

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



Gabe Libby

**Gabe Libby** joins Johnson Brothers Appliances as account manager.

Born and raised in Vancouver, Washington, Libby graduated high school in 2020 before attending Bellevue College, where he studied Business and Marketing. Since then, he has built a career that spans multiple industries and client bases. He most recently served as Lead of Sales & Marketing at BlueCube, working with both residential and commercial clients across the U.S. and internationally to deliver high-end luxury cold plunges.

Prior to that, Libby gained experience in sales and customer-focused roles at ProPlus Fitness, BTL Liners and Brasada Ranch, developing a reputation for consultative sales, strong client relationships and a results-driven

approach. His ability to adapt across industries has given him a well-rounded foundation for supporting clients and growing business opportunities.

Now stepping into his role as Account Manager at Johnson Brothers Appliances, Libby is eager to apply his skills to the appliance industry and help customers find solutions that fit their needs. He's passionate about growth, both personal and professional, and thrives on challenges that allow him to combine strategy with hands-on execution.

Outside of work, Libby is dedicated to fitness, enjoys snowboarding, hiking and spending time outdoors, and is constantly exploring new entrepreneurial ideas. His drive is to build and design — whether that's creating opportunities in business, developing brands, or crafting new concepts that deliver value and impact.

**Deschutes County** has hired **Holly Harris** to serve as its new Health Services director. Harris has served as interim Health Services director since July, when former director Janice Garceau retired.

Before serving as interim director, Harris served as the County's Behavioral Health director. She joined Deschutes County in 2013 as a Behavioral Health Specialist on the MCAT team and played pivotal roles in establishing the County's Stabilization Center and securing funding for a child psychiatric unit in the region.

Harris earned a master of education-counseling from the University of Houston-victoria and is a licensed professional counselor. Prior to working for Deschutes County, she served as a director of the Wharton County Juvenile Probation Department in Texas.

As Deschutes County Health Services director, Harris will lead the day-to-day operations of the county's largest department, employing more than 400 staff members who provide public and behavioral health services in our community.



Holly Harris

**Riverhouse Lodge** announces the appointment of Chef **Frederick Schumann** as its new executive banquet chef. A Central Oregon native with more than 13 years of diverse culinary experience, Frederick will oversee the hotel's banquet and event dining program, bringing a refined, restaurant-quality approach to every event.

Frederick began his culinary journey at a very young age, starting as a steward in a high-volume kitchen and steadily working his way through every station. His career progression instilled both technical expertise and deep respect for every role in the kitchen. Today, he is recognized for his ability to merge precision, creativity and hospitality in a banquet setting.

At Riverhouse Lodge, Frederick will lead the banquet culinary team in creating menus that highlight bold flavors, refined techniques and thoughtful presentation. His vision is to deliver an event dining experience that mirrors, and often rivals, restaurant service, setting a new standard for group dining in Central Oregon.

Outside of the kitchen, Frederick enjoys the natural beauty of Central Oregon through activities such as fishing, snowmobiling and spending time with his family, who remain a source of inspiration in his work. Riverhouse Lodge looks forward to showcasing Frederick's culinary expertise and his commitment to creating memorable dining experiences for every guest.

**Mountain Rose Herbs** announced their newly appointed executive vice president. Long-time employee, **Steven Yeager**, was promoted from the vice president of Quality and Regulatory Affairs to this new leadership role, which will oversee more of the company's operations. A Mountain Rose Herbs employee for 18 years, Yeager brings a wealth of qualifications to the position along with the institutional knowledge that comes from working for a company for almost two decades.

In addition to his work at Mountain Rose Herbs, Yeager has been working with plants for the last 30 years in the capacity of an herbal educator and former co-owner of the Columbine School of Botanical Studies. The skills he has honed in his personal life are a large part of his ability to direct quality control, laboratory operations, regulatory compliance and now the larger strategic planning of Mountain Rose Herbs.



Steven Yeager

**Mid Oregon Credit Union** was honored to win first place in the credit union category for the *Bend Bulletin's* Best of the Best of Bend Community Choice Awards.

Earlier this year, the community was invited to nominate their favorite service providers, businesses and destinations as the Best of the Best of Bend. Three top nominees from each category advanced to a second round of voting, with the

winner being announced at an award gala on September 25. Mid Oregon won the top honor for the third consecutive year.

**Bend Fire & Rescue** announced that **Melissa Steele** has been named deputy fire marshal of Wildfire Preparedness, a new position with the Department that is dedicated to increasing community preparedness and resilience in the face of wildfire.

Steele has been in the fire service for 24 years, first as a wildland firefighter and emergency medical technician with the United States Forest Service and then with CalFire in Paradise, California. She was hired as a fire inspector with Bend Fire in 2022.

Steele stood out as an ideal candidate because of her expertise in wildfire prevention, stemming from her experience in the field and vast professional development over the years.

Her work as an inspector included investigating fire causes, ensuring safety and compliance with fire codes, educating the public on how to prevent fires and performing home assessments for community members who want to mitigate their wildfire risk. Steele also developed the Own Your Zone: First Five Feet program, which teaches residents simple actions that can be taken to protect their homes and properties from wildfire. She has attended preparedness fairs and events on behalf of the Department, sits on many regional committees that address wildfire preparedness and emergency planning, and supports Firewise USA neighborhoods by attending and speaking at education events. Steele was awarded the Bend Fire & Rescue Appreciation Award for exceptional service in fire safety and community outreach after only a year of working with the Department.

In 2023, Steele earned the title of National Fire Academy Instructor, teaching a Fire Adapted Communities Course at the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) headquarters in Emmitsburg, Maryland, sharing her work with local neighborhoods and partners to create wildfire-ready communities on a national stage.

The Bend City Council is prioritizing the Bend community's readiness for large-scale emergencies like wildfire this biennium, with several of the 2025-2027 Council Goals directed towards improving wildfire resiliency. Specific actions within these goals include expanding community outreach and education.

**Killer Burger**, the fast-growing better burger concept offering meticulously crafted, award-winning burgers, has announced the appointment of respected restaurant industry veteran and accomplished franchise leader, Jean Grossman, to Killer Burger's Board of Directors, effective immediately.

Grossman brings over 30 years of leadership experience across prominent franchise brands, including Dunkin' Brands, European Wax Center and Merry Maids. Throughout her career, she has proven success at accelerating growth by investing in people, improving operations and building development systems that deliver results.

"Jean's track record of building successful franchise systems makes her an ideal addition to our board," said Adam Sanders, CEO at Killer Burger. "As we continue to prioritize expanding our franchising program and securing multi-unit deal agreements, her deep understanding of franchise operations and proven ability to scale brands will be invaluable. We've built something special here at Killer Burger, and Jean's expertise will help us deliver on our vision of bringing our burgers to new markets while supporting our franchise partners every step of the way."

Most recently, Grossman served as president of Merry Maids, the home cleaning services brand. She also previously held executive positions such as chief operating officer at Buff City Soap and chief franchise officer at European Wax Center. Additionally, Grossman's tenure at Dunkin' Brands spanned over ten years, and included operational-focused roles like Regional VP Operations, Development/Construction, as well as Regional VP Midwest, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington. Her leadership will be instrumental in refining the systems that enable faster, more efficient growth while maintaining Killer Burger's commitment to quality and fun.

Grossman's appointment comes as Killer Burger continues its strategic expansion, recently celebrating successful franchise openings, including the new Bend, location in partnership with franchisee Cascade KB, which is set to open and operate 13 total locations across three states.

Grossman earned a bachelors from Kean University and currently serves as a Franchise Executive in the Greater New York, New Jersey and Philadelphia area.

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accolades, awards, retiring?  
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