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Matt Sichel

Compass Commercial Real Estate Services welcomes Matt Sichel as the newest broker to join the team. Sichel officially started in early February 2024, bringing over two decades of experience in the commercial real estate industry with a primary focus on the retail and office sectors. His arrival sets the stage for Compass Commercial to enhance our capability to serve our clients and grow our footprint throughout Oregon.

Sichel moved to Bend in 2022 from the Portland area where he most recently served as senior director at NAI Elliott. Over his 28 years with NAI Elliott, he negotiated over 1,400 commercial transactions, consistently maintaining the prestigious position as the top producing broker and earning him recognition as the CoStar Retail Leasing Power Broker of the Year on multiple occasions. Prior to his tenure with NAI Elliott, Sichel held pivotal asset and property management roles at Princeton Property Management, Sherron and Associates, Inc., and Robert Randall Company. In these positions, he managed a diverse portfolio of commercial properties and oversaw large multifamily properties comprised of thousands of units.

Since joining the company, Sichel has proven himself a valuable asset, providing expert guidance on commercial real estate transactions and offering valuable insights to facilitate the sale and lease process. His proven track record of success, expansive portfolio and wealth of knowledge further solidify Compass Commercial's position as an industry leader in Central Oregon commercial real estate.

The Board of Directors for the Bend Park and Recreation District announced that Michelle Healy will become the next executive director. Healy will begin July 1. The board officially approved the employment contract at its public meeting on March 19.

Healy was the finalist selected in the internal search conducted by the board of directors. She has been with the district for 11 years and currently serves as the deputy executive director. Previously she was the director of planning and development and park services. Her career also includes roles at North Clackamas Parks & Recreation District and in the private sector in environmental consulting.

She is a certified parks and recreation professional (CPRP), a past-president of the Oregon Recreation and Parks Association, and is currently a judge for the National Gold Medal Award Program by the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration in partnership with the National Recreation and Park Association.

In June 2023, Don Horton announced plans to retire on October 1, 2024. The board conducted the search for a successor with input from district staff, community partners and stakeholders. The goal was for a smooth transition ahead of the fall departure by its long-time leader who started in 2003.



Michelle Healy

Sean Andries, the executive director of the Chehalem Cultural Center in Newberg, is the new chair of the Oregon Cultural Trust Board of Directors. Andries, elected unanimously at the Board's February 22 meeting, succeeds Niki Price, who had served as chair since 2021. George Kramer of Ashland continues to serve as vice chair.

Andries, who lives in Tigard, first fell in love with art through the theater while growing up in the Rogue Valley amongst the audiences at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. Over the years, he has worked for arts organizations of all shapes and sizes in just about every role imaginable and is proud to serve currently on the Board of Directors at Portland Center Stage and as the President of the Yamhill County Cultural Coalition.

Andries holds a degree in Theatre and Arts Administration from the University of Oregon and a Professional Training Certificate from the Dell'Arte



Sean Andries

International School of Physical Theatre. He is a trained clown and also, for a time, ran a circus school. As a performer he has worked locally for many companies and toured his own original work from coast to coast. These days, however, he works to reduce barriers to accessing the arts in the many communities he is a part of and finds his greatest joy in helping set the stage for others to stand upon. Someone once told Andries that, "Theater is the last great magic," and he has believed it ever since.



MID OREGON EXECUTIVE TEAM POSES WITH THREE RADDON CRYSTAL AWARDS THE CREDIT UNION HAS RECEIVED THREE CRYSTAL AWARDS SINCE 2020. (L-R) KARI JOEL, VP HUMAN RESOURCES; DAWN MORRISON, VP MEMBER EXPERIENCE; JEFF SANDERS, VP INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY; KEVIN COLE, PRESIDENT AND CEO; SARAH HIX, VP FINANCE; KYLE FRICK, VP MARKETING AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS | PHOTO COURTESY OF MID OREGON CREDIT UNION

Mid Oregon Credit Union received a 2023 Crystal Performance Award from Raddon. Raddon presents these prestigious awards each year to the participants in their Performance Analytics program. The 22 exceptional institutions of 2023 are among the top three percent of institutions analyzed by Raddon, a Fiserv company. Mid Oregon has received the Crystal Performance Award three times since 2020 and is ranked in the 99th percentile overall in this benchmark.

Each recipient credit union was selected based on an analysis of key performance metrics focused on service, member relationships, sales, and financial soundness within their asset class on the Raddon Performance Index™. Award recipients were honored during an invitation-only, virtual gathering for chief executives and their teams.

The Oregon Historical Society announced that one of the two Oregon educators that having been nominated for the Patricia Behring Teacher of the Year award for their work with students on Oregon History Day (OHD), an affiliate of the National History Day (NHD) program, is from Bend.

Patrick O'Brien, the grades 7/8 Individuals and Societies teacher at Seven Peaks School in Bend, was nominated in the Junior (middle school) category for the way he has made History Day a cornerstone of the school's curriculum. Since relocating to Bend from Switzerland in 2018, O'Brien has supported many students at both the state and national contest levels. His influence at Seven Peaks School stands out due to the opportunities he has cultivated for students to share their work both within their school and throughout their community; back-to-school nights and orientation sessions for prospective families have become spaces where students' History Day achievements are highlighted and celebrated. Having had such a positive experience participating in the program, many alumni return to guide current students through the process, serving as



Patrick O'Brien

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judges or leading discussions about History Day.

History Day is a student-directed learning program that reaches more than half a million students each year. Creating projects inspired by an annual theme, young historians in grades 6-12 choose topics to explore, conduct historical research, practice critical thinking skills, and analyze primary and secondary sources while considering diverse viewpoints.

The national winner, who will receive a \$10,000 award, will be selected by a committee of experienced teachers and historians, and announced on Thursday, June 13, 2024, at the National History Day National Contest Awards Ceremony in College Park, Maryland. Nominees' work must clearly illustrate the development and use of creative teaching methods that engage students in history and help them make exciting discoveries about the past. The award is sponsored by Patricia Behring in recognition of the pivotal role teachers play in the lives of students.



PHOTO | COURTESY OF COLLEGE H.U.N.K.S.

Congratulations to the co-founders and visionaries of College H.U.N.K.S., Omar Soliman and Nick Friedman, for their well-deserved recognition as Entrepreneurs of the Year by the International Franchise Association!

Their visionary leadership and unwavering dedication have been instrumental in shaping the brand and delivering exceptional service to their clients. This award is a testament to their relentless pursuit of excellence and innovation.



PHOTO | COURTESY OF NEWMAR ON FACEBOOK

In a significant recognition of service excellence within the recreational vehicle industry, **Beaver Coach Sales** has been honored with the esteemed Platinum Service Award by Newmar, a leading RV manufacturer known for its quality and innovation. This award highlights the dealership's exceptional achievement in service quality, marking it as a pinnacle of excellence in customer service and satisfaction.

The Platinum Service Award is part of Newmar's annual recognition of its dealers who have demonstrated outstanding levels of service excellence. Achieving this prestigious award reflects a dealership's steadfast commitment and unwavering dedication to exceeding the expectations of Newmar customers, ensuring they receive the finest service experience in the industry.

Newmar's recognition program distinguishes dealerships that go above and beyond in their service operations, classifying them into Gold, Platinum, and Diamond levels. Being awarded at the Platinum level signifies Beaver Coach's

commitment to creating a win-win situation for both the customers and the brand, thereby elevating the entire RV ownership experience.

Service excellence is at the heart of what makes Beaver Coach Sales stand out. The dealership's dedication to delivering an unparalleled service experience ensures that Newmar owners can always count on receiving top-notch care and support.



GIRLS SWIMMER OF THE YEAR: KAMRYN MESKILL, BEND HIGH SCHOOL — MESKILL, RIGHT, GIVES A HIGH FIVE TO ANOTHER SWIMMER AFTER THEIR RACE AT THE OSAA CLASS 5A SWIMMING STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2024, AT THE TUALATIN HILLS AQUATIC CENTER IN BEAVERTON | PHOTO BY HOWARD LAO | THE OREGONIAN/OREGONLIVE



BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR: PEARSON CARMICHAEL, SUMMIT HIGH SCHOOL — CARMICHAEL CELEBRATES WITH THE OSAA CLASS 5A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHY AFTER THE STORM BEAT WILSONVILLE IN THE FINALS ON SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2024, AT LINFIELD UNIVERSITY | PHOTO BY JJ ANDERSON | THE OREGONIAN/OREGONLIVE

This winter, **Sport Oregon** is celebrating the very best of high school athletics with the Oregon Sport Awards. These student athletes hail from all over the state and have been excelling in the pool, on the court and on the mat. The Oregon Sports Awards recognizes the top high school athletes from across the state.

Throughout the season, *The Oregonian/OregonLive* journalists keep score on which student athletes are outshining the rest in their chosen sport. After reviewing all the plays, studying all the matches and taking a pulse on who is leading the pack, these are the top athletes in the 2023/2024 winter season in swimming, wrestling and basketball.

The very best in girls swimming this winter is Bend High School junior **Kamryn Meskill**. Meskill and the Bend Lava Bears have won five titles within the last nine years, including taking home the Oregon Class 5A trophy this year. For Meskill, the key to the Lava Bears' success came down to the chemistry they've developed over years competing together.

Meskill now owns Oregon's Class 5A record in the 50-yard free — an event she has won three state championships in. When asked about the pressure of the race, she remarks that she doesn't allow nerves to get to her, stating that the race simply is too fast to waste time on worrying.

Summit High School's **Pearson Carmichael** has been named boys basketball player of the year. Carmichael has been called the "complete package" when it comes to his skills as a shooting guard. Standing at 6'7", Carmichael is said to be a nightmare for opposing offenses. Mix his dominant height with 27.5 points per game and you've got quite the threat on the court. Carmichael has set his sights on Boise State for this upcoming fall, and he seems ready for the challenge.

Coming into the 2023-2024 season, few teams had as much pressure on them as Summit did. Coming off back-to-back state championship losses with a large senior class, the Storm needed to get the job done this season.

And they sure did. With 27 points and 7 boards from Carmichael, the Storm triumphed over the Wilsonville Wildcats, ending Carmichael's high school career on an incredible note.

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