

**who's who who's who who's who who's who who's who who's who**



**Kent Vander Kamp**

**Sergeant Kent Vander Kamp** of the **Central Oregon Drug Enforcement Team** and the **Deschutes County Sheriff's Office** was recently recognized for his exceptional dedication to law enforcement leadership by earning the esteemed FBI-LEEDA Trilogy Award in a ceremony hosted by the Rocky Mount (North Carolina) Police Department.

The FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Association (FBI-LEEDA) is a nonprofit organization that provides law enforcement agencies with advanced leadership training and professional development. The Trilogy Award is a distinction awarded to law enforcement leaders who complete three specialized courses on enhancing leadership skills, ethics, and community engagement.

FBI-LEEDA Trilogy Award requires students to maintain an unwavering dedication to enhancing executive leadership skills and professional growth. This prestigious recognition is achieved through completing three advanced law enforcement leadership training courses that equip participants with the knowledge, tools, and strategies necessary to excel as law enforcement leaders.

Sgt. Vander Kamp started his career 19 years ago as a Search and Rescue volunteer medic and pilot at the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office. He was hired as a Seasonal Special Services Reserve Deputy in 2006 and then as a Patrol Deputy in 2008. After serving in various special assignments, he was promoted to Sergeant in 2017 and Detective Sergeant in 2019.

Sgt. Vander Kamp currently leads the Central Oregon Drug Enforcement Team (CODE) as a Detective Sergeant, a multi-agency and multi-jurisdictional HIDTA drug enforcement task force. In addition to CODE, Sgt. Vander Kamp also leads a statewide non-profit drug diversion and education program raising awareness and educating youth and adults to prevent substance misuse and impaired driving and promote mental health and wellness.

**STEELE Associates Architects** announced that **Virginia Bailey** has earned her Oregon Architect's License and has been promoted from designer to architect at the firm.

Bailey graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Oregon in 2019 with a bachelor's degree in architecture and a minor in both Interiors and French. In addition to her architecture licensure she is also a Certified Passive House Consultant.

Bailey is currently working with STEELE Team Members on a public agency campus, Montessori schools, a daycare and a sustainable CLT financial building.



**Virginia Bailey**

**J Bar J Youth Services** announces the appointment of **Jonathan Baker** as their new development director.

Baker has dedicated his professional life to helping those in need of extra support. Growing up in the Midwest and earning his bachelor of science degree from The Ohio State University, the value of connecting with others was instilled from a very early age. In his professional life, Baker's work has spanned from taking individuals with physical disabilities on outdoor adventures to supporting students with learning differences in completing a college education. Baker's experience working with students and directing therapeutic programs gave him a wealth of tools in approaching challenge and possibility with a creative mindset. Baker has served on governmental boards, behavioral healthcare committees, and was instrumental in helping to create an accreditation system for Outdoor Behavioral Healthcare Programs.

Baker has spent the past six years doing marketing and business development for a company who serves students with intellectual challenges. Through this experience, he further developed his ability to form relationships based on honesty and trust.

Baker calls Central Oregon home after being here for 17 years. His free time is devoted to his wife and children and what's left is spent mountain biking.

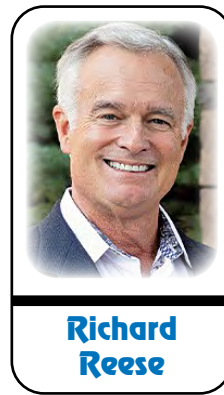
The Learning Center at J Bar J also announces the appointment of **Keith Riggs** as its new academic director. In this role, Riggs will lead the center's efforts to provide quality education and support to youth enrolled in the private alternative school program. The Learning Center offers a comprehensive curriculum, including a diploma track and GED preparation and testing, with a focus on increasing grade levels and re-engaging students in the learning process.

Riggs brings a wealth of experience and a profound passion for education to his

new role. Inspired by his parents' commitment to public service, Keith has dedicated his career to shaping the minds of young learners. He holds a bachelor of science in education from the University of West Georgia, with a concentration in mathematics and science. His educational journey began in 2013 at Arnall Middle School in Newnan, Georgia, where he embarked on his mission to make a positive impact on students' lives.

At The Learning Center, Riggs aims to foster a supportive learning environment that empowers students to achieve their full potential. He firmly believes in the transformative power of education and is committed to guiding the center's students towards becoming future leaders. His dedication to academic excellence and his genuine enthusiasm for helping others make him a valuable addition to The Learning Center's leadership team.

As academic director, Riggs will play a pivotal role in shaping the future of The Learning Center and contributing to the success of its students. His expertise and dedication align perfectly with the center's mission to empower youth through education, ensuring they have the tools they need to succeed in their academic and personal endeavors.



**Richard Reese**

**Compass Commercial Construction Services** welcomes **Richard Reese** to the Construction Services team as the vice president of Construction Services. Reese officially assumed his role on August 1 to oversee the office management and field construction teams. The substantial growth of Compass Commercial Construction Services has amplified the company's administrative responsibilities.

Reese boasts an impressive career spanning over 35 years in commercial construction development and management. He most recently served as the vice president of construction for a company in the Portland market, where he was instrumental in growing the annual gross sales from \$60 million to \$250 million. Before this, Reese was a vice president of development for the International Wyndham Vacation Ownership group. Reese

has an impressive track record of successfully leading various development projects, including building mixed-use multifamily projects totaling 3,671 units valued at \$2.1 billion, constructing over 1,500 single-family homes, and converting hotels into mixed-use multifamily projects.

Reese's leadership and expertise positions Compass Commercial Construction Services to adeptly navigate the evolving demands of Central Oregon's construction industry. We look forward to the transformative impact he will have on the company.

The **SriPonya Collective** welcomes **John Charles** (JC) to the team as CEO. JC will take the reins of the organization next month. He will draw on his direct experiences on the frontlines of many of the issues facing this country and use this firsthand knowledge to build out youth programs aimed at substance use prevention and motivating young people and adults.

JC has firsthand experience with the professional sports industry, poverty, gun and gang violence, homelessness, and losing his father in the AIDS/heroin epidemic. He grew up in a lower class neighborhood in East Palo Alto, back when it was considered the most dangerous city in the United States. JC was 18 when his father died from AIDS contracted from heroin use.

JC knew that excelling at football was a vehicle to a better life so he dedicated himself to this craft. He was an All American Quarterback and a Portland State Football Hall of Fame Inductee as quarterback (2018). He went on to play professional football with the Atlanta Falcons and lead highly regarded national football camps in Portland and Vancouver.

In the early 1990s, JC experienced homelessness in and around Portland for eight months after getting taken by a scam that targeted him as a former NFL player. He maintained his level of fitness and got off the streets by signing with the San Jose SaberCats, a professional arena football team.

Inspired by his father, JC later went on to serve troubled youth. Despite never being incarcerated himself, JC worked with incarcerated youth for over ten years. In 2010, JC stepped away from the prison system to focus on using athletics as a positive influence in the lives of youth. He founded his own football academy, called The Air One Football Academy.

After living in the Portland/Vancouver area for over 20 years, JC first went to Prineville to visit one of his academy's athletes in 2019. He immediately felt at home in the rural town.

After relocating, JC took on the Internship Coordinator position with the Economic Development for Central Oregon (EDCO). Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, he was led to work as a treatment aid specialist at RimRock Trails. There, he worked with youth struggling from substance use disorder and other mental illnesses.

Living in Central Oregon hasn't been without its challenges, and JC hopes to help the youth of rural Oregon navigate the same situations with grace.

JC joined SriPonya Collective as a Board member and launched SriPonya's Youth Program in Warm Springs, which was tremendously successful. By taking on his new role as CEO of SriPonya, JC is confident that his work will continue to positively influence people's lives.

JC plans to expand the programming he launched last winter in Warm Springs to offer sports camps and other group events to more BIPOC youth and teens. He also plans to launch a youth sports agility program and internship program for historically marginalized youth and teens in Crook County. Finally, JC plans to share his motivational speaking with youth to promote overcoming adversity, cultivating positive habits, and practicing gratitude as a way of living.

In addition to his role as CEO, JC serves on several public service committees throughout the Northwest. These include the Prineville Budget Committee and serving as an associate board member with the CLEAR Alliance team, which is an organization focused on preventing substance misuse by youth and adults. He served as a board member with The Fathers Group in Bend and Kiwanis International in Prineville, but stepped down to focus on SriPonya. A lifelong entrepreneur, JC also started John-John's Barbecue Sauce during the slowdown in 2020. It is now sold in 20 stores in the Pacific Northwest and shipped nationwide.

Other notable accolades include a bachelor's of science degree in psychology from Portland State University and an associates of art degree in psychology from Foothill



**John Charles**

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**New hires, promotions,  
accolades, awards, retiring?  
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Send a high resolution head shot and a short,  
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Junior College. He was inducted into the Portland State Football Hall of Fame as Quarterback in 2018; played for Atlanta Falcons as a Free Agent Quarterback in 1993, played for San Jose Sabercats as Quarterback in 1996 and won the regional Jefferson Award Recipient for Public Service in 1993.

**The Humane Society of Central Oregon (HSCO)** announces the appointment of **Donna Mills** as its interim executive director. With her background spanning more than two decades in nonprofit leadership, including her recent tenure as the executive director for the Central Oregon Health Council, Mills is poised to lead HSCO with continued growth and community impact.

Mills' extensive experience as a nonprofit executive director and chief financial officer brings a blend of strategic insight and operational expertise to the role. Her proven track record in organizational management and community engagement makes her a valuable addition to the HSCO team.

In her previous position, Mills served as the executive director for the Central Oregon Health Council, where she advanced healthcare initiatives and developed partnerships within the community. Now, she is eager to bring her passion for making a difference in animal welfare.

During her tenure as interim executive director, Mills will collaborate closely with the board of directors to assess organizational needs and lay the groundwork for the selection of a permanent executive director. Her strategic insights and dedication to the HSCO mission are expected to contribute significantly to the organization's ongoing success.



**Donna Mills**

Congratulations to **Kathryn Brown, COCC** program manager for Early Child Care. She's been chosen as one of two Oregon award recipients for the prestigious "40 under 40 Trailblazers" recognition by America's SBDC. America's SBDC 40 Under 40 awards spotlight the extraordinary contributions of individuals under 40 in the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Network who have significantly impacted their local networks and the broader business landscape.

Brown leads the Early Child Care Business Accelerator programs in partnership with NeighborImpact Child Care Resources. The programs provide grant funding and business support to cultivate thriving and financially stable child care businesses, encompassing both home-based and commercial centers.



**Kathryn Brown**

**VF Law** announces that **Gregory V. Goebel** has joined the firm's Estate Planning Practice in its Oregon office. VF Law is committed to expanding its team and services to ensure high-quality results backed by a talented and dedicated group of legal professionals. Goebel will assist clients in end-of-life planning, estate administration, protective proceedings, and business transactions.

Goebel is dedicated to connecting with his clients and implementing strategic plans to meet their goals. Before joining VF Law, he worked as an estate planning attorney at an Oregon-based boutique law firm. He has extensive experience creating estate planning documents on estates subject to the Oregon estate tax, producing pleadings, accountings, and reports for probate and guardianship/conservatorship cases. He also advises clients on business-related matters when engaging in end-of-life planning. Goebel also serves as an Army Captain and Judge Advocate for the Oregon National Guard Joint Domestic Operations Center.

Community-focused, Goebel serves on the Albany Boys & Girls Club Board of Directors. He earned his J.D. from the University of Oregon School of Law and his B.A. from Washington State University.



**Gregory V. Goebel**

The **Bend Park and Recreation Foundation (BPRD)** announces three new members to its board of directors: **Molly Cogswell-Kelley, Aleta Nissen and Hollina Wadsworth.**

Cogswell-Kelley moved to Bend in 1997 with her husband, Shawn and dog Louie and worked as the domestic violence woman's advocate at the Central Oregon Battering and Rape Alliance. Next, she worked as an event director and membership coordinator with the Redmond Chamber of Commerce and then at Mt. Bachelor Sports Education Foundation (MBSEF) from 2005-2022. She was the race director for the Pole Pedal Paddle, Cascade Cycling Classic, Thrilla Cyclocross Series as well as the director for the Ski Swap and the Snowball.

Currently, Cogswell-Kelley is involved with a new nonprofit road cycling program with retired professional cyclist, Chris Horner, which they introduced to the community via the Bend Summer Weekly Criterium Series to connect potential members to the program. She spends her spare time in her garden, watching women's soccer matches on TV with her 15-year-old daughter and husband, exercising, volunteering, baking and making playlists.

Nissen has lived in Bend since 1993 when she and her husband founded Wanderlust Tours. They operated Wanderlust for 30 years until recently retiring and handing it off to long-time and beloved employees. Nissen began volunteering at Juniper Swim and Fitness in 2009 and participated on the visioning committee for a new recreation center that would eventually become the Larkspur Community Center where she volunteers in retirement. She is a part-time fitness instructor with BPRD.

Nissen has always enjoyed sports and fitness and has pursued her interests in running, volleyball, softball, weight lifting and outdoor recreation. She has a degree in communications from the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse. Nissen is also a voiceover artist, and she serves on the Tower Theatre Board of Directors. She lives in Bend with her husband Dave, daughter Annika and Zeus, their tiny-but-mighty bearded terrier.

Raised in Joseph, Oregon, Wadsworth enjoys exploring the mountains, kayaking, traveling and leading with kindness. She volunteers as a council member on the Central Oregon Estate Planning Council and has a special place in her heart for Big Brother Big Sister of Central Oregon where she has had a ten-year relationship with her little sister from the program. In the summertime you will often find her at a lake with her husband and two dogs, Dora and Lola.

Wadsworth is a certified financial planner for Morgan Stanley Wealth Management, which means she has extensive education and knowledge in the key areas of financial planning, from retirement and efficient investment planning to insurance, estate planning strategies, education funding and more. She has a master's degree in personal financial planning as well as a bachelor's degree in business administration from Oregon State University.

**Tango** has announced that respected and accomplished fintech executive **Denise Leonhard** has joined the company's board of directors.

Leonhard brings a wealth of experience to Tango's board, having served as former chief commercial officer and GM at Venmo, head of global credit expansion and strategy at PayPal and vice president at American Express. She joins Tango as the company strengthens its global leadership in its space and continues its technology first innovation.

Tango has long been a pioneer in integrated and digital rewards and incentives and is seeing increased interest in its products and platforms globally across a variety of reward, incentive, and payout use cases. With digital and mobile payment adoption accelerating across nearly every industry, Leonhard's background at American Express, PayPal and Venmo make her an ideal fit for Tango at this important stage of its growth.



**Molly Cogswell-Kelley**



**Aleta Nissen**



**Hollina Wadsworth**

# Businesses Serving Community



(L-R) CRAIG CHENOWETH, WENDY CASTILLO, ASHLEY MEARS, ASHLEY SMITH — M PERFECTLY, CORY ALLEN, KARI GREGOR | PHOTO COURTESY OF WASHINGTON TRUST BANK

**M PERFECTLY**

Washington Trust was thrilled to present M Perfectly with a financial donation of \$2,500 to support their efforts in implementing their SMART goal tracking software through Leapsome. M Perfectly is a local Central Oregon nonprofit committed to ensuring the long-term success of women in recovery from homelessness, addiction, domestic violence and or human trafficking. Through year-long partnerships with local organizations housing this demographic, M Perfectly helps women in need to build skills in financial literacy, communication, career development, health and SMART goals. We know how important metrics are to show progress and we believe this data will be imperative in securing future educational funding for our local organizations. We are excited to see the ROI from our recent donation as we believe M Perfectly has what it takes to truly make a meaningful difference in our community. Additionally, we'd love to invite you to support their cause by joining them for their Footloose Fundraiser Saturday, September 16 at Faith Hope & Charity Vineyards featuring Oregon's High Street Party Band. Dress up in the decade of which you were born and be ready to dance, party and enjoy the Event of the Year!