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Heather Martin

Washington Trust Bank has hired Heather Martin as a small business banking relationship manager.

With an impressive 12 years of experience in the financial industry, Martin brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the small business banking division, making her a valuable addition to the growing Central Oregon Team of Washington Trust.

Most recently, Martin served as a member relationship officer at OnPoint Community Credit Union. She began her career in the financial services industry at Home Federal Bank. Martin is equipped with a comprehensive understanding of small business and consumer lending processes, and is known amongst her peers for her resourcefulness in getting projects across the finish line.

Martin's educational background includes a bachelor of science in communication studies from Portland State University, with additional studies at Seattle University and Clackamas Community College. Her areas of expertise include commercial lines of credit, equipment financing, mergers and acquisitions, medical and dental and treasury management.

The Cascade School of Music (CSM) welcomes Rich McPherson to its nonprofit Board of Directors. Music has been a staple of life for McPherson since discovering his parents' John Denver 8-tracks in the mid 70's. But it wasn't until the late 80's that his music-making journey started. Having been in some form of a band since age 14, McPherson knows the positive effects that music can have on a person's mental health. It saved his life and he's more than ecstatic to give back to the community of Central Oregon by being involved with CSM.

McPherson was born in Hawaii, raised in the Portland-metro area and has called Bend his home since 2020. When he's not putting his BA in English to use as a Digital Content Producer for CareOregon, he's either a) enjoying nature somewhere with his wife and two young children, b) putting miles on his running shoes, skis or mountain bike, or c) trying to find time to write that ever-elusive hit song.



Rich McPherson

Visit Central Oregon announces the hiring of Scott Larson as the organization's new president and CEO. Larson, who previously spent five years as the executive director of Wyoming's Albany County Tourism Board dba Visit Laramie, will officially step into the role on July 15.

Before serving as the executive director of Visit Laramie, Larson spent more than three years as the digital communications manager for Visit Steamboat Springs (Colorado), and more than three years as the operations supervisor for Steamboat Springs Ski & Resort Corp. Originally from Nashville, Tenn., Larson holds a bachelor's degree in International Business from the University of Denver and is in the process of relocating to Central Oregon with his wife, Annalise, and their dogs, Ollie and Zuri. In his free time, he enjoys ultrarunning, skiing, camping and traveling.



Scott Larson

Andraya McNary, a 2024 Crook County High School graduate, was awarded a \$2,500 scholarship through NewSun Energy's 2nd Annual Climate + Ag Essay Contest at the Crook County High School Award Ceremony on June 4. She plans to attend Central Oregon Community College in the fall.

Applicants were asked to write 800-1,200 words about how climate change, renewable energy, other factors affect regional farming and ranching and how those compare to impacts on agriculture world-wide. NewSun Energy encouraged applicants to write about their personal or community experiences.

McNary wrote about her personal experience raising goats as a member of FFA and impact of climate change on agriculture. Growing up in a ranching and farming family, unpredictable weather and rising cost of food production have had a direct effect on her.



Andraya McNary

Essays were reviewed by a bipartisan committee consisting of six Oregon legislators and representatives from Oregon-based environmental and energy organizations.

NewSun Energy is a renewable energy development group with a primary focus on solar projects that bring sustainability, economic development and jobs to rural Oregon. The NewSun Energy Community Benefits Program invests in the arts, public health, education and environment in the communities we serve.

COCC announces Jennifer Dye as the new director of the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) for Central Oregon. Dye brings a wealth of experience in business development and leadership, making her a valuable asset to our professional community.

Dye's distinguished career includes her recent role as associate state director at the Washington Small Business Development Center. In this position, she provided operational oversight for 33 centers, demonstrating a strong commitment to business resiliency and strategic stakeholder engagement. Her hands-on approach significantly contributed to the economic development of the regions she served, directly aiding over 1,450 clients and facilitating an impressive \$11.6 million in capital infusion.

During her tenure as center director at the Lacey/Olympia SBDC, Dye adeptly managed the CARES Act grant and spearheaded innovative community outreach efforts. Her work ensured that small businesses received crucial support during the COVID-19 pandemic, underscoring her dedication to community service and business growth.

Dye holds a masters in leadership from the University of Washington/Bothell, where she was recognized for her leadership and business consulting acumen. She was subsequently invited to teach Marketing and Management courses at the School of Business. Additionally, she holds certificates in Adaptive Leadership, Digital Transformation and Business Analytics.

As an experienced small business owner, Dye is passionate about helping entrepreneurs achieve their dreams. She is also committed to professional development for advisors and building a team that delivers exceptional value to clients, the community and stakeholders.



Jennifer Dye

Kalinda Carnahan, interior designer at STEELE Associates Architects LLC, has earned her National Council for Interior Design Qualification (NCIDQ) certification from the Council for Interior Design Qualification (CIDQ). With her NCIDQ certification, Carnahan has demonstrated her commitment to interior design principals, as well as expertise in understanding and applying current building codes and standards to projects.



Kalinda Carnahan

Carnahan worked hard on studying for and achieving her certification while simultaneously working on multiple design projects and juggling raising her two children with her husband. Creating spaces that flow well and meet the project's needs as well as specifying materials to make a space function and be aesthetically beautiful are puzzles that Carnahan enjoys working on and solving.

Mosaic Community Health recently welcomed new chief health officer Bernadette Thomas, APRN, DNP, MPH, who brings over 18 years of experience and expertise to the Mosaic team. Thomas has served highly diverse populations as a full-time primary care provider for eight years and for an additional ten years in healthcare leadership positions.

Thomas received her Doctor of Nursing Practice from Johns Hopkins School of Nursing and her master of science in nursing and master of public health from Yale School of Nursing. She provides healthcare in both English and Spanish.


As the chief health officer for Mosaic, Thomas will be accountable for the establishment, development and




Bernadette Thomas

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**Who's Who!**

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

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execution of integrated clinical services across the organization. As a member of the executive team, she will provide leadership for Mosaic's clinic medical directors, director of behavioral health, dental director and director of pharmacy services. Thomas will also provide direct patient care in our primary care setting several days per week.



**Dan Emerson**

**Bend-La Pine Schools** has hired **Dan Emerson** as its new chief financial officer, effective July 1. Emerson will replace Brad Henry, who has resigned to take a position in another district. The CFO oversees all aspects of financial operations, including budgeting, accounting, financial reporting, procurement and compliance to ensure the financial health and stability of the district.

Emerson has seven years of financial experience in the public sector, including two years in his current role as Budget and Financial Planning Manager for Deschutes County. His experience at Deschutes county working in areas such as budget management, regulatory compliance, financial reporting and strategic planning are directly transferable to a school district's financial role.

The ability to navigate complex financial environments and work collaboratively with diverse stakeholders is crucial in both settings and his experience will allow him to get up to speed quickly.

Emerson attended Kenwood Elementary School, Cascade Middle School and Summit High School, and graduated in 2006.

**Cobalt Properties Group** appoints **Sara Martin** as Portland portfolio manager.

Martin brings her knowledge and experience as a Portland portfolio manager to the growing Cobalt Properties Group based in Bend. Growing up in Milwaukie, Oregon, Martin's early exposure to property management through her mother's career sparked her interest in the industry. With her career starting at the age of 19, Martin quickly cultivated a passion for real estate and property management, working in both the residential and commercial sectors.

Martin's focus on the Portland area allows her to excel in building connections. Whether forging bonds with tenants, owners, or vendors, she embraces every opportunity to engage with people, making her an invaluable asset to Cobalt Properties Group.

Cobalt Properties Group is a premier property management firm that manages both commercial and residential properties. Their experienced team caters to their clients' needs, offering personalized service delivered with knowledge and integrity. You can count on Cobalt to provide strong communication, exceptional service and consistency when managing and protecting your assets.

**The Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries** (BOLI) announces the hiring of **Jody Robbins** as the new director of the apprenticeship and training division (ATD). This significant addition marks a critical step in BOLI's efforts to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of its services for Oregonians.

Robbins joins the Bureau with a wealth of experience managing apprenticeship programs and overseeing construction-related compliance. His background includes serving as the director of the apprenticeship division and as the industrial statistician for Washington Labor and Industries. Robbins's extensive experience as an apprentice and journeyworker in the sheet metal industry, combined with his roles in Washington, equip him to lead BOLI's efforts in fostering a skilled workforce through robust apprenticeship programs.

BOLI secured funding for 20 new positions, including 11 additional compliance positions within the ATD during the 2024 Legislative Session. These positions are crucial for addressing the backlog of apprenticeship compliance reviews, a challenge exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. The legislative investments allow BOLI to expedite these reviews, ensuring that over 10,000 apprentices and more than 150 apprenticeship programs meet federal and state regulatory standards. Additionally, the Bureau secured funding to recruit four full-time employees to support offshore wind energy development, one full-time employee to support the CHIPS Child Care Fund, and four full-time employees to enforce warehouse workers quota requirements.

**Deschutes County Health Services** Emergency Preparedness Coordinator **Carissa Heinige** recently received an Outstanding New Leader award at the 2024 Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) National Summit.

The MRC is a national network of medical and non-medical volunteers who promote preparedness and help to improve the health and safety of their communities when a health-related crisis, emergency or natural disaster occurs.

Deschutes County joined the national MRC network in 2023. Heinige serves as the unit director of the County's MRC, alongside her duties as Emergency Preparedness Coordinator.

Through Heinige's leadership, the Deschutes County MRC has in one year successfully enlisted more than 100 volunteers to serve on the unit. While the volunteers receive training to be ready to respond if a crisis occurs, Heinige has also engaged them to participate in other "blue sky" activities like assisting with county health fairs, building preparedness kits for vulnerable communities, and supporting a crisis intervention training with local law enforcement.

The MRC National Summit is an annual event that is hosted by the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO). More than 600 MRC leaders attended this year's summit, which took place from May 22 to May 24 in Chicago, Illinois.

Fifteen accomplished young musicians age 13-24 have been awarded scholarships from **Sunriver Music Festival**. Young Artists Scholarship awards are for private music lessons, summer music camps/conservatories, or for college tuition up through one master's degree.



PHOTO | COURTESY OF BEND CHAMBER

Awardees are **Fiona Curley**, soprano, age 20; **Aurora Dixon**, mezzo soprano, age 16; **Mateo Garza**, violin, age 24; **Aaron Goyal**, guitar, age 17; **Spencer Holliday**, 18, age piano; **Juliana Ives**, oboe, age 16; **Carly King**, soprano, age 24; **Ian McNally**, oboe, age 13; **Lucinda Mone**, mezzo soprano, age 19; **Megan Nave**, violin, age 13; **Jacob Nenow**, piano, age 20; **Noah Ochander**, trombone, age 23; **Halle Phay**, piano, age 17; **Gabriel Reed**, piano, age 24; and **Matthias Santucci**, piano, age 19.

The **Bend Chamber**, in partnership with **Taylor Northwest**, announced the Leadership Bend Class of 2024 graduates. Twenty-nine outstanding individuals formally graduated from the Leadership Bend program on June 11, 2024.

These participants come from a wide variety of backgrounds and industries, and differing lengths of time living in Central Oregon.

What they all have in common is a commitment to Bend and our region, and a willingness to work collaboratively to create a strong future for all. Over nine months, they spent more than 90 class hours learning about local challenges and opportunities firsthand from decision makers, and through interactive work. They additionally completed three impact projects outside of class hours and carved out time to connect and nurture their relationships with each other.

**The Leadership Bend Class of 2024 are:**

**Matt Appleby**, ORW Architects; **William Bailey**, Deschutes County Sheriff's Office; **Brittany Barker**, City of Bend; **Ben Berry**, civil engineer; **Hollie Choe**, Transworld Business Advisors of C.O.; **Shane Cochran**, Wallace Group; **Camilla Cok**, Henneberry Eddy Architects; **John Condon**, City of Bend; **Randy Dean**, Kernutt Stokes; **Ben Haag**, First Interstate Bank; **Sarah Hutson**, City of Bend; **Shelley Junker**, Bend Chamber; **Scott Maben**, Bend La-Pine Schools; **Paul MacClanahan**, Cascade Civil Corp; **TJ Murphy**, Hite Digital Bend; **Scott Nelson**, St. Charles Health System; **Eric Normen**, Taylor Development, LLC; **Chris Petty**, Express Employment Professionals; **Sam Rivera**, Solaire Homebuilders; **Kristi Runberg**, St. Charles Health System; **Chad Schlottmann**, Skanska USA Building; **Kaylee Schweitzer**, COCC; **Bryan Sharp**, Taylor Northwest; **Caitlin Sims**, Washington Trust Bank; **Daryl Stone**, Microsoft; **Colin Sutton**, U.S. Bank; **Alison Toivola**, Best Best & Krieger, LLP; **Bonnie Vieira**, Columbia Healthcare Banking; and **Fish Williams**, finance director.

On June 4, the **Deschutes County Public Health Advisory Board** (PHAB) recognized the winners of the 2024 Health Heroes Awards at Pioneer Park, 1565 NW Wall St., Bend. The awards are given to individuals and organizations who demonstrate excellence in promoting and protecting public and behavioral health in Deschutes County.

This year's Individual Award winner is **Garra Schluter**, supervisor of nutrition services for Bend-La Pine Schools.

The Organization Award winner is **The Lighthouse Navigation Center**, nominated by Colleen Sinsky.

The Health Heroes Awards are presented annually by the PHAB in conjunction with National Public Health Week in April and Mental Health Month in May.

**Oregon State University – Cascades** has announced that 24 students of the class of 2024 are being honored as the recipients of the 2024 Distinguished Student Awards.

The Distinguished Student Awards are among the top honors given by OSU-Cascades faculty to students and recognize outstanding academic achievement and contributions to each degree program's field of study.

The undergraduate students and their fields of study are: **Gabriela Williams** of Powell Butte, american studies., **Meisen Hu** of Bend, Arts, media and technology., **Jennifer McCabe** of Bend, biology., **Daniel Schimmoller** of Bend, business administration., **Kimberly Markley** of Bend, computer science., **Dallas Bennett** of Silverton, energy systems engineering., **Thomas Nguyen** of Tracy, California, engineering science., **William Stewart** of Bend, environmental sciences., **Lucia Pigni** of Bend, hospitality management., **Michael Azevedo** of Bend, human development and family sciences., **Bethany Burr** of Bend, kinesiology., **Ama Garza** of Bend, liberal studies., **Haley Mohr** of Bend, natural resources., **Soren Nyquist** of Bend, outdoor products., **Mari Pliskow** of Bend, psychology., **Olivia Handran** of Denver, Colorado, social science., **Danielle Logan** of Bend, teaching., **Jorge Aguilera Lopez** of Woodburn, tourism, recreation and adventure leadership.

The graduate recipients and their fields of study are: **Shonna Edwards** of Bend, master of counseling: clinical mental health counseling., **Kieran Kuiper** of Bend, master of counseling: school counseling., **Melissa Smith** of Arlington, Virginia, master of fine arts in creative writing., **Daniela Calle Quezada** of Sisters, master of teaching: elementary education., **Shawn Boyd** of Bend, master of teaching: secondary education., **Samantha Noregaard** of Bend, doctor of physical therapy.

To view stories about the award recipients, visit [osucascades.edu/distinguished-students](https://osucascades.edu/distinguished-students).