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Ian Cullen

Kôr Community Land Trust welcomes new Project Coordinator **Ian Cullen**. Cullen graduated from Oregon State University with a degree focused in community development. He immediately put his education to work in the community development department at Deschutes County. Here, he spent two years learning the ins and outs of the building process as a permit technician. **Cullen** is currently working to obtain his real estate license and holds a deep passion for sustainable housing and helping the community become homeowners. As a father to an eight-year-old, you will find them spending time outdoors in Central Oregon riding bikes and snowshoeing, as well as swimming paddle boarding or kayaking on the river during the summer.

Kôr Community Land Trust also expanded its Real Estate department to support its growing affordable housing pipeline. Congratulations to **Gina Franzosa** for being promoted from project manager to real estate director.

Central Oregon Community College (COCC) announced that students **Adriana Altamirano** of Bend, **Claire Landon** of Sisters, **Nacho Ruiz** of Madras and **Oscar Tovar** of Bend were selected to represent the college on the Oregon Community College Association's (OCCA) 2023 All-Oregon Academic Team. Additionally, Tovar was chosen as a national Coca-Cola Academic Team Silver Scholar recipient by the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.

The students will be honored at the OCCA's All-Oregon Academic Team luncheon event on Friday, April 21, at Chemeketa Community College in Salem, with Secretary of State Shemia Fagan providing the keynote address. To earn the team distinction, students must demonstrate academic excellence and intellectual rigor combined with leadership and service. A minimum 3.5 cumulative GPA and completion of at least 54 credits is required. Nominated by a faculty member, finalists undergo a review process by the college's committee for academic excellence.



Adriana Altamirano

Claire Landon

Nacho Ruiz

Oscar Tovar

Tovar, 19, is studying psychology and plans to become a clinical psychologist. The dean's list student, with a 4.0 GPA, is a member of the Psi Beta Honors Society and president of the Psi Beta chapter at COCC. Tovar was recently named a 2023 Coca-Cola Academic Team Silver Scholar — one of just 50 in the country — by the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation, a scholarship administered by the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. He is chair of the college's diversity committee, serves on the LGBTQ+ Club, is director of finance for the Associated Students of COCC and serves as a student representative on the COCC student affairs committee. The avid reader also enjoys playing the piano.

Altamirano, 23, is a student in the massage therapy program and plans to make a career in restorative treatment alongside physical therapists and chiropractors, and potentially pursue a bachelor's degree in exercise science or kinesiology. The full-time student is also working full time in the restaurant industry while maintaining a 4.0 GPA. The first in her family to attend college, Altamirano is an artist whose work has exhibited at local events and businesses. She also enjoys rock climbing and snowboarding.

Ruiz, 21, is an art student whose career goals are to work in New York City on Broadway as a prop master, technician or as a graphic designer. Ruiz works as an educational assistant at Madras High School and also assists with the high school's theater department. The dean's list student is a member of the Latinx Club and the student lead for the college's Art & Design Club, who enjoys painting and traveling.

Landon, 20, is earning her aviation professional pilot degree and plans to ultimately attain a bachelor's degree in aviation with a goal of being an airline pilot. She hopes to eventually also earn helicopter, tailwheel and seaplane ratings. The dean's list student enjoys hiking, reading, writing and volunteering to work with children at her church.

The All-Oregon Academic Team is part of the All-State Community College Academic Team program that launched in 1994 in the states of Mississippi and Missouri. Today, 38 states host All-State Academic Team programs each year, focusing on two-year colleges and recognizing exceptional students. The OCCA sponsors the annual event, in partnership with the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, which awards some \$37 million in scholarships nationally to community college students.

KPOV 88.9 FM, High Desert Community Radio, announces **Chris Gossard** as the executive director, and **Kate Tiernan** as the development director. Both Gossard and Tiernan are excited to bring together their career experience to the KPOV team.

Gossard and his wife moved to Bend in the summer of 2019 from Seattle. He has been volunteering at KPOV since last year and has his own show, *Mixed Up!*, on Friday nights at 6pm. Gossard came out of retirement to assume the executive director position. For most of his career, he worked for Aramark Corporation. After leaving Aramark, he became an accredited executive coach through the International Coaching Federation, with additional training from Gallup, and ran his own coaching practice for several years.

Throughout his career, Gossard has been successful in building strong teams and developing managers who coach. He has always been focused on delivering what the customer wants and he intends to use his background to help build KPOV's listener base and increase the station's impact in Central Oregon.

Gossard has a background in non-profit radio, having volunteered at KEXP in Seattle for over 20 years. His nonprofit board experience includes serving on the board for Bike Works in Seattle and he is currently the Board President for Companion Animal Medical Project (CAMP) here in Bend.

Tiernan has an extensive background in development and executive management. As executive director for the Wyoming Symphony Orchestra and development director for the Nicolaysen Art Museum, she led the way to financially turn around both organizations and brought together teams to rebuild connections to the community.

She has established development departments and strategies to promote corporate, foundation, endowment and planned giving programs including the cultivation of new donors. Tiernan brings a strong and successful background as a grant writer in several fields, including the arts (both performing and visual) and the health care field. Another strength she brings is creativity in producing unique and successful fund-raising events.

Tiernan moved to Bend six years ago and says she fell in love. She is an avid hiker and yoga enthusiast, loves animals and nature and continues to find ways to give back to the Bend Community.



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VF Law announces that **Andrew H. Stamp** has joined the firm's Land Use Practice in the firm's Oregon office. Stamp brings more than 25 years of dedicated experience navigating Oregon's complex land use planning program. He focuses on zoning and development law, exactions, transportation and access management, drainage and flood damage law and associated environmental and administrative law issues. He represents developers and landowners seeking a wide range of land use entitlements from local governments.

Stamp prioritizes developing meaningful relationships with clients and navigates each legal matter with strategic planning and innovative, detail-oriented thinking. His extensive experience provides sound strategies for clients seeking to develop their land. Additionally, Stamp values collaboration and communication with his team and positions himself as a mentor for young attorneys, providing advice and guidance throughout their training process to ensure they are confident in their practice.

Before his legal career, Stamp served six years as an officer in the United States Army. He earned his J.D., cum Laude, from Lewis and Clark University, with a Certificate in Environmental Law. He earned his bachelor of science degree in geology with departmental honors, from Tulane University.

During the weekend of March 31-April 2, professional brewers and judges from as far away as El Salvador descended upon Central Oregon to judge over 2,500 entries in the **2023 Best of Craft Beer Awards** competition.

Breweries of all sizes sent over 16,000 containers of their finest product for evaluation entered in 59 categories and subcategories.

Judging took place during a three-day, five-session period by over 100 of the most qualified international judges. They awarded 165 gold, silver and bronze medals to 128 brewery locations around the world.

- 2023 Large-size Brewery of the Year was Widmer Brothers Brewing in Portland, Oregon
 - 2023 Medium-size Brewery of the Year was **Sunriver Brewing Co.** in Sunriver
 - 2023 Small-size Brewery of the Year was Humble Parlor in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- Most-Entered Style Categories:
- American-Style India Pale Ale (159 entries)
 - American-Style Pale Ale (91 entries)
 - Porters & Brown Ales (81 entries)
 - Hazy or Juicy India Pale Ale (136 entries)
 - Red or Strong Beers (91 entries)
 - North American Lagers (79 entries)

Nineteen new **Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)** volunteers were sworn in by Judge Bethany Flint in March and will now become the voice in the courtroom for local children in foster care.

CASA of Central Oregon recently launched an outreach and engagement campaign in the tri-county area to address **the great and growing need for new CASA advocates.**

At this time, 284 children are in foster care in Central Oregon. CASA aims to provide an advocate for every child in foster care throughout the region, but about 40 children have been on a waiting list and attempting to navigate the foster care system without an advocate.

The newly sworn in CASAs will help to ensure that every child will have a trusted adult on their side to listen to the child, get to know everyone in the child's life and then advocate for the best interest of that child in court. For many abused children, their CASA volunteer will be the one constant adult presence in their lives.

Each newly sworn in volunteer participated in a 40-hour training to prepare for the role. Volunteers will now spend about 10 to 15 hours a month advocating for children until their case closes, with constant support from the team at CASA of Central Oregon.

Research shows that children with a CASA fare better during their time in foster care. Youth are also more likely to succeed in school, and have access to mental and physical health services when they have a CASA volunteer.

Additional volunteers are still needed to support youth within the overburdened foster care system. The next training for CASA volunteers begins May 1 in Redmond. Those interested in becoming a CASA are encouraged to fill out a volunteer application and register for the upcoming training by Monday, April 24.



PHOTO | COURTESY OF CASA

Businesses Serving Community

HEART OF OREGON CORPS

Hayden Homes presented a \$100,000 check to Heart of Oregon Corps (HOC) in support of its Centralized Campus Campaign at a recent Redmond Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours event. The free event was open to the public and held at the existing HOC training center in Redmond. With the donation from Hayden Homes, HOC's \$8 million Campus Campaign is now 45 percent funded.

In addition to the donation presentation, the event included a tour of HOC's existing facility, an update on the Campus Campaign and remarks from alumni on the value of HOC's innovative youth-focused workforce development programs, including YouthBuild, a construction apprenticeship program aimed at meeting the construction workforce development and housing needs of Central Oregon.

Hayden Homes recognizes the intrinsic links between workforce development

and affordable housing. Last night's donation to HOC is one of many actions the company is taking to address housing issues in Central Oregon.

Deborah Flagan, vice president of community engagement at Hayden Homes and a member of Governor Tina Kotek's Housing Production Advisory Council, helped to present the \$100,000 check to HOC staff.

The event also celebrated a collaboration between HOC's YouthBuild program and First Story, a nonprofit founded by Hayden Homes that is dedicated to affordable homeownership. First Story works with Hayden Homes to build houses for families who then purchase the home through a 30-year, zero-down, zero-interest loan. These affordable homeownership opportunities break the cycle of generational poverty for families across the Northwest.

This fall, First Story will partner with YouthBuild to help build a sixth home together.

New hires, promotions, accolades, awards, retiring? Send us your

Who's Who!

Send a high resolution head shot and a short, 100- to 150-word writeup to CBN@CascadeBusNews.com to be seen in the next edition of *Cascade Business News*.