

gila gram

EASTERN ARIZONA COLLEGE



EAC Unveils New Logo and Updated Gila Hank

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EAC Unveils New Logo and Updated Gila Hank

Change was in the air as EAC faculty, staff, and students returned to campus for the Fall 2022 semester. Most noticeably, the College had adopted a new primary logo and updated their decades-old Gila Hank mascot. Despite the change, it was announced that the traditional Gila Hank mascot—designed in 1947 by The Arizona Republic cartoonist, Reg Manning—would remain visible in a retro, classic role. The College's traditional purple and gold colors would also remain.

Together the new logo and updated mascot are part of a new brand identity for the College that takes its primary design from more than 300 surveys and 15 comprehensive focus groups held with students, faculty, staff, and community members over the past year. It replaces the College's mountain logo that was created in 1997 and refreshes the 75-year-old Gila Hank for use in digital platforms.

EAC's new primary logo features a bold shield reminiscent of the main architectural element used in past and current campus structures. Inside that shield is a stylized "EA" monogram. For decades, faculty, students, and the local community have affectionately referred to Eastern Arizona College as "EA." The new logo was specifically designed to embrace that identity and create a brand that will more effectively resonate with both current students and alumni.

"We consistently heard that the College's primary logo should be bold and traditional yet retain a modern look and feel," said Todd Haynie, EAC president. "Our designer achieved this tall order by coupling the traditional shield with a stylized 'EA' monogram—the letters most often used to vocally reference the College for the past 134 years."

The new identity system follows best design practices that extend the primary logo to various versions that brand

a growing institution—something EAC's mountain logo struggled to accomplish.

"EAC's brand is critical in today's competitive landscape. The new design seizes every opportunity to tell our story on every platform. It expresses why students should choose us over the others, communicates the quality of our services, and uses the boldest imagery to make us immediately recognizable. It is simply amazing."

For maximum brand recognition, the new brand identity also extends the College's primary logo to the EAC Athletic Department, including an refreshed version of Gila Hank. The new athletic design is the culmination of input that indicated change was needed, but that Gila Hank should

remain a strong, confident, and bold fighter.

Based on best design practices, this system includes the College's "EA" monogram as the primary athletic mark, the mascot mark for informal merchandising, the extended mascot mark for athletic programs, and full body versions

of the classic, new, and youth Gila Hanks.

"Eastern Arizona College has been known as the Gila Monsters for more than 100 years and Gila Hank has been a core element since 1947," Haynie added. "The updated version is committed to the central idea of Gila Hank over time, has the capacity to transcend change, and provides limitless marketing and public relations opportunities."

The design was developed with significant creative assistance from the College's current and former design students. **Monique Saldaña, '17**—a current EAC employee and former graphic design student—played a key role in the new visual identity. She made extensive revisions and exclusively created the Gila Hank youth mark.



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Local Professionals assist EAC Students

This semester, EAC students are gaining access to greater academic opportunities thanks to generous donations from local professionals and businesses.

Through their efforts to grow lasting local partnerships, the EAC Foundation discovered that many entities across the Gila Valley are interested in supporting students seeking higher educational opportunities.

For their generosity, the EAC Foundation thanks the following entities and individuals:

- Dr. Scott and Melissa Sellers from Elite Eye Care Center who provided a fine arts specific scholarship to Melanie Bolen.

- Dr. Nicholas Elkins from the Pain Institute of Southern Arizona who established the Jose Sosa scholarship. This scholarship is named in honor of Mr. Sosa who was instrumental in building the ASPIRE program at EAC. The Jose Sosa scholarship was awarded to Jessenia Rodriguez.

- Vaughn Grant and Jenna Ferrin from Country Financial who provided a general education scholarship provided to Aubrey Palmer.

- The good folks at LifeNet-Air Methods who provided a nursing scholarship to Stephanie Peck.

If you, or your business, are interested in establishing a scholarship of any amount and providing valuable assistance to EAC students, please contact the EAC Foundation at (928) 428-8295.



Jenna Ferrin, Aubrey Palmer, and Vaughn Grant



Jessenia Rodriguez and Dr. Nicholas Elkins

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We greatly appreciate the individuals and organizations listed below for helping us continue to make a difference in the lives of more than 100 students each year. The following donations were received between January 1, 2022 and June 30, 2022.



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MONSTER

Though he spent only one year at EAC, **Dale LeMonds, '97** certainly made the most of it. He was a member of EAC's 1997 baseball team - the first to take the field since the program was discontinued in 1981. He also met and eventually married his wife of more than 20 years, **Lisa Damron LeMonds, '97**.



Dale Lemonds, '97, and Lisa Damron LeMonds, '97

After leaving EAC, Dale went on to receive a master's degree in sports management from Virginia Commonwealth University. He also translated his experience as a collegiate baseball player into a coaching opportunity at the University of Richmond.

In 2005, Dale and Lisa opened their first Aveda Institute location in Denver. Aveda Institutes provide education in the fields of cosmetology, esthology/skin care, and massage therapy. In 2008, the LeMonds opened their second Aveda Institute location in Tucson, followed by a location in Provo in 2010, Phoenix in 2012, and Avondale in 2022. They also opened the LeMonds Spa and Salon at the Wigwam Resort in Litchfield Park, Arizona, in 2017.

Dale and Lisa have six children: Lucy, Chloe, Gavin, Jett, Maverick, and Bentley. Outside of work, Dale is a youth baseball coach for the Colorado Jets. Lisa is an accomplished hairdresser, but spends a majority of her time being a mom.

Upon her arrival at EAC in 2008, **Eliza Wilson, '10** got straight to work on her Associate of Arts degree, studying sports medicine and athletic training. She spent several semesters as a work-study student in the athletic training facility

where she interacted with a majority of the EAC athletes, including a freshman football player named, Jonathan Solomon.

In 2011, Eliza was accepted into the athletic training program at Southern Utah University. There she completed her Bachelor of Science degree in athletic training. One month after her graduation in 2013, she passed her certification test and officially became a Certified Athletic Trainer (ATC). Eliza's first official position as an ATC found her back where it all began at Eastern Arizona College where she worked with the men's and women's basketball teams as an assistant athletic trainer, as well as providing additional coverage for the EAC football team.

Following her professional stint at EAC, she worked in a variety of different arenas that included secondary education, military, clinical, and collegiate settings. However, with the onset of the pandemic, Eliza was furloughed almost immediately. Recognizing this as an opportunity, Eliza decided to further her education. In May of 2020, she was accepted into the Doctorate in Athletic Training program at Indiana State University.

In the midst of completing her doctorate, Eliza was hired to be the athletic trainer for Safford High School in Safford, Arizona. She started this position during the fall of 2020 and remains there today.

Coincidentally, both **Jonathan Solomon** and **Eliza Wilson** finished their doctorate degrees this past May and traveled to Indiana State University to walk in graduation. Neither of them realized the other was attending Indiana State until a couple of months before the graduation ceremony when they caught up on social media. The graduation ceremony was the first time Jonathan and Eliza had seen each other since their days at EAC.

Jonathan Solomon, '09 was born and raised on the eastside of Cleveland, Ohio. As the second youngest of a large blended family, he experienced a nomadic childhood — living in Ohio, Georgia, Minnesota, and California all before his 18th birthday. In all, Jonathan attended over 25 schools before arriving



Jonathan Solomon, '09, and Eliza Wilson, '10

ALUMNOTES

at EAC in the Fall of 2008 on a football scholarship.

Jonathan's experience as a first-generation graduate and foster care alumnus has driven his commitment to mentorship, social justice education, support for HBCUs, and advocacy for minoritized populations. He has worked with multiple non-profit organizations that service these areas, including Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated. Upon his departure from EAC, he received his bachelor's degree from Langston University; a master's from the University of Oklahoma; and Ph.D. in educational administration (higher education leadership) from Indiana State University.

Jonathan possesses a passion for educational equity, technology, and relationship building which propelled him into the EdTech industry with the goal of making education more equitable and accessible for all people. He has amassed over 10 years of experience in higher education and student affairs, spanning across disciplines to include college access, retention programs, first-generation/low-income student support, honors education, residence life, athletics, international student services, and diversity, equity, and inclusion. He currently serves as a partner success manager at Mainstay and has held administrative leadership roles at Washington University in St. Louis, Harris-Stowe State University, Oklahoma Baptist University, Wayne State University, and the University of Oklahoma. He is a recipient of the 30 Under 40 Sawubona Award for the PAN African Network of ACPA, Delux Power 100 Award, Next Gen Under 30 Award, and 2018 Outstanding

Young Alumnus Award from Langston University.

Jonathan is a proud husband to Jasmine Solomon and dog dad to a French bulldog named Huncho.

After graduating from Amphitheater High School in Tucson, Arizona, **George Lefferts, '51**, and several of his football buddies attended Eastern Arizona Junior College. After graduating in 1951, he continued his education and played football at the University of Idaho where he completed his bachelor's and master's degrees. George later joined the U.S. Marine Corps and played four years of football for them and earned the rank of lieutenant. George coached 10 years of college football for California Western and had a 30 year career in the insurance industry. He met his wife, Joanne, at University of Idaho. Together they raised a son and daughter who have been successful in their careers. The Lefferts have been married for 64 years.

Glenn Patterson, '04, was featured in the January 3, 2022, edition of the Phoenix Business Journal as one of their local People On The Move. Glenn

received the designation for his work with the Tempe-based architectural firm, ADM Group, where he was recently promoted to the position of director.

Glenn's road to recognition began at Eastern Arizona College where he graduated with an Associate of Applied Science degree in computer aided design and drafting technology. And while Glenn enjoys architecture and design, his time at EAC also allowed him to further

participate in one of his true passions, football!

Following EAC, Glenn immediately put his degree to use by signing on with Merry Carnell Schlecht, an architectural firm based in Tucson. Six years later, Glenn made the move to M3 Engineering and Technology Corp—also based in Tucson—before joining ADM Group in 2014. During his time with all three firms, Glenn gained

experience working on design for K-12, aviation, justice, commercial, municipality, historic renovations, observatories, mine sites, and sports venues. Glenn is also an AIA Associate and is responsible for introducing and implementing the Revit design software program at ADM. Thanks to Glenn's efforts, over 4 million square feet of projects have been completed using the Revit system.

Today, Glenn's hobbies include flying drones and sports card collecting. Like many folks who grew up in the '90s, Glenn was an avid card collector. During the early days of the pandemic, he was reintroduced to his childhood hobby and



Glen Patterson, '04

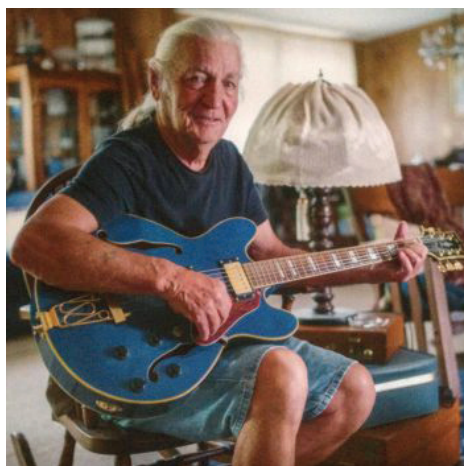
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“Monster Alumnotes” continued from page 7

found a totally different environment than the one he had experienced as a kid. In 2022, his card collecting serves as both a hobby and an investment opportunity. With travel opportunities opening up again, Glenn enjoys traveling to card trading events across the country. And when he finds himself in Georgia, he always takes time to visit some friends and get in some deep sea fishing. According to Glenn, there is nothing in this world like fighting a shark or large fish while on a boat.



Lyman Mitchell, '54

Lyman Mitchell, '54, came to Eastern from Amphitheater High School in Tucson, Arizona. He had a great experience at EAJC, got married to Louvina Rogers, and then returned to Tucson to attend the University of Arizona. Lyman plays guitar and loves to sing. He and his two daughters, Lynnell and **Michelle, '73**, both made music a big part of their lives. They wrote and performed music all across the country, recorded albums and even moved to Nashville for a while - helping Lynnell to obtain performance opportunities. More about Lyman's music is available at <https://whofiredthatshot.com>

The Mitchell's bought a ranch in Lockhart, Texas, which now is the location for the Comanche Country Ranch & Events Center. Along with weddings and other events, the ranch also hosts the Plum Creek Shooting Society's regular

shooting matches.

Lyman also wrote a children's book called Pee Wee Saves Christmas. A copy of his book is displayed in the Alumni Authors Collection at the EAC Alumni Visitors Center. This collection includes books authored by alumni or written about alumni. Other alumni authors are invited to send a copy of their books to be included.

McKay Keith is an employee of The Walt Disney Company. Any opinions expressed below are his alone and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or values of The Walt Disney Company or its affiliates.

McKay Keith, '14 always knew he wanted to be a storyteller, especially through the art form of costuming. His first noted interest in this form of expression came when he saw the 2010 film Alice In Wonderland. It was the first time he remembers truly noticing all the subtle artistry and planning that goes into such minute details as a character's dress design, accessory design, and the message sent about character in something as simple as the practical boots Alice wore in that movie. He knew then, he wanted to be part of that world.

It was his experience at EAC that started opening doors for him in this field. For one year he took on a work study position with Timilee McNair, EAC's primary costume designer. He also took a few theatre classes at EAC to supplement his primary field of study in art. Along the way, he gained valuable mentors such as Stuart Gibson, Erika Johnston, Scott Dahl, Elizabeth Henley, and Patty Raines. In 2019, the EAC Theater Department invited McKay to accompany them to the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival in Los Angeles, where he won his first costume design award for the sketches he had created in Scott Dahl's Scenography class.

After EAC, McKay moved on to the University of Arizona where he earned a BFA in costume design. While there, he also began fostering his upcoming

professional career. Through his efforts at providing local costume design work in Tucson he was able to make good contacts and have amazing experiences working with the local theater community. During his time at UA, and in the years following, he has done costuming work throughout the country. However, his favorite project still remains his capstone show at the UA which allowed him to explore abstract concepts like "Time" and "Friendship." The project allowed him to design some really unusual costume pieces, including an eight-foot tall skeleton puppet made out of UV glow-in-the-dark flowers which represented a "Dance With Death."

One of McKay's lifelong dreams has been to design for Disney theme parks. As it happened, a perfect storm and a lot of luck recently provided him the opportunity to accept a costume



McKay Keith, '14

design professional internship with the Disney corporation in their parks division. Upon learning he had been accepted into the internship program, McKay felt an overwhelming sense of emotional validation knowing he would be part of a team he had dreamed of joining for a majority of his life.

While still in shock with where his life's

path has landed him, McKay can't help but reflect on how grateful he is to all of the wonderful teachers and supporters he has had along the way who made his current circumstances possible. He also recognizes that despite some moments of self-doubt, the countless hours he has put into his craft—beginning with his days at EAC—have allowed him to overcome challenges and achieve his goals. And that is something he feels he can truly take pride in.

After graduating from Eastern Arizona Junior College, **Noel Frank, '59** moved on to attend Arizona State University for a year. However, opportunities to play both basketball and baseball led him to transfer to Grand Canyon University where he graduated with his bachelor's degree in 1962.

Following his experience at GCU, Noel moved on to California where he attended graduate school. During those years, he coached middle school sports for two years before moving on to coaching opportunities at Sonoma State University.

In 1973, Noel decided to enter the private sector and moved to Texas where he worked for a company that primarily functioned in the textile cleaning industry. Not long after arriving in Texas, he went back into coaching for eight years at a small school near Waco. This opportunity gave him the chance to coach his son during his senior year. Another highlight from those years was winning a state championship in football in 1987.

In 2014, Noel retired and settled down on a small plot of land near Waco. He has two children, Noel Jr. of Lorena, Texas,

and Nicholle Martin of Mainville, Ohio. He also has four grandchildren and one great grand-daughter.

When recollecting on all the many adventures life has offered him, Noel feels that the two years spent at EA were among the best and served as the most important in preparing him for life's experiences. He still stops by the campus as often as time permits and maintains strong friendships from his time spent in Thatcher.

Roberta Kline, '78, served in the US Navy as a WAV prior to attending Eastern Arizona College. That is where she met and married her husband, Burton Kline. They later moved to Safford where Roberta decided to enroll in the nursing program at EAC. After becoming an RN, Roberta completed more schooling and received a bachelor's with University of Phoenix. While the family lived in Kentucky, Roberta continued her education at the Frontier Nursing University to become a nurse practitioner with an addendum in midwifery. One highlight in her career was extensive research with Merck to identify a virus that causes cervical cancer.

The Klines raised twin daughters and a son.

Susan Welker Turley, '80, is now the corporate director of supply chain compliance and enterprise subcontracts for L3Harris Technologies. She took the position after spending six-and-a-half years at Raytheon Missiles and Defense in various supply chain and strategic

sourcing roles. L3Harris Technologies, with approximately \$18 billion in annual revenue, 47,000 employees and customers in more than 100 countries, is one of the top 10 defense contractors in the United States. While L3Harris is headquartered in Florida, Susan is fortunate that she will be able to work remotely full-time from her home in Cochise County north of Sierra Vista, allowing her to continue serving as treasurer on the EAC Foundation board.

After earning journalism degrees from EAC and the University of Arizona, Susan worked for newspapers in the Phoenix area before joining the Air Force in 1987. She then attended law school at the University of Texas, graduating in 1995 and joining the Air Force Judge Advocate General's Corps. Susan, who has 20 years' experience in government contracting, retired from active duty in 2008 and then worked as a civilian attorney for both the Air Force and the Army.

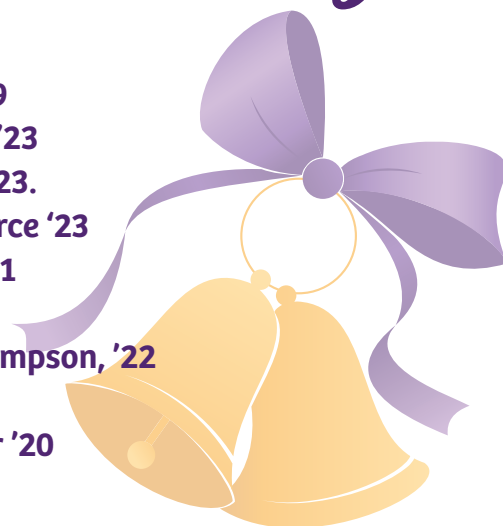
She recently established the Dudley S. Welker Scholarship to honor her father, Class of 1952. Dudley, whose parents both attended EAC, was the second president of the EAC Foundation and served more than 40 years with the Foundation and the Alumni Association. The scholarship will be awarded to a full-time student planning to study law or criminal justice, in recognition of Dudley's 50+ years of service as an attorney and judge in Graham County, including four decades as the attorney for the town of Thatcher.

Gila Hank



Wedding Bells Rang

January 8, 2022 for Mazie Hunt '23 & Brock Jones, '21
 January 21, 2022 for Amilynn Webb, '19 & CJ Mattice, '19
 March 11, 2022 for Madison Voelker, '23 & Porter Webb, '23
 March 11, 2022 for D. Julissa Payan, '22 & Seth B. Lunt, '23.
 March 23, 2022 for Samantha Voelker, '22 & Joseph Pearce '23
 April 9, 2022 for Haylee Layton, '21 & Tyson Hawkins, '21
 April 16, 2022 for Julia Ferrin, '20 & Braden Basteen, '21
 April 23, 2022 for Jessica R. Sherwood, '20 & C. Trey Thompson, '22
 May 21, 2022 for Lacie Whitmer, '20 & Garson Hatch '21
 June 4, 2022 for Samantha Brown, '20 & Kurtis Thatcher '20
 June 17, 2022 for Hailey Kay, '21 & Dalton Henrie '18



Hunt & Jones



Webb & Mattice



Voelker & Webb



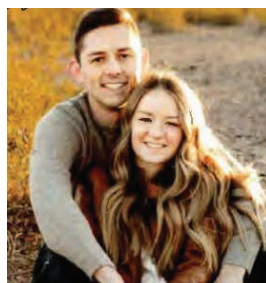
Payan & Lunt



Voelker & Pearce



Layton & Hawkins



Ferrin & Basteen



Sherwood & Thompson



Whitmer & Hatch



Brown & Thatcher



Kay & Henrie

In Memoriam

Irving P. Brady, '72 – January 3, 2022
 David Ryan Pulsipher, '10 – January 7, 2022
 James "Jim" Donaldson, '57 – January 10, 2022
 Shauna Hancock Ibarra, '85 – January 11, 2022
 Dean D. Desaulniers, '87 – January 15, 2022
 John Wayne Wiltbank, '64 – January 15, 2022
 Rulon "Kim" Finch, '77 – January 17, 2022
 Peggy Lou Dauer, '59 – January 21, 2022
 Nancy Merrell Sanders, '68 – January 22, 2022
 Thomas S. Chaidez, '77 – January 22, 2022
 Willis "Buff" Haws Jr, '95 – January 25, 2022
 Alfred E. Burt, '65 – January 28, 2022
 Margaret DeSpain Nottingham, '46 – January 30, 2022
 Sylvia D. Munoz Onsurez, '87 – February 2, 2022
 Terry L. Taylor, '55 – February 2, 2022
 Bernard "Mark" Smith, '84 – February 3, 2022
 Constance "Connie" E. Overall Montierth, '69 – February 4, 2022
 Timothy "Jacob" Haas, '14 – February 6, 2022
 Alicia "Alice" Wynne Henio, '12 – February 7, 2022
 LaVon Evans Taylor, '46 – February 9, 2022
 Lori Ann Yslas, '85 – February 10, 2022
 Laura Jean Roten, '13 – February 14, 2022
 Evelyn Massey West, '39 – February 17, 2022
 Mary Lesley Larson, '65 – February 18, 2022
 Val Donna Montierth Hathaway, '58 – February 19, 2022
 Maura Jeanne Macaraeg Mastin, '99 – February 24, 2022
 Patricia Chesley Salcido, '76 – February 26, 2022
 Donald E. Carbiener, '63 – March 1, 2022
 Jo Ann Milam, '93 – March 2, 2022
 Ellen L. Reed, '93 – March 5, 2022
 Mona Lee Larson, '68 – March 9, 2022
 Caroline Ann Tolby, '04 – March 9, 2022
 Jerald A. Montierth, '54 – March 9, 2022
 Sharon Clawson Porter, '56 – March 10, 2022
 Betty Jo Brown Ferrin, '54 – March 11, 2022
 Sherry L. Fisher Uhl, '92 – March 13, 2022
 Fred L. Hoopes, '52 – March 13, 2022
 Robert M. Rodriguez, '57 – March 15, 2022
 Kenneth R. Saline, '50 – March 17, 2022
 Marvin K. Angle, '62 – March 17, 2022
 Angel A. Tsosie, '16 – March 18, 2022
 Elda Nichols Allred, '60 – March 19, 2022

Richard L. Reay, '65 – March 19, 2022
 Marland L. "Honk" Norton, '53 – March 21, 2022
 Andrew W. Taylor, '95 – March 21, 2022
 Grant S. Owens, '49 – March 23, 2022
 Larry L. Field, '13 – March 24, 2022
 Marian T. Farmer Miller, '61 – March 26, 2022
 Monica L. Garcia, '00 – March 29, 2022
 Marlene Longstreet Barton, '95 – April 2, 2022
 Roberta Lillian Lackner, '52 – April 5, 2022
 Gonzalo C. Ochoa, '75 – April 5, 2022
 Jim Lloyd Cherry, '53 – April 6, 2022
 David R. Howell, '60 – April 7, 2022
 Keith C. Casoose, '96 – April 10, 2022
 Clea Doyle Butler III, '75 – April 15, 2022
 Luther Begaye, '96 – April 20, 2022
 Bailey Low Stauffer, '67 – April 22, 2022
 Kwielin T. Jackson, '12 – April 22, 2022
 Clydene Faulkner Russell, '84 – April 29, 2022
 Evette R. Lupe, '14 – May 1, 2022
 Jeffrey W. Carpenter, '68 – May 5, 2022
 Joanna Morris Layton, '68 – May 6, 2022
 Mona Lee Larson, '68 – May 9, 2022
 Frank B. Girardi, '99 – May 13, 2022
 Ben F. Owens, '69 – May 13, 2022
 Trelva Carpenter Palmer, '53 – May 17, 2022
 Norma "Jeanne" Darrow Huish, '79 – May 18, 2022
 Heather Woolf Wisdom, '98 – May 18, 2022
 C. Neil DeWitt, '70 – May 20, 2022
 Robert Ernest "Ernie" Griffin, '57 – May 23, 2022
 Gerald J. Miller, Jr, '12 – May 27, 2022
 Joseph "Kai" Gurtler, '20 – June 5, 2022
 Dale Ward Merrell, '69 – June 9, 2022
 Stephanie Marie Miles, '10 – June 9, 2022
 Neal E. Haynie, '59 – June 10, 2022
 Melanie L. Dixon, '12 – June 12, 2022
 Randy L. McEuen, '12 – June 12, 2022
 Sonny Lee Jones, '08 – June 12, 2022
 Carol Jean Tanner, '94 – June 17, 2022
 Ray C. Lopez, '68 – June 17, 2022
 Colleen L. Isbell Murphy, '94 – June 23, 2022
 Harold "Hal" J. Rowley, '76 – June 26, 2022
 Bryan John Sawyer, '95 – June 29, 2022





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George Lord, '66
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Relations
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Kelsi Hunt, Issue Layout
Kris McBride, Editor

Pictured: EAC students and staff member model t-shirts featuring new College logo and Gila Hank