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Kit Galloway

Elk Meadow Elementary School in Bend will have a new principal next school year. Bend-La Pine Schools Superintendent Steven Cook recently announced that **Kit Galloway** has been selected for the position and will begin July 1, 2025. She is replacing Principal Ben Johnston, who has resigned to relocate.

Galloway is currently the principal at Maplewood Elementary School in Portland Public Schools (PPS), a position she has held since 2021. Prior to her current role, she served as an assistant principal with PPS and in the United Arab Emirates, which followed over 15 years as an elementary classroom teacher.

In other administrative hiring, **Quinn McAndrews** was hired as the athletic director/assistant principal at Summit High School and **Cory Young** was hired as the Athletic director/assistant principal at La Pine High School. Both positions begin July 1, 2025.

Sabrina "Bri" Slusser has joined Boys & Girls Clubs of Bend as the interim CEO.

Slusser brings 25 years of experience in nonprofit leadership, organizational management, strategic planning and community engagement. She previously served as CEO of the Humane Society of Central Oregon, interim executive director at Northeast Community Center and held several leadership roles with the YMCA.

Her background includes increasing fundraising capacity, negotiating pivotal contracts and strengthening operations. With strong expertise in fiscal management, staff development and community partnership-building, Slusser is well-equipped to lead us through this interim period and support the ongoing success of our mission.

The search for a permanent CEO is now underway.



Bri Slusser

Cuppa Yo Self-Serve Frozen Yogurt celebrates 15 years of serving up joy, community and customizable frozen treats. Since opening its doors on June 2, 2010, Cuppa Yo has grown from a single shop in Bend to a growing network of stores across many states including Oregon, Idaho, Arizona, Texas, California, Kansas, North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama and others soon to come.

The celebration comes with even more exciting news: the announcement of Cuppa Yo's third Bend location, set to open soon in the Costco shopping plaza on the city's north end. This new store adds to the brand's strong presence in Central Oregon and marks another step in its regional expansion.

With nearly 15 locations and growing, Cuppa Yo continues to expand through franchising opportunities with a focus on family values, community connection and high standards of service. Looking forward, the brand remains committed to strategic growth while preserving the heart and soul that started it all in Bend.



Ray Hacke

Salem-area attorney **Ray Hacke** was appointed to the Oregon Conservative Caucus (OCC) Advisory Board by a unanimous vote of its Board of Directors. The advisory board, referred to as the OCC-13, is composed of experts in 13 vital policy areas that affect the state. Hacke will focus on First Amendment issues.

Hacke also serves as a volunteer affiliate attorney for the Pacific Justice Institute, and heads that organization's Oregon office. He has been instrumental in winning court cases that protect the civil rights of Oregonians and non-Oregonians for many years. An award-winning sportswriter before becoming an attorney, Hacke felt compelled to switch careers because he saw that religious liberty was under attack.

Hacke replaces former advisory board member, Judge Vance Day, who resigned back in February to join the Trump administration. Day now serves as Deputy U.S. Attorney General Todd Blanche's senior counsel, helping to direct DOJ policy.

The Kiwanis Club of Redmond has granted \$16,500 in scholarships to 12 graduating seniors of Redmond's four high schools during awards ceremonies in May at the respective schools.

At Redmond Proficiency Academy, five students received awards of \$1,000: **Jotham Bailey, Clair Gray, Edison Medlock, Camryn Rundle** and **Darrian Streater. Remington Thompson** received \$2,000.

Three graduates at Ridgeview were honored: **Caylie Grande**, \$2,000; **Natalie Hawkins**, \$1,500; and **Meghan Matlock**, \$1,000.

At Redmond High School, **Apollo Bezdek** received \$2,000 and **Brooklyn Hartfield**, \$1,000.

Zech Milichichi at Central Christian School received \$2,000.

Kiwanis, comprised of 60 men and women of all ages, has been serving the youth of Redmond since 1937.

Ogletree Deakins, one of the largest labor and employment law firms representing management, welcomes **Erin O. Sweeney** to the firm's Portland, Oregon, office as a shareholder. Sweeney joins Ogletree Deakins from Littler, where she was a member of the firm's Labor Management Relations Practice Group.

With a legal career spanning more than two decades, Sweeney brings invaluable experience in all facets of labor and employment law. Her traditional labor practice focuses on workplace activism and organizing campaigns, collective bargaining, grievance proceedings and representing employers in petition hearings and unfair labor practice proceedings. Sweeney's comprehensive experience also includes the defense of employment-related claims in state and federal courts and administrative forums.



Erin O. Sweeney

Among her many accomplishments, Sweeney managed close to 50 National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) representation petitions over the past few years and has served as a key strategic adviser to numerous Pacific Northwest employers with newly organized workforces. She represents employers in many industries, including retail, healthcare, entertainment, cannabis, manufacturing, technology and nonprofits.

Sweeney is a member of the Oregon State Bar's Labor and Employment Law Section, the Oregon Labor and Employment Relations Association and Oregon Women Lawyers. She earned her J.D., *cum laude*, from the Seattle University School of Law and her B.A., *cum laude*, from Arizona State University.



Sunriver Music Festival Young Artists Scholarship Recipients 2025



PHOTOS | COURTESY OF SUNRIVER MUSIC FESTIVAL

Sixteen accomplished young musicians aged ten to 20 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. This year's intense audition process welcomed four string players, two oboists, four vocalists, three pianists, one trombonist, one guitarist and one trumpeter, all from Central Oregon.

Congratulations to: **Madeleine Bloom**, violin, age 14; **Ellie Cape**, piano, age 14; **Lauren Chalet**, trumpet, age 18; **Casselin Clark**, violin, age 10; **Fiona Curley**, soprano, age 20; **Aaron Goyal**, guitar, age 17; **Spencer Holliday**, piano, age 18; **Juliana Ives**, oboe, age 16; **Lucinda Mone**, mezzo-soprano, age 19; **Ian McNalley**, oboe, age 13; **Megan Nave**, violin, age 14; **Matthias Santucci**, piano, age 20; **Ava Swetland**, soprano, age 18; **Perrin Standen**, viola, age 17; **Nathan Stevens**, bass, age 18; and **Henry Tee**, trombone, age 12.

Raise the Baton is the party raising funds so this vital support for the next generation of musicians can continue. This year's event is Saturday, June 21 in Bend at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Central Oregon and will feature performances by advanced scholarship recipients Matthias Santucci, piano; Lucinda Mone, mezzo-soprano; and more. Fresh off his exciting debut with the New York Philharmonic, Sunriver Music Festival's Artistic Director and Conductor Brett Mitchell returns to host this inspiring evening of music and conversation with the talented scholarship recipients, dinner and drinks, fun with friends and abundant opportunities to *raise the baton* for the future of music.

Seven athletes from **Bend Endurance Academy's** Performance Climbing Team competed at the USA Climbing Youth Lead and Top Rope Divisional Championships this past weekend at Portland Rock Gym Beaverton. Six advanced to finals and three secured invitations to the 2025 Youth National Championships, the highest level of youth competition in the United States.

This event marked the second major step in the national competition pathway, following Regionals in May. Divisionals brought together the strongest youth climbers from Alaska, Washington and Oregon.

Nathaniel Perullo earned the Male U19 Division Champion title, placing 1st overall and punching his ticket to Nationals in the Lead discipline.

Vance Stanfield took second place in Male U19, also earning a Nationals invite. In the Male U17 category, Soren Hasselblad finished 6th, qualifying as well.

Additional BEA finalists included: **Quinn Nash Weber**, Female U17 (Finalist), **Logan Wallace**, Soren Long and **Ryker Long**, Male U15 (Finalists).

These results add to a strong season for the BEA team, with Nathaniel Perullo, Vance Stanfield and Soren Hasselblad already having qualified for Youth Bouldering Nationals earlier this year.

In total, five BEA athletes will represent the Academy at the 2025 USA Climbing Youth National Championships, held June 26-July 2 at Portland Rock Gym, Beaverton. They have earned eight national starts across Lead, Bouldering and Speed disciplines.

Siblings **Soren** and **Ryker Long** will also represent BEA in Speed Climbing in the Male U15 category.

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Volunteers in Medicine, Clinic of the Cascades Named 2025 Health Hero Organization by Deschutes County Public Health Advisory Board

by COURTNEY GALLANT — Volunteers in Medicine, Clinic of the Cascades

Volunteers in Medicine, Clinic of the Cascades, Central Oregon's only free clinic and pharmacy dedicated to serving low-income, uninsured working adults, has been named the 2025 Health Hero Organization by the Deschutes County Public Health Advisory Board (PHAB). This prestigious award recognizes VIM Cascades' unwavering commitment to providing equitable, compassionate healthcare to those who would otherwise go without; a mission that has transformed nearly 16,000 lives since the clinic's founding in 2004.

The honor comes on the heels of two other major accolades: VIM Cascades' Gold Rating from the National Association of Free and Charitable Clinics (NAFC) and its Gold Seal of Transparency from Guidestar, cementing its reputation as a model for nonprofit healthcare excellence and program transparency.

A Legacy of Compassionate Care

VIM Cascades fills a critical gap in Central Oregon's healthcare ecosystem, serving patients who earn too much to qualify for Medicaid (Oregon Health Plan, OHP) but too little to afford private marketplace insurance. With a network of over 300 volunteer medical providers and pro-bono partners, the clinic has delivered over \$155 million in charitable care to nearly 16,000 patients since 2004 — many of whom work in construction, hospitality, agriculture, small businesses, and other essential yet underinsured industries.

"This award reflects the heart of our community: volunteers who give their time, staff who go above and beyond, and supporters who refuse to accept that hardworking people should go without healthcare," said Heather Laird, ANP, Medical Director at VIM Cascades. "Every patient who walks through our doors is proof that compassion can transform lives."

Innovations in Diabetes Care and Community Collaboration

VIM Cascades' Diabetes Wellness Program has garnered national attention for its extraordinary success rates: 89.3% of diabetic patients achieve controlled blood sugar levels (A1c below 9.0), far surpassing state and national averages. Key to this success is VIM Cascades' pioneering use of continuous glucose monitors (CGMs), paired with culturally responsive care coordination, cooking and exercise classes, and behavioral health support.

The clinic also plays a vital role in Oregon Health Authority's (OHA) Healthier Oregon Program (HOP), in a recognized best-practice collaboration with Latino Community Association (LCA) and Mosaic Community Health to enroll community members in expanded Oregon Health Plan (OHP) Medicaid coverage. Together, this collaborative redefined what's possible in community healthcare, achieving outcomes that exceed expectations through a shared



PHOTO | COURTESY OF VOLUNTEERS IN MEDICINE, CLINIC OF THE CASCADES

commitment to innovation and service.

"VIM Cascades' work doesn't stop at our clinic doors," said Kat Mastrangelo, VIM's Executive Director and a 2024 recipient of NAFC's Circle of Caring Award. "Whether it's through HOP, our diabetes program, or partnerships with community organizations like LCA, Mosaic, and others, we're committed to breaking down barriers to quality healthcare. This award belongs to everyone who shares that vision."

About Volunteers in Medicine Clinic of the Cascades:

Volunteers in Medicine Clinic of the Cascades provides healthcare to low-income, working adults who live in Central Oregon and have no medical insurance or means to pay for care. Using a community approach, 200+ in-clinic volunteers and 300 local pro-bono medical partners collaborate to provide patients with necessary primary and specialty medical care, prescription medications, basic dental care and mental health counseling. Patient costs are funded by patient donations along with individual, corporate and foundation support. VIM has contributed over \$155 million in care to people in Central Oregon since opening in 2004.

vim-cascades.org

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(L-R/BACK TO FRONT) STEVEN SAUNDERS, TODD PRIOR, MARY MURPHY, NICK SACKOS, RYAN ECKMAN, NICK GIBSON, MARK PEDERSEN, CONNOR MCCULLOUGH, NOAH BRANDT, JEN HAMMOND, CORY LOOMIS, ERIC HEIDEBRECHT, AMY MCCARTHY-SMITH, DAVID WILKERSON, GREG WATSON, HANK KAMAKAALA, JENNY ODOM, TARYN AMENS RAMOS, JAMIE DYER, MCKENZIE BOYD, RENEE BROOKE, MELLISSA KAMANYA, KIMBERLY LISZKA, CYNTHIA HUNT, IAN ISAACSON, QUINN HANSON, SARAH SLAUGHTER, MICHELLE SOLLEY, TALENA BARKER, AMANDA WINDLINX, AMBER GOMES, TED KRAUSE AND SARA SHERMAN | PHOTO COURTESY OF BEND CHAMBER

The Bend Chamber, in partnership with Taylor Northwest, announced the Leadership Bend Class of 2025 graduates. Thirty-two outstanding individuals formally graduated from the Leadership Bend program on June 10, 2025.

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 the course of nine months, they spent more than 90 class hours learning about local challenges and opportunities firsthand from decision-makers, and through interactive work. They also completed four impact projects outside of class hours and carved out time to connect and nurture their relationships with one another.

The Leadership Bend class of 2025 are: **Taryn Amens Ramos**, Saving Grace; **McKenzie Boyd**, Parametrix; **Noah Brandt**, Anthony's Restaurant; **Reene Brooke**, City of Bend; **Jamie Dyer**, Central Oregon Radiology Assoc., P.C.; **Ryan Eckman**, Mike's Fence Center; **Nick Gibson**, Caldera; **Amber Gomes**, Koya Partners; **Jen Hammond**, Bend Chamber of Commerce; **Quinn Hanson**, G.A. Rogers; **Eric Heidebrecht**, Morrison-Maierle; **Cynthia Hunt**, Volunteers In Medicine Clinic of

the Cascades; **Ian Isaacson**, Bend Park & Recreation District; **Hank Kamakaala**, Kellcon; **Melissa Kamanya**, City of Bend; **Ted Krause**, Lynch Murphy McLane LLP; **Kimberly Liszka**, Reveille & Retreat Project/Dog Tag Diaries Podcast; **Cory Loomis**, Pence Contractors; **Amy McCarthy-Smith**, S&J Architecture; **Connor McCullough**, McCullough Financial Group; **Mary Murphy**, Latino Community Association; **Jenny Odom**, FM CIVIC; **Mark Pederson**, Kirby Nagelhout Construction Company; **Todd Prior**, First Interstate Bank; **Nick Sackos**, Hennebery Eddy Architects; **Steve Saunders**, Cerity Partners; **Sara Sherman**, Brasada Ranch; **Sarah Slaughter**, Rosendin; **Michelle Solley**, St. Charles Foundation; **Greg Watson**, Simplicity by Hayden Homes; **David Wilkerson**, ORW Architecture; and **Amanda Windlinx**, Bend Chamber of Commerce.

Members of the 32nd class of Leadership Bend join nearly 700 other graduates as program alumni. The program has now graduated 726 informed and engaged citizens since 1993.



SELCO Community Credit Union recently hired **Donny Macneish** as a personal lines specialist for SELCO Insurance Services. He will be based in SELCO's West Redmond office in Central Oregon. In this role, Macneish will sell homeowners, auto and life insurance products and provide ongoing service to clients in the Redmond market.

Macneish began his insurance career in 2021 as a sales representative at a State Farm agency in Redmond. In 2023, he opened his own American Family Insurance agency in Bend, specializing in commercial business and personal lines insurance before coming to SELCO.

Outside of work, Macneish believes there is nothing quite like going fishing with his family. And over the years, he has volunteered his time at Central Oregon Veteran Outreach and Ronald McDonald House of Central Oregon.

The Source has been recognized with three first-place awards in the 2024 Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ) Northwest Excellence in Journalism contest, competing among newsrooms across five states in the NW Region 10: Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana and Alaska.

The awards received include first place: General Excellence Writing (Small Newsroom), first place: Graphics & Illustrations — Small and first place: Environment & Natural Disaster Reporting.

The SPJ is one of the oldest organizations representing journalists in the U.S., and its annual awards program honors outstanding journalism across platforms and regions. The NW Excellence in Journalism contest is one of the largest of its kind in the country, recognizing high standards of storytelling, visual presentation and public service.