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Mike Rougeux

As of August 2020, **Mike Rougeux** of Bend has been named executive director of the Bend Endurance Academy (BEA) by the organization's governing board.

Lisa Capicchioni, BEA bookkeeper and parent of a nationally ranked BEA climber, said, "Mike's outstanding professionalism, honesty, kindness and ability to make true connections with the athletes he coaches will translate to leveraging positive community relationships, growth and expansion for BEA."

Rougeux's passion for outdoor recreation and captivating presence in the Bend community will provide BEA with increased opportunities for young adults and children to develop in sports that immerse their life. His goals as new executive director include increasing scholarship and tuition assistance programs so youth are not limited by financial means. Rougeux shared, "Throughout my eight years working at BEA, I can see the special role BEA plays in the community by creating more engagement through young adults and children being involved." He also emphasized that "BEA is not just a parent partner, we emphasize child development by offering kids a unique set of skills they can use throughout their life"

Lastly, Rougeux wants to improve coaches' development so they can nurture the pathways for young athletes to reach where they want to be.

Rougeux graduated from Johnson State College where he earned a bachelor of arts in adventure education and wilderness Leadership, and an associate of applied science degree in park and recreation management from SUNY Delhi. Additionally, Rougeux has worked with youth in this setting for over 25 years where he coached multiple youth climbers as members of the U.S. National Climbing Team and served as a Regional Coordinator for USA Climbing.

Deschutes Children's Foundation welcomes **Luke Ross**, senior property manager, broker at Compass Commercial, to his new role as Deschutes Children's Foundation's Board Chair. Ross joined the board in 2017 and chaired the Facilities Committee for the past two years. He takes over for outgoing chair Sarah Stevens, human resources director for Knife River Corporation.

If you're interested in joining the Deschutes Children's Foundation leadership team, contact Amy at amy@deschuteschildrensfoundation.org.



Luke Ross

Dr. Matthew Clark, fellowship-trained Mohs surgeon and dermatologist, has joined **Dermatology Health Specialists** to continue caring for patients in Central Oregon, with a focus on skin cancer prevention, detection and removal.

Clark was trained in micrographic surgery and dermatologic oncology at the prestigious Cleveland Clinic, following his dermatology residency at the University of Michigan and medical school at the University of Florida.

Clark's philosophy to patient care is forming a partnership with his patients, and working together to achieve the outcome they are looking for. He believes in empowering his patients to make the best health care decisions for themselves by fully educating them about their options. Dr. Clark treats patients of all ages, both medically and surgically,

with a specific focus in dermatologic oncology and the diagnosis, treatment and most importantly, prevention of skin cancer.

Susan Gardner, a higher education professor at the University of Maine with a strong focus on equity and inclusion in education throughout her career, has been named dean of **Oregon State University's College of Education**. She will start February 28.

Gardner has directed the University of Maine's Rising Tide Center for Faculty Equity and Inclusive Excellence, which conducts professional development programs and creates resources and policies related to faculty equity and inclusive excellence. And she directed the university's women's, gender and sexuality studies interdisciplinary program.

"I am excited to work with the phenomenal students, faculty, staff and leaders within Oregon State University's College of Education in fulfilling its three major roles of excellent teaching, groundbreaking scholarship and impactful outreach throughout the state and beyond," Gardner said. "The land grant mission of the university and its clear commitment to equity and social justice are what attracted me to OSU. The tangible sense of passion and dedication within the college, the university, and its stakeholders have been apparent all throughout my interactions with this wonderful community. Creating change agents through our important work speaks to the values that the college and I share."

Gardner began her faculty career at Louisiana State University in 2005 and moved to the University of Maine in 2007. She has served as director of a \$3.3 million National Science Foundation grant on faculty recruitment, retention and advancement; associate dean of accreditation and graduate affairs in the College of Education and Human Development; and interim dean of the college.

Gardner's research focuses on individual success within the organizational environments of higher education. She has published 60 peer-reviewed articles, book chapters and books and led or been associated with nearly \$24 million in grants from the National Science Foundation and the Sloan Foundation.

A first-generation college student, Gardner graduated with her bachelor's degree in education and Spanish from Hamline University in St. Paul, Minnesota in 1996. She then worked as a high school Spanish teacher in Wisconsin while earning her master's degree part-time in education from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. In 2001, she moved to the state of Washington to begin work as a student affairs administrator at Washington State University, while completing her doctorate in higher education in 2005. In all of these experiences, she maintained a strong focus on equity and inclusion in education.

"I am delighted that Susan Gardner will serve as our next dean of the College of Education," said Provost and Executive Vice President Edward Feser. "She brings experience in a variety of faculty and leadership roles, a deep understanding of the land grant research mission, and demonstrated leadership in advancing diversity, equity and inclusion as a priority in pre-K-20 education."



Lynn Coker

Lynn Coker, a long-time Oregonian, joins **NAI Cascade** after nearly 20 years with NAI Capital, based out of Palm Springs. "We are thrilled to add Lynn's expertise and market-connectivity to our firm. The integrity and synchronicity of all our NAI Global affiliates made this an absolute seamless transition," said Principal Broker Katy Haines.

"Oregon is our family turf for over five generations and now, following a multi-decade professional sojourn in California, Gold Beach, Oregon is our new family home," said Coker. "The professional highlight of our transition to southern Oregon is joining NAI Cascade following almost 20 years with NAI Capital, which is both NAI Global's largest affiliate and California's biggest private commercial real estate brokerage, owned and energized by over 250 professionals.

"Joining NAI Cascade, known for its marketing excellence, superior client relationship management tools plus ethical high service and production standards, allows me to leverage my years of commercial real estate training, business experience and success in advancing the reach of NAI Cascade into south central Oregon.

"My NAI Cascade target area encompasses Southern Coastal Oregon and adjoining counties. This south central region embraces the Oregon shorelines from Coos Bay south to Brookings then eastward through redwood forests, recreational preserves and agriculture centers. These communities, arguably the most pristine environments in the Pacific Northwest, are a magnet drawing the interest of families and commercial enterprises seeking to be a part of its future.

"The opportunity to be an ingredient of NAI Cascade's investment in southern and central Oregon working alongside its Executive Team and Broker Community to extend the firm's core business strengths, its cooperative corporate culture, ethical business standards and its focus on sustainable community growth is exhilarating."

Mosaic Medical welcomes **Nadine Sparago**, a Redmond resident and visual design specialist, to the board of directors governing the nonprofit community health center.

Sparago brings creative energy to the board, with a background in visual merchandising, product design and customer service, and she is also a published author under a pen name. She most recently worked for Habitat for Humanity in Redmond, prior to the pandemic shutdown. Sparago's background also includes early childhood education, with a focus on fundraising and charitable work.

"I became a Mosaic patient at a crucial time in my life, where premium healthcare and dedicated doctors and staff were vital to my mental health and physical well-being," said Sparago. "I was and continue to be treated with



Nadine Sparago

dignity by nurturing professionals at Mosaic and I am honored to represent an organization that provides the community I reside in with accessible, affordable and heartfelt healthcare."

Sparago, as someone who receives her healthcare at Mosaic and who has served as a member of the Redmond Patient Advocacy Council, brings unique insight to bring to the work of the board, which is governed by a patient majority.

"We welcome Nadine to our board of directors and are looking forward integrating her creative approach into our work," said Megan Haase, FNP and Mosaic Medical CEO. "And as a resident of Redmond she will help our efforts to represent that growing population."

In the past, Sparago has served on the board of directors for St. Vincent De Paul and volunteered on the Women's Committee with St. Matthew Catholic Church in Florida. She enjoys volunteer work and is looking forward to contributing her time and energy to the board at Mosaic, and sharing the common goal of maintaining high-quality, affordable health and dental care for Central Oregonians.



Tasha Foster

Tanner Church

In February 2021, two flight instructors at **Leading Edge Flight Academy** received the good news that they will be moving on to the next step of their aviation careers. **Tasha Foster**, a fixed wing instructor, was welcomed to a first officer training class for Skywest Airlines, this March.

"Flying with Leading Edge was a wonderful experience," Foster said as she announced the good news to her fellow Leading Edge team members. "My career at Skywest is the next big step towards my ultimate goal of flying

for an international airline."

Tanner Church, a helicopter instructor, has also accepted a position with Pollux Aviation in Alaska. Church recently achieved Gold Seal status as a Certified Flight Instructor with Leading Edge Flight Academy as well. A Gold Seal is the highest honor for a flight instructor. It is without question that Church's hard work helped pave the way into his next career.

"Flight Schools are probably one of very few organizations that want to see their employees move on to their next career," said Courtney Massey, director of business development at Leading Edge Flight Academy. "Seeing our instructors land the jobs they have been hoping for brings us much excitement. We are so happy that Tasha and Tanner are moving forward in careers they are passionate about. Not only are their positions well earned, but their career move opens up instructor positions at our academy, allowing additional pilots to take their next step in the industry."

Leading Edge Flight Academy anticipates more instructors moving on in the next few months. With a rise in cargo needs and an increase in passenger travel, the industry has announced job application windows re-opening in the coming months. Airlineapps.com recently announced the news of four airlines actively accepting applications. In January, Amazon announced the purchase of 11 Boeing 767 aircraft, to keep up with cargo demand. These positive headlines, along with the tangible career progression of their staff, gives Leading Edge a hopeful outlook on the year to come.

For over a decade, Leading Edge Flight Academy has specialized in training helicopter pilots, airplane pilots and launching aviation careers. Leading Edge's start-to-finish support and above-industry standard training prepares students to meet their aviation goals. With a management team of pilots having over 37,000 cumulative hours and 100+ years in the industry, Leading Edge knows what it takes to prepare students for a career in aviation. Their fully integrated operation is entirely focused on Student success. Located in Bend, with 300+ days of annual sunshine, yields a productive and simultaneously challenging training environment to fully prepare students to achieve their aviation goals.



Jessica Johnson

Jessica Johnson, PT, DPT, OCS, CSCS, CF-L1, has joined the staff of **Rebound Physical Therapy's** North Bend Clinic.

Johnson earned a bachelor's degree in exercise science from Northern Arizona University (Flagstaff, Arizona) and a doctorate of physical therapy degree from Pacific University (Forest Grove, Oregon). Johnson worked in orthopedic PT settings in San Francisco for ten years, and spent several years working as a traveling PT across the country. Johnson's passion for fitness greatly influences her treatment philosophy: she is a Certified Strength and Conditioning Coach (CSCS) and a certified Level 1 CrossFit trainer (CF-L1), and applies strength-training concepts into her practice. Johnson is also board certified in orthopedic physical therapy (OCS). She has also served as a volunteer PT in Central and

South America through Operation Rainbow — a nonprofit that provides orthopedic surgeries and care for children in need. Outside of work, Johnson stays active with competitive CrossFit, running, cycling and exploring new trails and national parks with her partner and their dog, Lakota.

Twice yearly, **St. Charles** caregivers — one from each hospital campus — are recognized for the extraordinary, compassionate nursing care they provide patients and families every day. The four nurses that were recognized were **Candy Peplin**, RN/neonatal transport, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, Bend; **Karen Sagner**, RN, float, Madras; **Ryan La**, RN, Emergency Department, Prineville; and **Elena Myers**, RN, Medical Services, Redmond.

Nominated by patients, families and colleagues, the award recipients were chosen by a committee at St. Charles.

The nurses — which represent all four St. Charles hospitals in Bend, Redmond, Madras and Prineville — were recognized with a ceremony on their respective units and presented with a certificate, a pin and a "healer's touch" sculpture by their hospital's chief nursing officer. The DAISY honorees will also receive ongoing benefits, such as special rates for tuition and ANCC certification.

"Our nurses are exceptional and deserve to be formally recognized for their dedication, spirit and the quality of care they provide in the community," said Iman Simmons, St. Charles Health System's chief operating officer. "We are excited to celebrate all the stories of compassionate care we hear every day."

The DAISY Foundation is a not-for-profit organization that was established in memory of J. Patrick Barnes by members of his family. Patrick died at the age of 33 in late 1999 from complications of Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP), a little known but not uncommon auto-immune disease. (DAISY is an acronym for Diseases Attacking the Immune System.) The care Patrick and his family received from nurses while he was ill inspired this unique means of thanking nurses for making a profound difference in the lives of their patients and patient families.

"When Patrick was critically ill, our family experienced first-hand the remarkable skill and care nurses provide patients every day and night," said Bonnie Barnes, FAAN, president and co-founder of The DAISY Foundation. "Yet these unsung heroes are seldom recognized for the super-human, extraordinary, compassionate work they do. The kind of work the nurses at St. Charles are called on to do every day epitomizes the purpose of The DAISY Award."

This is one initiative of The DAISY Foundation to express gratitude to the nursing profession. Additionally, DAISY offers J. Patrick Barnes Grants for Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice Projects, The DAISY Faculty Award to honor inspiring faculty members in schools and colleges of nursing and The DAISY in Training Award for nursing students.



(TOP TO BOTTOM, L-R) CANDY PEPLIN, KAREN SAGNER, ELENA MYERS AND RYAN LA | PHOTO COURTESY OF ST. CHARLES HEALTH CARE