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Aetna Foundation Match  
Darlene Abney

Summer 2009

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**Emily Ager**



# Pendleton Foundation Trust

## Scholarships awarded to three PHS graduates

Each spring the Pendleton Foundation Trust Board of Directors awards three scholarships to deserving graduating seniors from Pendleton High School. Kelli McBee is the recipient of the \$5,000 Fisk Scholarship, given in memory of Jiggs and Maxine Fisk, lifelong Pendleton residents who gave money to the PFT for the annual scholarship.

Kelli plans to study public relations and business at Boston College. Her parents are John and Debbie McBee. She served in student government and earned varsity letters in track, volleyball and cross country. She was a member of A Capella Choir, Key Club, the National Honor Society and ASTRA Club. She received the Citizenship Cup this year. Kelli also served as Miss Oregon Junior Miss and attended the Catholic World Youth Day in Germany. She represented Pendleton at the Hugh O'Brian Youth World Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C.

The Foundation also awarded two \$2,500 scholarships to Hayley Wynn and Emily Ager.

Hayley will be attending the University of Oregon with a major in accounting and a minor in business. She is the daughter of Chad Wynn. She played basketball and participated in track. She received the Most Inspirational Award in track. Hayley was on the honor roll throughout high school and received the Citizenship Cup Award as well as awards in math, English and Spanish. She was a member of the National Honor Society.

Emily, class valedictorian, plans to attend Carleton College to major in biochemistry and minor in music performance. Emily was very involved in music performance all through her high school years. She played the oboe and piano and lettered in band all four years. She also played with the Oregon East Symphony and the Inland Northwest Symphony. She won Outstanding Achievement awards in trigonometry, American studies, algebra, biology and Spanish. Surprisingly, she even found time to letter in tennis. Emily was a member of the National Honor Society and was the recipient of the Citizenship Cup Award.

## Spring grants come to community

More than \$86,000 has been awarded to sixteen community organizations in Pendleton and \$2,000 to seven memorial trust funds from the Pendleton Foundation Trust. Grant recipients include:

- **PENDLETON SENIOR CENTER** - \$7,500 to improve energy efficiency.
- **PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH** - \$1,000 pledged toward access improvement.
- **OREGON EAST SYMPHONY** - \$5,500 toward platforms for Vert Auditorium.
- **CHILDRENS' MUSEUM OF EASTERN OREGON** - \$1,099 for office equipment.

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# From seeds to salsa

## Foundation grant brings greenhouse to Alternative High School

Thanks to the generosity of the Pendleton Foundation Trust, the goal of a greenhouse for the Alternative High School in Pendleton has been realized. Last fall, Alternative Education staff member Dave Frye organized and managed the assembly of the greenhouse. Together, a number of community volunteers and Umatilla County Master Gardeners spent over 100 hours collectively to prepare the site and assemble the greenhouse, which was purchased in August of 2008. The greenhouse is located on the SW Frazer side of Hawthorne School next to the building so that it can be in the line of the video surveillance cameras, and a seven foot chain-link fence was installed around the greenhouse to provide added security.

Students have germinated the warm weather seedlings and transplanted starts for the community garden program, and are caring for them and tracking their growth in the greenhouse. Planting of the starts in the three Community Gardens in Pendleton was anticipated to begin in May, depending on the weather. The greenhouse will be continually used throughout the school year. It will be used in the fall for school science/biology curriculum as well as in early spring to begin the planting and growing of seedlings in preparation for transfer to the Community Gardens.

Scott Lathrop, Director/Principal of UMESD's Intermountain Alternative Education Consortium, has a degree in Agriculture Education, Educational Leadership and Vocational Education. Teacher Jewel Kennedy has many years of successful experience with other alternative school greenhouse projects. With this expertise, the students will learn through a differentiated curriculum and at the same time meet their biology/science graduation requirements.

*Throughout the growing season, hundreds of meals were prepared and served daily using this locally-grown produce.*

The UMESD - Alternative Education Consortium provides the curriculum for the greenhouse project as well as funding for the monthly utilities, chain-link fence, gravel foundation, initial setup of the greenhouse, necessary supplies and future maintenance of the structure.

The benefit of this project is two-fold. The 104 students at the Pendleton Alternative High School benefit from this hands-on science/biology opportunity to meet their graduation requirements. Also, the members of our community will receive the produce raised in the Community Gardens. According to Annette Frye, Master Gardener President and Pendleton Community Garden Manager,

this past summer the gardens in Pendleton produced over 7,000 pounds of produce that was delivered to the Oregon Food Bank, Pendleton Senior Center and the Salvation Army for distribution to the elderly and disadvantaged citizens of our community free of charge. Throughout the growing season, hundreds of meals were prepared and served daily using this locally-grown produce.

Many students have already volunteered to help with the planting in May. Students who attend the Alternative High School this fall will help harvest the vegetables from the gardens and prepare them for delivery to the Senior Center and the Salvation Army. A small portion of the vegetables will be kept by the students to prepare salsa in the classroom for their own culinary enjoyment. The salsa-making will be a perfect time for students to realize the results of their efforts, thus building a sense of pride in helping others within the community.

This is truly a one-of-a-kind collaboration between our disadvantaged and at-risk youth and community members which aligns perfectly with the Pendleton Foundation Trust's focus on educational and civic use of funds. This greenhouse fits the criteria of being a tangible or "capital" improvement that will benefit the citizens of the City of Pendleton, and serve the community perpetuation of the Pendleton Foundation Trust.

## McBee tosses first pitch

John McBee, current president of the Pendleton Foundation Board, strongly believes that organizations receiving grants from the foundation should acknowledge them in the most visible and appropriate manner. Therefore he readily accepted when the coach of the softball team, which had received a grant to buy new bleachers at the Sunridge middle school softball field, invited him to throw out the season's first pitch in appreciation of the grant.

McBee was well known by his classmates for his prowess in both football and basketball at Pendleton High School in the mid 1940s. What was not commonly known was that after his high school days, he was a fast-pitch softball pitcher. So when he stepped on the field to throw the first pitch, the spectators were quite impressed that instead of throwing a soft lob as is often done with these ceremonial first pitches, he wound up with a windmill-style delivery and threw a perfect strike which ended in the catcher's mitt with a loud pop.



**Pendleton Foundation Trust President John McBee throws out the first pitch of the softball season.**

An anonymous fan commented that McBee's fast ball had lost a little of its zip of days gone by, but it was still good enough to be effective. We understand that the ceremonial ball and several pictures are on display in his trophy room at home. The Pendleton Foundation Board is pleased with this acknowledgment of the bleacher grant.

## 2009 Spring Grants *Continued from Page 1*

- **PENDLETON UNDERGROUND TOURS** - \$10,000 to restore the natural brick on building front facing Main Street.
- **PIONEER RELIEF NURSERY** - \$1,500 toward the purchase of metal gates to enclose a safe outdoor play area.
- **PENDLETON ROUND-UP ASSOCIATION** - \$10,000 to replace sidewalk down Court Street, and lighting, trees and grates in conjunction with the Centennial Plaza project.
- **BLUE MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE** - \$14,181 toward purchase and installation of the "Raiser's Edge" database system for BMCC and the BMCC Foundation.
- **PENDLETON SCHOOL DISTRICT** - \$6,241.50 to purchase and install a security inside locking system for one elementary school.
- **WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** - \$8,000 toward the purchase of Promethean boards and accessories.
- **WEST HILLS INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL** - \$890 for portable sound system.
- **McKAY CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** - \$3,305 to purchase and install a sound system with hanging microphones.
- **PENDLETON SCHOOL DISTRICT** - \$6,845 to purchase a home plate pitching machine for the Sunridge softball field to benefit Pendleton ASA Softball and Pendleton High School softball programs.
- **PENDLETON LITTLE LEAGUE** - \$4,512 to replace the malfunctioning grill and deep fryers in the concession stand and convert to natural gas.
- **PENDLETON BABE RUTH ASSOCIATION** - \$3,066 to purchase new catcher's gear and batting helmets for seven teams.
- **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES** - \$2,588 to replace worn-out furnishings for the Pendleton shelter and paint the interior.

The board also made the following allocations of earned income from special memorial trust funds: **\$923.78** - Parks and Playground Fund of the City of Pendleton; **\$42.17**, Roy Raley Memorial Fund of the City of Pendleton; **\$320.18**, Kilkenny Fund at Blue Mountain Community College Library; **\$134.31**, Donert Memorial Fund at Pendleton Public Library; **\$262.22**, Jack Mulligan Memorial Fund at Pendleton Public Library; **\$55.16**, Woodmen of the World Fund at Pendleton Public Library; **\$260.83**, ANA Memorial Fund at Pendleton Public Library.

## Board member Kevin Hale enjoys community service

Kevin Hale, newest director of the Pendleton Foundation Trust, enjoys the opportunity to serve the Pendleton community and be a part of the Foundation.

Kevin was born and raised in Pendleton. He graduated from Pendleton High School, BMCC and Oregon State University. He came back to Pendleton with the opportunity to work in the family business, Pendleton Electric. He helped manage Pendleton Electric and then became a part owner. In 2008 he sold his ownership to pursue new professional challenges and opportunities, and spend more time with his family.

Kevin has been married for 20 years to Lori, principal of Lincoln Elementary School. They have two children; Hannah is a sophomore at Pendleton High School and Joseph is a 6th grader at Sunridge Middle School.

Kevin attends Peace Lutheran Church. He has been very active in serving the Pendleton community including: on the Board of the American Red Cross; Peace Lutheran Church Council; Pendleton Chamber of Commerce; Chairman of the St. Anthony Hospital Foundation; Past President of the Pendleton Rotary Club; and Past President of the Happy Canyon Company. He is the current President of the Round-Up City Development Corporation, and Chairman of the Pendleton Economic Development Board.

He is currently a Real Estate Broker with Coldwell Banker-Whitney and Associates in Pendleton.

Kevin is very sincere and appreciative of the opportunities to serve Pendleton and the Pendleton Foundation Trust when he says, "Pendleton has been very good to my family. I feel fortunate to have the chance to raise my own family in Pendleton. My folks, Robert and Lois Hale, instilled in me an understanding that we all have the opportunity, not the obligation, to make your home a better place to live. I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to work with the Pendleton Foundation Trust, where "Pendleton people help Pendleton people."



**Kevin Hale**

## Andrew Picken chooses matching donation gift

Our Foundation received a different kind of donation recently. It was a matching donation gift from an individual and his employer. Andrew Picken pledged an amount to us each year for a number of years and his employer, Aetna Insurance, matched his donation in amount and time.

This is a generous way for an individual to give to a charity of his choice and increase the amount by involving his accepting employer.

Thanks to Picken and to Aetna. It is a great way to give. Our Foundation hopes that more such matching contributions materialize in the future. We will see that they benefit the citizens of Pendleton.