

who's who who's who who's who who's who who's who who's who



Breedlove Guitars announces that **Angela Christensen**, after 23 years of dedication across design, production and leadership, has been named vice president of operations. From her early days in our woodshop managing raw tonewoods, through roles in product design, inventory and assembly, Christensen has been the quiet engine behind Breedlove's growth. As VP of operations, she'll now oversee our entire production, product and go-to-market strategy, guiding a focused renewal rooted in clarity, purpose and our USA-made legacy. Her journey from apprentice of Kim Breedlove to executive exemplifies the passion, craftsmanship and quiet leadership at the heart of Breedlove.

Bernie Brader and **Ned Dempsey**. Brader, an Air Force veteran, has lived in La Pine for more than 20 years. In his career, he has worked in industrial water treatment and, outside of work, he serves on the La Pine Frontier Days board, participates in the Ponderosa Mountain Men and is president of the La Pine RC Fliers. Dempsey, a resident of Bend since 1973 and a licensed professional engineer, founded Century West Engineering Corporation, which is based in Deschutes County. He serves on several boards and committees, including the Deschutes County Solid Waste Committee, the Oregon Sustainability Board and the High Desert Museum Board of Directors.

Commissioner Patti Adair appointed two committee members: **Matt Cyrus** and **Phil Henderson**. Cyrus, a sixth-generation Oregon Farmer, resides in the community of Cloverdale. He is president of the Deschutes County Farm Bureau and chairman of the Deschutes County Planning Commission. Henderson grew up in Hood River working in his family's fruit orchards. He has lived in Bend since 1989, where he has worked as a private attorney, general contractor and served as a Deschutes County Commissioner from 2017 to 2020.

Commissioner Phil Chang appointed three committee members: **Andrew Kaza**, **Carol Loesche** and **Melanie Kebler**. Kaza, a resident of Redmond, has owned and operated the Sisters Movie House and Cafe since 2016. He serves as co-chair of the Independent Party of Oregon. Loesche has lived in Bend for eight years, works part-time and enjoys volunteering in the community. She is a longtime member of the League of Women Voters and previously served as president of the Deschutes County League. Kebler, who grew up in Bend, has spent her career working as an attorney working for the public. She currently serves as the mayor of Bend, with her term ending in 2026.

Last November, voters approved Ballot Measure 9-173, which expands the Board of County Commissioners from three to five members, with two new commissioners to be elected at-large in 2026. In response, the BOCC agreed to appoint a citizen advisory committee to draft district map representing each commissioner position, moving away from five at-large positions. If the BOCC — and ultimately the voters — approve the DMAC's recommended map, the new districts would be in place for each election of commissioners, beginning in 2028.

Following their confirmation of the DMAC appointees on July 23, the BOCC reviewed and provided recommendations to the committee's guidelines. The DMAC will hold an orientation meeting in August and will meet weekly from early September to mid-November as necessary. Facilitated by Neil Bryant and supported by a county project management team, the committee will draft district map following specific criteria.

DMAC meetings will be open to the public, and community members are encouraged to participate in person or virtually, providing input during designated public comment periods. The meeting locations, agendas and virtual login information will be available online at deschutes.org/meetings.

A District Mapping Advisory Committee website is currently being developed and will be available soon at deschutes.org.

Habitat for Humanity La Pine Sunriver announced the addition of four new members to its Board of Directors. These individuals bring deep community roots, professional expertise, and a shared commitment to the mission of creating affordable housing and strengthening neighborhoods across South Deschutes County.

Join us in welcoming **Patrick Jackson**, loan officer at New American Funding; **Jessica McIntyre**, realtor, La Pine Realty; **Jennifer Michaud**, branch manager at U.S. Bank La Pine; and **Robin Mirrasoul**, RETIRED La Pine business owner.

These new board members will play an integral role in advancing Habitat's mission, supporting homebuilding initiatives, and expanding outreach in the La Pine and Sunriver communities.



Adam Stephen, principal at **STEELE Associates Architects** in Bend, has joined a growing industry of Design-Build professionals redefining how America builds. Stephen successfully completed the Design-Build Institute of America's comprehensive education and certification testing program to achieve the design-build industry's highest designation as a nationally certified Design-Build Professional. Years of substantial, documented direct project experience with design-build project delivery is a prerequisite for Designated Design-Build Professional certification.

DBIA Certification is the nation's only measurable standard of an individual's knowledge of the Design-Build Done Right principles vital to successful project delivery.

By completing these requirements, which touch on all aspects of design-build, Stephen earns the right to display "DBIA" after his name, identifying him as experienced design-build professional.

Stephen's decade of Progressive Design-Build experience has been an asset to his clients and their projects and has forged strong and successful working relationships with Design-Build Contractors in the region. STEELE is proud of Stephen's continued pursuit of Progressive Design-Build expertise and excellence.

The Skjersaa Group has welcomed **Kimberly Morse** as a full-time broker. Morse, who moved to Bend with her family in 2012 from Crested Butte, had a long career in sales before joining Duke Warner Realty as a broker in 2019.

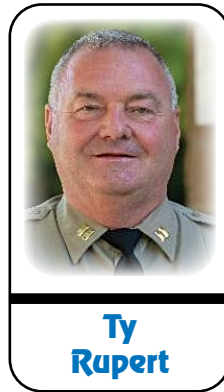
Originally from the east coast, Morse has a lifelong connection to the real estate industry. She was raised by a builder and interior designer, and her siblings are architects, builders and property managers.

Morse says her experience of living in two mountain towns has given her a great love for the outdoors and access to wide open spaces, a sense of adventure and a strong appreciation of community. When she's not helping her clients, Morse enjoys exploring the outskirts of Bend and beyond with her family, skiing at Mt. Bachelor, paddling the Deschutes River and walking her enormous dog.



Engel & Völkers recently announced its newest shop in Sisters. Leading the venture are license partners **Marcel Dolak** and **Michelle Rea**, who also co-own Engel & Völkers Bend, and collectively bring more than four decades of real estate experience in Central Oregon and reciprocal markets. Dolak also independently owns and leads Engel & Völkers' Kirkland and North Cascades Cle Elum shop in Washington, and is a partner in the Palm Desert, California, shop.

Engel & Völkers Sisters will be located at 101 W Main Ave., serving the markets of Sisters, Camp Sherman, Black Butte, Tumalo and Redmond. Attracting residents from all walks of life, Sisters is known for the wellness and outdoor lifestyles that characterize Central Oregon. The area offers premier skiing and snowboarding, golfing, fly fishing, biking, hiking and horseback riding, while also offering daily flights from the nearby Redmond Airport to Seattle, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Denver and other metropolitan areas.



The **Board of County Commissioners** (BOCC) has announced the appointment of Capt. **Ty Rupert** as the interim Deschutes County Sheriff. The decision follows the retirement announcement of Sheriff Kent van der Kamp, whose final day in office is Thursday, July 31.

Commissioners Tony Debone and Patti Adair voted to select Rupert from a competitive pool of five candidates, and Commissioner Phil Chang abstained during the BOCC meeting on Tuesday, July 29.

All three Commissioners expressed their confidence in Rupert's ability to lead the Sheriff's Office during this transition period and until a new Sheriff is elected in 2026.

The **Deschutes County Board of Commissioners** (BOCC) has appointed seven community members to serve on the county's District Mapping Advisory Committee (DMAC). This committee will draft a commissioner district map, which will first be considered by the Board before being put to Deschutes County voters as a ballot measure in 2026.

Commissioner Chair Tony DeBone appointed two committee members:

The Source has received national recognition for its cover art, earning First Place in Cover Design at the 2025 Association of Alternative Newsmedia (AAN) Awards. The winning entry, created by art director **Jennifer Galler** and illustrator

More Who's Who Next Page ►

who's who who's who who's who who's who who's who who's who

Who's Who
Continued from previous page

Adrian Galler, was praised for its bold visual storytelling, clever wordplay and compelling design.

This award places *The Source* alongside some of the country's most respected independent publications, including *Seven Days*, *The Austin Chronicle* and *Washington City Paper*. The AAN Awards celebrate excellence in alternative journalism across the U.S. and Canada, recognizing outlets that provide independent, investigative and community-centered reporting.



Jon Baker

The Bethlehem Inn announces the hiring of their new development director **Jon Baker**.

Baker has been a Central Oregon community member for nearly 20 years and in recent years has served as the director of development for a partner agency serving youth experiencing homelessness here in Bend.

Serving businesses and organizations who help vulnerable youth and adults has been the focus of Baker's professional work for his entire career.

As the development director, Baker will help continue the wonderful work of the organization and will strive to maintain the high level of service that the Central Oregon Community has been able to rely on for the past 26 years.



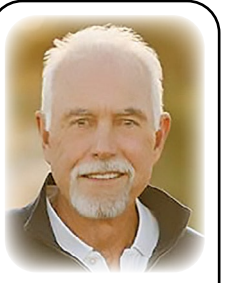
Rick Eisenbrandt



Ashley Eisenbrandt



Robyn Tuttle



Scott Tuttle

Premiere Property Group, LLC announces the addition of six experienced real estate professionals to its Bend office. **Rick Eisenbrandt, Ashley Eisenbrandt, Robyn Tuttle, Scott Tuttle, Jordan Bailey** and **Leighton D. Tuttle** have joined the brokerage, further reinforcing Premiere's commitment to delivering top-tier real estate services across Central Oregon.

With deep ties to the region and a passion for service, these agents reflect the values that have made Premiere Property Group the brokerage of choice for over 1,300 agents across 19 offices. Their addition expands the firm's capabilities in an increasingly competitive market, where experience and local insight matter most.



Jordan Bailey



Leighton D. Tuttle



Melanie Rudiger

AP Equipment Financing announced the promotion of **Melanie Rudiger**, CLFP, to Vice President of Operations.

Rudiger joined AP as documentation and funding manager in 2023, bringing with her many years of experience and expertise from previous roles at banks and similar institutions. During her tenure as documentation and funding manager, she became deeply involved with the inner workings of AP's proprietary loan origination platform and worked closely with sales, credit, servicing and many other departments. Her ability to communicate effectively, prioritize efficiency and manage personnel has proven her abilities as a strong leader within AP



Aaron Tarnow

Aaron Tarnow of **4 Seasons Home Services** in Bend has been appointed to the National Home Watch Association's Education Committee. The Education Committee is active in creating new educational content for NHWA members.

More Who's Who Page 34 ▶

Businesses Serving Community

HIGH DESERT FOOD AND FARM ALLIANCE

High Desert Food and Farm Alliance (HDFFA) was selected from a competitive grant process to receive funding from Travel Oregon. Travel Oregon awarded nearly 6.2 million dollars in grants to 65 organizations across the state, including \$120,385 to the High Desert Food and Farm Alliance. HDFFA will use this funding for a broad Taste Central Oregon campaign, educating visitors and residents about the importance of supporting Central Oregon farmers and ranchers by buying and dining locally and how and where to find local food.

HDFFA also received funding from Republic Services to support the Grow and Give program. Grow and Give, is a ten-year-running HDFFA program that reduces food waste, provides fresh produce for people in Central Oregon experiencing food insecurity and supports local farmers. The program works by collecting excess produce and delivering it to partners like NeighborImpact, Family Kitchen and others, and then reimbursing farming partners for their excess produce supporting local growers by providing additional income. With the Republic Services' partnership this program can continue creating a more resilient local food system.

A grant from The Environmental Center's Innovation Fund will further enhance HDFFA's work to reduce food waste by funding a new Perfectly Imperfect Produce program that will kick off with delicious food sampling at HDFFA's Northwest Crossing Farmers Market booth this summer.

"We're thrilled to receive support from these wonderful organizations," said HDFFA Executive Director Sharon Maier-Kennelly. "With this funding, we can continue and expand our work in sharing the importance of local food, reducing food waste and building a resilient food system for Central Oregonians."

HDFFA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit serving Crook, Deschutes and Jefferson Counties as well as the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. HDFFA's mission

is to support a healthy and thriving food & farm network through education, collaboration and inclusion.

FAMILY ACCESS NETWORK

The Family Access Network (FAN) received a \$15,000 grant from Les Schwab to kick start the upcoming school year. \$7,500 of the grant will be spent in Crook County, where Les Schwab has deep roots, with the remaining \$7,500 going towards children in need across Central Oregon. According to Kids Count research, "Children may not come to school ready to learn, or come to school at all, if they are experiencing instability," this can include housing instability, poverty and, other unmet basic needs, making FAN's work in the community essential to helping kids thrive in school. Les Schwab's funding comes during a crucial time, ensuring FAN can continue to remove barriers to assistance so children can come to school, well-fed, well-rested and prepared to learn.

"Les Schwab is a pillar of community support and we greatly value their partnership," says Julie N. Lyche, FAN's executive director. "The targeted regional support and flexible funding this grant provides allows FAN to make the biggest difference in the lives of local families."

For over 71 years, Les Schwab has been a trusted partner in communities across the West, supporting local programs that make a large impact. From sponsoring youth sports and Special Olympics Oregon to helping families in need, employees at local Les Schwab Tire Centers are committed to strengthening their communities every day.

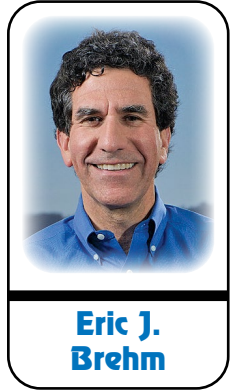
Unique to Central Oregon, FAN began in 1993 and currently employs 28 advocates at 65 sites in Deschutes, Crook and Jefferson counties. These advocates work tirelessly to help families break the cycle of poverty. The direct placement of FAN advocates within schools allows FAN to effectively reach and connect children and families in need to essential resources to thrive.

who's who who's who who's who who's who who's who who's who

Who's Who
Continued from page 33

Equipment Financing.

In this expanded role, Rudiger will continue to strengthen AP's efficient, technology-enabled operational infrastructure, with a focus on delivering consistent, scalable and compliant outcomes across all departments.



SCORE Central Oregon announced **Eric J. Brehm** as one of its newest members, serving as a certified mentor. Brehm is a seasoned technology executive with over 30 years of leadership experience in software product companies. Known for his ability to transform ideas into successful products and build high-performing teams, Brehm has played a key role in supporting the success of thousands of small and large client businesses. From his roles as senior vice president at Deltek, to vice president of product engineering at Wolters Kluwer (WK), to chief product officer at Rightworks, Brehm's expertise spans strategy, product development, organizational growth, recruiting, staff development, partnerships, acquisitions and sales. He now channels his passion for innovation and organizational development into mentoring emerging leaders and entrepreneurs. He also utilizes his technology background as a volunteer, helping a number of nonprofit organizations to implement and improve systems. He lives with his wife and their dog, splitting time between Maine and Oregon, and enjoys outdoor adventures and time with their two adult children and their partners.

Trish Smith was honored with the 2025 Soul of Central Oregon Award during *Bend Magazine's* tenth anniversary celebration.

A longtime advocate for education, culture and community, Smith has helped shape the region through decades of service and generosity. From board leadership to her heart-filled cookbook *Feeding My Friends*, her legacy continues to nourish Central Oregon in more ways than one.

Pacific Firs announces that **Greg Dickey** has joined the team as general manager. Dickey brings over 30 years of experience in the lumber industry and a career marked by steady progression, deep operational expertise and proven leadership. Dickey began his lumber journey at Weyerhaeuser, steadily rising through the ranks to become Mill Manager at Southport Lumber Co. His decades of experience, strategic insight and operational excellence through multiple economic cycles have made him a respected leader in the industry. Now, as general manager of one of the leading lumber remanufacturing companies in the Pacific Northwest, he will focus on driving operational excellence and leading the Pacific Firs team through its next phase of growth. His leadership will be key in ensuring the continued success of the company while producing only the highest quality products for its customers.

Outside of work, Dickey enjoys spending time with his family, traveling, dirt bike riding, hiking and playing golf.



PHOTO | COURTESY OF OLD MILL DISTRICT

who's who who's who who's who who's who who's who who's who

New hires, promotions, accolades, awards, retiring? Send us your

Who's Who!

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

who's who who's who who's who who's who who's who who's who



SUBSCRIBE TO CASCADE BUSINESS NEWS

RECEIVE A FREE COPY OF OUR 2025 BOOK OF LISTS



- **Book of List Online Combo: \$200**
(Out of Area \$250 | Nonprofit \$150)
1 Year of Cascade Business News
1 Year Online Book of Lists
1 Hard Copy of Book of List
Annual Savings of \$58
(\$6 mailing fee or available at the office for pickup)
- **Cascade Business News: \$40** (Out of Area \$50)
(includes online subscription)
- **Cascade A&E: \$30** (Out of Area \$40)
- **Get ALL print pubs for \$60** (Out of Area \$75)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL for E-News: _____

CHECK ENCLOSED PLEASE BILL MY: VISA MC

VISA/MC #: _____ EXP. DATE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ CVV: _____

Published Twice Monthly Since 1994 • CascadeBusinessNews.com

Send completed form to: Cascade Publications Inc. PO Box 53, Bend, OR 97707 • ph: 541-388-5665