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Shane Cochran

**Wallace Group** announced the recent promotion of **Shane Cochran**, R.G., L.G., to the role of chief operating officer (COO). As a longstanding project manager and senior geologist, this transition reflects both exceptional leadership and a deep understanding of our work from the ground up.

Over the last 20 years, Cochran has played a pivotal role in shaping our company's capabilities. With a strong foundation in geology and extensive experience managing complex field operations, he has consistently bridged the gap between scientific rigor and practical execution. From early-stage site assessments to large-scale project delivery, Shane has demonstrated an ability to navigate uncertainty, align multidisciplinary teams and deliver quality results efficiently.

What makes this transition especially powerful is the perspective Cochran brings into the COO role. His background combines hands-on field experience with strategic project oversight, which are two elements critical to operational excellence. He understands the realities of fieldwork, the importance of data-driven decisions, and the coordination required to move projects forward in dynamic environments.

Cochran will focus on strengthening operational consistency, enhancing cross-functional collaboration and ensuring that our projects continue to meet the highest standards of quality, safety and responsibility. His leadership is grounded in accountability, clear communication and a commitment to continuous improvement, which is a quality that has defined his career with The Wallace Group.

The **St. Charles Health System** Board of Directors announced that **Michael Hartke** will serve as the next president and CEO of the organization as **Dr. Steve Gordon** plans to retire later this year. Hartke currently serves as executive vice president and chief operating officer for the health system and is looking forward to taking on the new role.

After four years as president and CEO, Gordon said it is time to get back to the retirement plans he delayed when originally agreeing to serve in the role on an interim basis.

The transition will officially take place July 5, but Gordon will continue to provide support through the third quarter of the year and also plans to remain a part of the Central Oregon community in his retirement.

In addition, Rhoads shared that the board is thrilled that Michael Hartke has agreed to take on the president and CEO role.

Hartke has more than 25 years of health care leadership experience, including serving as President of Northwest Community Healthcare, a division of Endeavor Health, in Arlington Heights, Ill. He holds a bachelor's degree from Northern Illinois University and a Master of Business Administration from Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University in Chicago. He has been in his role with St. Charles for a little more than a year and joined the St. Charles Foundation Board of Directors earlier this year. He and his wife Amy enjoy living in Bend and appreciate all of the amazing outdoor activities and climate that Central Oregon has to offer. The Hartkes have three adult sons that live in Madison, Wisconsin, Chicago, Illinois and Southern California.



Michael Hartke

Steve Gordon



Erin Colbrese

Ken VanDomelen

**SCORE Central Oregon** welcomes two new fully certified mentors to our team of volunteer mentors.

**Erin Colbrese** spent the last 18 years at Microsoft after careers in pro sports and advertising. She holds a bachelor of arts from Central Washington University in sports management and marketing and a minor in English. She also holds a 200-hour yoga teaching certification along with an Integrative Mind Body Somatic Therapy Certificate. She moved to Bend three years ago from Seattle, after growing up in Montana and

Wyoming. Colbrese is excited to join SCORE to serve her community and help small business owners thrive in Central Oregon.

**Ken VanDomelen** spent his 37-year career in the construction industry centered around asphalt pavement maintenance and underground construction. He garnered an MBA from George Fox University with a passion for environmental practices in the paving industry. VanDomelen's side interest is in real estate investment and development. With the sale of his business in 2024, he relocated to Bend to focus on volunteer work through the Greater Bend Rotary Club alongside his work with Score.

**Partners In Care** recently announced the appointment of **John Weinsheim**, MPA, FACMPE, as its next chief executive officer, effective July 1, 2026, and the upcoming retirement of current CEO Greg Hagfors, who has led the organization since 2022. The selection followed a rigorous search process that recognized exceptional talent and reflected the remarkable depth of leadership that exists at Partners In Care.

Weinsheim is a healthcare leader whose career has been defined by a commitment to patient-centered care, caregiver engagement and building organizations where quality and compassion are inseparable. He has spent more than 30 years developing and leading healthcare teams across the Pacific Northwest and Midwest, consistently crediting the people around him for the success of the organizations he has served. Known for cultivating strong staff culture, Weinsheim has built teams recognized for exceptional engagement and among the lowest turnover rates in their health systems, a reflection of the kind of leadership that puts people first.

Most recently, he has served as executive vice president of Kootenai Clinic in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, where he has fostered one of the highest caregiver engagement cultures in the health system while overseeing a large multispecialty clinical delivery organization. Prior to that, Weinsheim spent nearly a decade at St. Charles Health System in Bend, where he built the employed physician group from the ground up, growing it through a deep focus on provider relationships, quality improvement and community partnership. He holds a master of public administration with a healthcare agency concentration from the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh and is a Fellow of the American College of Medical Practice Executives. Weinsheim and his family first moved to Central Oregon in 2010, and he has long admired Partners In Care's mission and reputation. Weinsheim is eager to serve the Central Oregon community he calls home.

The Partners In Care Governing Board expressed strong confidence in the organization's new leadership following a thorough and deliberate search process. The Board was drawn to Weinsheim's rare combination of deep commitment to caregiver culture and quality patient care, combined with his strategic acumen, and genuine connection to Central Oregon. His familiarity with the region's healthcare landscape, and with Partners In Care itself, along with his proven ability to build high-performing, mission-aligned organizations, made him the clear choice to lead the organization into its next chapter.

Greg Hagfors' retirement marks the close of a period of significant growth and impact for the community-based nonprofit. Since assuming the role of CEO in 2022, Hagfors provided steady leadership through a time of expansion and innovation, most notably overseeing the opening of the organization's 12-bed Hospice House, the only inpatient specialty hospice hospital east of the Cascades. This milestone significantly expanded access to inpatient hospice care and reinforced Partners In Care's role as a trusted nonprofit healthcare provider in the region.

With the appointment of Weinsheim, Partners In Care enters its next chapter with a leader whose values align deeply with the organization's mission, and with the remarkable team that carries that mission forward every day. The Board recognizes that the strength of Partners In Care has never resided in any single leader, but in the collective dedication of its staff, its volunteers and its leadership team, whose excellence and passion for this work are what make this organization extraordinary. Weinsheim inherits not just a strong organization but an exceptional team, and the Board is confident that together, the quality of care and the trust of the community that Partners In Care has earned will only deepen.

**Economic Development for Central Oregon** (EDCO) announced the hiring of **Garrett Loveall** as Bend area director and **Christine Munsey** as director of events and community relations. Both roles are key to advancing EDCO's efforts to support a strong, diverse and connected regional economy.

As Bend area director, Loveall will assist EDCO and local leaders in executing business retention, expansion and recruitment strategies that support the growth of primary employers and strengthen the region's economic competitiveness. The position works in coordination with the City of Bend's Economic Development Division and focuses on initiatives and policies that make Bend an attractive place to do business.

Loveall has lived in Central Oregon for over 13 years and brings a diverse background in entrepreneurship, operations and supply chain management. In 2013, he founded July Nine, a lightweight bag company that began in Bend and expanded through local manufacturing and online sales. Before joining EDCO, he spent four and a half years at Hydro Flask, working in supply planning and inventory management.

In her role as director of events and community relations, Munsey will lead EDCO's efforts to design and deliver engaging experiences that showcase the organization's impact across Central Oregon. The public-facing role includes oversight of events, board meetings and community engagement initiatives that strengthen relationships across the region.

Munsey has lived in Central Oregon for 20 years and has a background in guest experience, coordination and event planning, most recently supporting events through COBA. She is passionate about creating positive experiences and cultivating strong relationships within the community.



Garrett Loveall

Christine Munsey



Heidi Friesen

Five local schools have won the 2026 OnPoint Prize for Excellence in Education Community Builder awards. Each school will receive a cash prize for a special project that positively impacts its school and community.

**OnPoint Community Credit Union** also named the eight finalists for its Educator of the Year awards. Each educator is in the running to have their mortgage or rent paid for one full year and receive \$2,500 for their school. The four winners in each category (K-5, 6-8, 9-12 and Gold Star) will be announced on May 20, 2026. The remaining four runners-up in each category will receive a \$5,000 cash award and a \$1,500 donation to their schools for resources and supplies.

Community Builder Awards are to \$5,000 Community Builder Award grand prize winner **Cedar Ridge Middle School: Kiln for Kids** (Oregon Trail School District, Sandy, Oregon).

\$2,000 Community Builder Award winners are: **Carus Elementary** (Canby School District, Oregon City, Oregon), **Mapleton School District** (Mapleton, Oregon), **Rex Putnam High School** (North Clackamas School District, Milwaukie, Oregon) and **Woodland High School** (Woodland Public Schools, Woodland, Washington).

Educator of the Year finalists are: K-5 finalists **Ashley Reich** – 4th grade, Bertha Holt Elementary, Eugene School District 4J and **Sam Wishart** – 1st grade, City View Charter School, Hillsboro School District.

Six-eight finalists are **Mikael Benson** –

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6-8th grade Math and Gardening, Harrison Park Middle School, Portland Public Schools and **Kristine Napper** – 6-8th grade Social Studies, Whitford Middle School, Beaverton School District. Nine-12 finalists are **Stephanie Fitzgerald** – 9-12th grade Algebra, Geometry, Pre-Calculus, Colton High School, Colton School District and **Heidi Friesen** – 9-12th grade Chemistry and Physics, Bend Senior High, Bend - La Pine School District.

Gold Star finalists (includes pre-kindergarten teachers, school counselors, substitute teachers, librarians, principals or school administrators) are **Kali Dalton** – counselor, Coweeman Middle School, Kelso School District and **Yaneira Romero** – social worker, James John Elementary, Portland Public Schools.

The **Central Oregon Health Council** (COHC) has announced the return of longtime Executive Director **Donna Mills** to serve as interim executive director as the organization enters its next phase following five years of significant growth, transition and organizational change.

The Board of Directors unanimously approved the appointment to provide continuity, stability and trusted leadership while the organization conducts a thoughtful assessment of future leadership needs and long-term strategic priorities in response to the shifting healthcare environment.

Mills, who took the helm at COHC in 2015, is widely recognized for building strong relationships across the community and initiating many of the organization's core programs and partnerships. Highly respected across the region as a leader in healthcare transformation, Mills engaged countless organizations and individuals in a continuous effort to improve the health of the Central Oregon community.

Board leadership emphasized that the interim appointment is intended to strengthen organizational continuity and support staff and community partners while future planning is underway.



CITIZEN'S ACADEMY GRADUATION | PHOTO COURTESY OF CROOK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Congratulations to the 13 graduates of the **Crook County Sheriff's Office** Citizen's Academy Session #11.

During the academy, participants learned directly from deputies and community partners about many areas of public safety, including patrol, corrections, firearm safety, emergency preparedness and CERT.

Since the program began, nearly 200 community members have completed the academy. Graduates have gone on to support the Sheriff's Office in meaningful ways, including serving on courthouse and jail committees and helping raise funds for the K9 program.

**Mackeson Advisory** announced the celebration of its tenth anniversary as an independent advisory firm. To mark this milestone, the company has unveiled a refreshed office space at 777 SW Mill View Way and welcomed new team members who expand the firm's capacity to serve Central Oregon's growing community of investors.

Founder and Financial Advisor **Tyler Mackeson** launched the firm in 2015, driven by a belief that financial planning should be deeply personal — built on empathy, trust and a thorough understanding of each client's values and life goals. Over the past decade, Mackeson and his team have assisted hundreds of individuals and families across Central Oregon in building financial plans with purpose and intention.

Coinciding with the anniversary, Mackeson Advisory has completed a full remodel of its office. The updated office is designed to support the firm's growing team and evolving client services.

The ten-year milestone also brings exciting additions to the Mackeson Advisory team. The firm now includes eight dedicated professionals, each bringing distinct expertise and a shared commitment to personalized service:

**Tyler Mackeson**, founder and lead financial advisor; **Erik Maki**, partner, portfolio manager and financial advisor; **Gina Patterson**, CFP, director of financial planning; **Karissa Olalde**, insurance specialist and operations; **Manager Kai Robinson**, financial advisor; **Karlie Holmgren**, executive assistant; **Robyn Jones**, office manager; and **Stephanie Legge**, operations specialist.



2026 EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION FINALISTS | PHOTO COURTESY OF BEND - LA PINE SCHOOLS

**Bend-La Pine Schools** recognizes staff members from across the district who have distinguished themselves this school year with their leadership, innovation, outstanding professional practice and positive contributions at work and in the community.

The 76 honorees, nominated by their supervisors, were recognized at the annual Excellence in Education Awards held May 13 at Mountain View High School. They include campus monitors, counselors, kitchen managers, classroom teachers, educational assistants, office managers, bus drivers and others who have had a positive impact on students.

Excellence in Education finalists for 2026 are for Support Staff of the Year: **Denise Bunday** - High Lakes Elementary School, **Courtney Miller** - Westside Village Magnet School, **Silvie Pierce** - Sky View Middle School, **Lupe Loheit** - Bend Senior High School, **Marisa Dunn** - human resources, **Sophia Theotokatos** - custodial department and **Brian Harris** - safety department. Certified Employee of the Year: **Brian Crites** - Amity Creek Magnet School, **Katie Sinner** - Ensworth Elementary School, **Rick Johnson** - North Star Elementary School, **Lindsey Dersch** - Pacific Crest Middle School, **Chelsea Jennings** - Mountain View High School, **Tanya Everts** - Bend-La Pine online and **Torie Withers** - teaching and learning.

Excellence in Education honorees for 2026 are: **Brian Crites** - Amity Creek Magnet School, **Julie Connell** and **Emmaline Beall** - Bear Creek Elementary, **Stacia Williams Biancucci** and **Teresa DuValle** - Buckingham Elementary, **Nicole Dewes** and **Jayne Welch** - Elk Meadow Elementary, **Katie Sinner** and **Carol Nolan** - Ensworth Elementary, **Allison Harvey** and **Denise Bunday** - High Lakes Elementary, **Tami Otis** and **Steph Greene** - Highland Magnet School, **Ashley Dawson** and **Beth Carey** - Juniper Elementary, **Cody Dame** and **Samuel Olson** - La Pine Elementary, **Tracy Mauze** and **Jill Evans** - Lava Ridge Elementary, **Rick Johnson** and **Gina Chavez** - North Star Elementary, **Katie DuVal** and **Jessica Baker** - Pine Ridge Elementary, **Brittany Sluman** and **Patsy Cockrum** - Ponderosa Elementary, **Carey Fitzgerald** and **Calah Hickmann** - R.E. Jewell Elementary, **Nicholas Meko** and **Shawna Haddock** - Rosland Elementary, **Taj Simmons** and **Keaton Race-Kryger** - Silver Rail Elementary, **Kacie Pitner** and **Amberlynn Wilson** - Three Rivers K-8, **Addy Ramina** and **Courtney Miller** - Westside Village Magnet School, **Betsy Perry** and **Michael Webber** - W.E. Miller Elementary, **David Rushton** and **Carolyn Lamberson** - Cascade Middle School, **Joe Albano** and **Liza Boisineau** - High Desert Middle School, **Tracy Chancellor** and **Michelle Whitney** - La Pine Middle School, **Valerie Overley** and **Kasey Cartmill** - Pilot Butte Middle School, **Lindsey Dersch** and **Shawna Junker** - Pacific Crest Middle School, **Matt Jones** and **Silvie Pierce** - Sky View Middle School, **Alexandra Jennings** and **Lupe Loheit** - Bend Senior High School and **Rachael**, **Paulina Stadler** - Caldera High School, **Luke Donahue** and **Abby Schneider** - La Pine High School, **Kelly Peters** and **Rebecca Wright** - Bend Tech Academy, **Chelsea Jennings** and **Aimee Coble** - Mountain View High School, **Yen-Ling Wang** and **Luke Martin** - Realms Middle and High School, **Denise Horton** and **Lynn Hawkins** - Summit High School, **Tanya Everts** and **Tami Hertzler** - Bend-La Pine online, **Torie Withers** and **Stephanie Bent** - teaching and learning, **Sharon Botten** - nutrition services, **Jerry Van Cura** - maintenance, **Sophia Theotokatos** - custodial department, **Rachel Mavis** - information technology, **Brian Harris** - safety department, **Elizabeth Hall** - La Pine transportation, **Julie Raines** - Bend transportation, **Marisa Dunn** - human resources and **Scott Blanchard** - business office.

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**Who's Who!**

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