three children who live in the area.

Although she worked with her husband daily, Renee found time to volunteer in many organizations to which she belonged.

Renee feels that it has been a privilege to have served on the Foundation Board for the last twelve years and looks forward to continuing in the future. She said, "It has been a joy to see the many things the Foundation has done for the citizens of Pendleton, and witness the generous contributions made by many ----- because without them there would be no Pendleton Foundation Trust"



Renee Bishop

"4-H Maps the Way" Technology Project

Submitted By: Patricia Dawson, 4-H Agent

If you have noticed youth taking measurements at local parks or historic sites it is probably members of the "4-H Maps the Way" Team. As part of the "4-H Maps the Way" Technology program youth are learning about community mapping projects incorporating Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Global Positioning Systems (GPS). Funding from the Pendleton Foundation Trust has enabled the program to obtain high accuracy data collection mapping equipment required to develop comprehensive maps of various community sites such as historic sites, Century Farms, walking trails and buried utilities, irrigation and communication systems at facilities such as the Pendleton Round-Up grounds.

The "4-H Maps the Way" youth participants are working in partnership with adult mentors to complete that mapping related projects. Participants in the program are also gaining skills in utilizing the computer, the GIS/GPS units, digital cameras, and map-plotting skills, Umatilla County 4-H program is partnering with community volunteers and National 4-H to introduce youth to emerging technologies and encouraging youth interest in math, science, technology, leadership and community services.

An additional component of the project is the work the 4-H youth are doing with the Century Farm Project. 4-H'ers are interviewing families residing on Century Farms and preparing educational videos and maps showcasing Century Farms in Umatilla County.

Additional sponsorship for the project has included grants from the national 4-H ESRI Technology Program, OSU 4-H Foundation and Wildhorse Foundation.



4-H member maps the way!