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Brenda Hawkins

Chris Beatty

RE/MAX Key Properties welcomes **Brenda Hawkins** and **Chris Beatty** to its esteemed group of real estate professionals.

Hawkins has been in the real estate business since 2017. Prior to real estate, she was a buyer and merchandiser for Nordstrom corporate for more than 20 years. With her strong communication skills and excellent work ethic, Hawkins is a skillful strategist, diligent researcher, and savvy marketer. From taking the extra time to fully understand her clients' needs and desires to negotiating

the best possible deal for them, Hawkins dedicates herself to providing client care that is second to none. Hawkins is also the vice president on the board for the Riverview Center For Growth (formally The Child Center). She enjoys golf, dogs, rafting and cooking.

Originally from the small Pacific Northwest town of St. Helens, Oregon, Beatty has a contagious passion for growth, as he dives headfirst into the world of property, turning each relationship into an opportunity for excellence.

Beatty brings a hands-on approach inspired by his experience as a welder. Unafraid of challenges and not shy of getting his hands dirty, Beatty applies the same grit to real estate that he once did to welding projects. It's this down-to-earth, hardworking spirit that sets him apart. This, and his coaching experience and skill. Beatty isn't just closing deals; he strives to be your dynamic guide, making sure your

decisions align perfectly with your goals.

Away from real estate, Beatty thrives on Central Oregon's adventures. Whether he's carving up slopes or diving into cliff jumps, Beatty infuses every aspect of life with an energetic spirit.

Family Access Network (FAN) announces that two new team members have joined the FAN Foundation: **Sydney MacDonald** as development specialist, and **Kelsey Seymour** in the newly-created position of community outreach coordinator. The outreach position was a natural progression for FAN as their service area has expanded to Prineville, Madras and Warm Springs with advocates placed throughout the entire Central Oregon region except Culver.

MacDonald grew up in Vermont before moving to North Carolina to receive her BA in Professional Writing and Women and Gender Studies. From there continued her education in the UK, graduating with a master's in media and public relations from Newcastle University. She moved to Bend at the end of 2021 with her partner, Calvin, and their dog, Marlowe. She has worked for several non-profits focusing on animal conservation and human services including NeighborImpact. Sydney enjoys spending her free time reading fantasy novels and eating at every food truck Bend has to offer.

Seymour has over six years of experience in Central Oregon's healthcare ecosystem, with an emphasis on community collaboration and grantmaking. After



Kelsey Seymour

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Businesses Serving Community



MEALS ON WHEELS | PHOTO COURTESY OF ONPOINT COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION

ONPOINT COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION

OnPoint Community Credit Union recently announced it set a new record in annual giving for the credit union, with more than \$2.5 million donated to nonprofits in Oregon and Southwest Washington in 2023. OnPoint made the announcement on Giving Tuesday, with this year's donations focused on diversity, equity and inclusion, financial education, food and shelter, climate change and youth services.

OnPoint's record-breaking year of giving includes November 28's \$100,000 donation to be divided between eight nonprofits that provide food and shelter relief to Oregonians and Southwest Washingtonians. Meals on Wheels People, Rose Haven and Portland Housing Center will each use the \$25,000 gift from OnPoint to advance their missions of providing food security, day shelter and valuable resources to underserved communities in the Portland metro area.

OnPoint will also donate \$5,000 to each of the following regional nonprofits: Family Kitchen in Central Oregon, Eugene Mission, Marion Polk Food Share in Salem, Council for the Homeless in Southwest Washington and McMinnville Area Habitat for Humanity.

ASSISTANCE LEAGUE OF BEND

With the temperatures dropping, it's obvious that winter is just around the corner. Thankfully, Assistance League of Bend was able to provide warm clothing to over 1,700 vulnerable children this fall. We also promoted literacy by distributing new books to underprivileged children. To support adults in need, we provided hygiene products to seniors in 17 local long-term care facilities and comforted brave patients battling cancer by providing handcrafted hats, shawls, therapeutic lavender pillows and "knitted knockers" during Breast Cancer Awareness month.

We depend on community support to successfully run these programs, and we are excited that three local businesses eagerly contributed to our fundraising efforts this fall by inviting us to participate in special community giving events. In addition, we were awarded numerous grants to support Operation School Bell.

SPARK! CREATIVE LEARNING

A total of 61 educators representing 56 schools across Oregon, including 11 from Central Oregon, have been awarded more than \$53,000 as part of SELCO Community Credit Union's annual SPARK! Creative Learning Grants program.

This year's recipients include 11 programs from nine Central Oregon schools: Sticker & Decal Printer Computer — Linzie Harris, Bend Tech Academy at

Marshall High School, Bend; Introduction to Medical Careers: The Apprentice Doctor — Becky Horst, Caldera High School, Bend; Sustainable Hydroponic Window Gardens — Colin McCusker, Cascades Academy of Central Oregon, Bend; Graphing Calculators — Heather Bussmann, Summit High School, Bend; Building Capacity: Teaching students the art of welding for a practical purpose — Heather Stueve, Trinity Lutheran School, Bend; Finger Skateboard Maker — Josh Pikop, Caldera High School, Bend; Empowering Tomorrow's Biotechnologists: Lab Coats for High School Students — Laura Gemignani, Caldera High School, Bend; Mobile Makerspace — Simone Morris-Martin, Desert Sky Montessori, Bend; Overcoming Obstacles in PE — Keri Rahi, Culver Elementary School, Culver; Hawks Gear — Brooke Berry, La Pine High School, La Pine; and Exploration Stations — Ashley Hawkins, Barnes Butte Elementary, Prineville.

The committee's goal is to fund innovative projects that will make the most significant impact on students and the greatest opportunity to leave a lasting impression.

This year's recipients include Colin McCusker, a teacher at Cascades Academy in Bend, who is using a SPARK! Grant to help fund the "Sustainable Hydroponic Window Gardens" project — which asks students to design and fabricate sustainable hydroponic window gardens that will provide organic herbs and greens to the school's lunch program. Other recipients include Nicholas Krissie of Lincoln Middle School in Oakland, who will use the funds for "STEM Rocks!" which teaches students STEM principles through building guitars that students can use to learn to play the blues.



AMANDA DAVIS | PHOTO COURTESY OF ST. CHARLES FOUNDATION

ST. CHARLES FOUNDATION

This year, the St. Charles Foundation is celebrating one of its largest-ever group of scholarship recipients with 22 individuals receiving more than \$55,000 in scholarships in 2023. The scholarships fund secondary education and training for current St. Charles staff members pursuing careers in health care, such as nursing, pharmacy, phlebotomy, etc.

Amanda Davis, who currently serves as a certified nursing assistant at St. Charles Madras, is one of this year's recipients and is using the funding to become a nurse. She says receiving the scholarship from St. Charles Foundation allowed her to continue to pursue her goals, after a rough patch forced her to leave school and struggle with housing. Davis keeps the letter announcing her scholarship pinned above her desk at home where she does her schoolwork.

The scholarship fund is one of many ways the Foundation helps support the health of Central Oregonians.

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attending the Art Institute of Portland, she began a career in marketing only to discover her true passion was for nonprofit work. Sydney worked at the Central Oregon Health Council for five years and recently was the business and media manager with a local consulting agency for primary care. In line with her passion for nonprofit work, she spent four years volunteering with Friends of the Children Central Oregon as a board member, graphic designer, and contributed her skills to numerous projects to support their mission.



William Clements and **Ryan Lewis**, students at Heart of Oregon Corps YouthBuild, were selected to join more than 50 other young leaders in Washington, D.C. at the 35th Annual YouthBuild USA AmeriCorps Conference of Young Leaders (CoYL) during the week of October 23.

Through CoYL, YouthBuild AmeriCorps students are brought together to fully experience the breadth and impact of YouthBuild's global movement rooted in leadership, service, education, and job skills

training. Participants further develop their leadership skills and network with current and former students from YouthBuild programs across the country. Heart of Oregon Corps YouthBuild is one of 223 local programs across the U.S. that partner with opportunity youth — young adults between the ages of 16 and 24 who are neither in school nor employed — to build the skillsets and mindsets that lead to lifelong learning, livelihood and leadership.

Throughout the three-day conference, participants explored this year's theme, "Connecting Communities," as they broadened their skills and deepened their knowledge to create positive change in their communities. The young people shared their experiences with each other and participated in collaborative, interactive workshops on design thinking and asset-based storytelling. By building connections with each other and YouthBuild alumni, participants realized the critical role they play in the extensive, global YouthBuild network and brainstormed concrete actions they can take to change their communities for the better. Participants like Clements and Lewis are chosen to attend by their fellow students and local YouthBuild program staff.

In YouthBuild programs, opportunity youth pursue their education, prepare for future careers and grow into community leaders, building brighter futures for themselves and their neighborhoods. Responding to the urgent need for knowledge, training, and opportunity, YouthBuild primarily serves young people who lack a high school diploma and financial resources.

After nine years with the Sunriver Police Department and over 28 years of service in law enforcement, Sunriver Chief of Police **Michael Womer** retired on November 30.

The Sunriver Service District Board unanimously voted at its September monthly meeting to appoint **Stephen Lopez** as the Chief of Police, effective December 1, 2023.

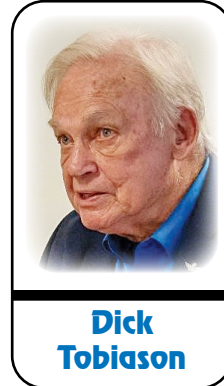
Lopez has over 17 years of experience in law enforcement. He began his career with the Sunriver Police Department in January of 2021, at the rank of Sergeant.



Lopez was promoted to Lieutenant in 2022. Prior to Lopez's time at Sunriver PD, he served for Santa Clara County Office of the Sheriff (California) from 2006-2020 where he rose to the rank of Lieutenant.

Throughout his law enforcement career Lopez has served as a watch commander, academy director, crowd control commander, range supervisor, internal affairs investigator and the training and compliance assistant division commander amongst numerous other assignments. Lopez is a graduate of the FBI National Academy and holds a master of public safety degree from the University of Virginia.

In addition to his service with the Sunriver Police Department, Lopez instructs Criminal Justice courses at Central Oregon Community College and is the Summit High School Girls' varsity rugby head coach.



In November, the Deschutes County Board of Commissioners recognized retired Army Lieutenant Colonel and Vietnam War veteran **Dick Tobiason** for his service and unwavering support for veterans in Central Oregon.

Congratulations to **Will Groves** and **Nicole Mardell** of the Deschutes County Community Development Team for being recognized for their engagement work on the Deschutes County 2040 project.

The award comes from Oregon's Citizen Involvement Advisory Committee and recognizes organizations and individuals who have actively promoted and implemented an outstanding community engagement strategy.



(L-R) WILL GROVES AND NICOLE MARDELL, PROJECT MANAGERS | PHOTO COURTESY OF DESCHUTES COUNTY

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