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Brian Tanis

Deschutes Public Library Board members voted to appoint Bend resident Brian Tanis to the Zone 4 Library Board position; he was sworn in at the Board's June 10 meeting at the Sisters Library.

The vacancy comes after board member Betsy Tucker resigned her position in April. Library Board members Michele Anderson, Laura Leis, Ann Malkin and Erin Trimble voted 4-0 in favor of Tanis's appointment.

Tanis been a part of the Central Oregon community since moving to the Bend area in 2020, building ties he established over several years conducting ecological research in the region. As a scientist and educator, he is dedicated to promoting lifelong learning, engaging experiences and access to supportive spaces for the community. Tanis says he's keen to serve as a liaison and work collaboratively with the board to steward and support the vital role of the library in Deschutes County.

Tanis will serve in the Zone 4 position through June 30, 2027. The Zone 4 position will be up for public election in May 2027.

Taylor Brooks recently announced that it has expanded its team with the addition of a new assistant property manager position, and the hiring of Amber Vastano.

Vastano brings several years of experience in property management, client and tenant relationship management, and facility maintenance. Prior to joining Taylor Brooks, Vastano was a property coordinator at Deschutes Property Management, and before that she was an assistant manager at Lincoln Property Company, now Willowbridge PC.

At Taylor Brooks, Vastano reports to the property manager, and will support the day-to-day management of the nearly 500,000 square feet of commercial properties owned or managed by Taylor Brooks. She will work closely with the team to oversee tenant relations, financial tracking, maintenance coordination, and administrative processes that ensure properties operate efficiently and maintain high standards.



Amber Vastano



Elliot Lau



Sahalie Medlock

Central Electric Cooperative announced the winner for the Washington, D.C. Youth Tour. This year, the cooperative selected Elliot Lau from Mountain View High School and Sahalie Medlock from Redmond High School.

A model builder, trap shooter, and local Boy Scout, Lau is currently working toward his Eagle Scout rank and enjoys the challenge and the outdoor adventures. When not in school, Lau enjoys building model airplanes and creating fishing lures.

He is also working on his trap shooting skills and hopes to win first place in next year's state competition.

Excelling on the court and in the classroom, Medlock loves to support students and the local community through a variety of programs, including student council, the Sparrow Club, the National Honor Society, Makerspace, Key Club, and more. She plays volleyball and tennis and serves as Redmond High School's Associated Student Body treasurer. Medlock also enjoys teaching kids at various youth camps throughout the summer. Outside of school, Medlock enjoys playing pickleball, sand volleyball, reading, baking, paddleboarding, and spending time outdoors with her family.

The Washington Youth Tour is a program offered by electric cooperatives nationwide to high school juniors from their co-op membership. Participants receive an all-expenses-paid trip to the nation's capital and learn about the nation's history through visits to Arlington National Cemetery, the Washington Monument, and the Smithsonian.

In addition, students not only meet with other participants their age from across the nation but also have the opportunity to discuss current issues with Congressional representatives and senators.

Family Access Network (FAN) announces the appointment of Tasha McFarland of Bend as chair of the FAN Foundation Board of Directors. McFarland

has served on the FAN Foundation Board since November 2020. An Oregon native and longtime Central Oregon resident, McFarland brings a background in property management and extensive community volunteer service. FAN also announces that Glen Blyth has been appointed vice chair and has served on the board since February 2024.

Lastly, FAN extends its gratitude to outgoing Board Chair Marianna Frisinger, who is relocating to Portland after ten years of leadership.

The Madras City Council has identified Brenda Fahey as its preferred candidate for the position of city administrator and directed that an employment agreement be prepared for consideration at the June 23, 2026, City Council meeting.

The decision follows a comprehensive recruitment process that included community engagement opportunities, staff and external interview panels, and formal interviews conducted by the City Council.

Fahey currently serves as assistant city manager and human resources director for the City of The Dalles and brings more than 25 years of public sector experience. Her background includes executive leadership, organizational development, human resources, labor relations, public communications, budgeting, and guiding organizations through periods of change and growth.

The city administrator serves as the City's chief administrative officer, responsible for implementing City Council direction, overseeing daily operations, supporting department leadership, and advancing organizational priorities in service to the community.

Since January, the City of Madras has maintained continuity of operations through a leadership transition. Public Works Director Jeff Hurd served as Interim City Administrator through February, followed by a period of Council management while the recruitment process was underway. Interim City Administrator David Clyne joined the organization in April to provide leadership and support the City's transition efforts. Throughout this period, City employees have continued to provide essential services while maintaining focus on the Council's priorities and the needs of the community.

If approved by the City Council, an anticipated July start date would provide an opportunity for a collaborative transition period before Clyne's contract concludes on August 1.

Throughout this recruitment process, the City Council, staff, and community invested significant time and energy in identifying the right person to help lead Madras into its next chapter. I believe Brenda Fahey brings the experience, perspective, and collaborative leadership style needed to build on the strong foundation already in place.

The City Council is expected to consider an employment agreement at its June 23, 2026, meeting. If approved, Fahey is anticipated to begin serving as city administrator in July.



Brenda Fahey



Sydney Schewe

NAI Cascade Commercial Real Estate welcomes Sydney Schewe to its brokerage team as a Licensed Broker. Schewe will support the firm's managed leasing portfolio while building her commercial brokerage practice focused on landlord and tenant representation throughout Central Oregon.

Schewe holds a degree in urban and regional planning with a minor in business from Michigan State University, providing a strong foundation in land use, development, market analysis, and the broader factors that shape commercial real estate.

Prior to joining NAI Cascade, Schewe gained valuable industry experience as a multi-family investment and marketing intern with NAI Wisinski of West Michigan, where she supported commercial real estate research, marketing initiatives, and investment analysis. Her experience with another NAI affiliate strengthens NAI Cascade's connection to the broader NAI Global network, which includes more than 325 offices in 65 countries and over 5,800 real estate professionals worldwide.

In her role with NAI Cascade, Schewe will work alongside the brokerage and property management teams to support existing leasing clients while expanding her own portfolio of commercial real estate assignments. Her analytical background, enthusiasm, and commitment to building relationships reflect the next generation

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of professionals entering the commercial real estate industry.

Schewe relocated to Bend after graduation and quickly embraced the lifestyle and opportunities that make Central Oregon unique. Outside of the office, she enjoys biking, snowboarding, running, and camping, and looks forward to continuing to build connections within the community she now calls home.

The City of Prineville has appointed Shane Wilson as its next Police Chief.

Wilson has served in interim leadership roles within the Prineville Police Department, overseeing department operations and day-to-day services to the community.

Wilson joined the Prineville Police Department in 2015. During his tenure, he has served as a police officer, sergeant, detective sergeant, lieutenant, captain, and interim chief. Prior to joining the department, he began his law enforcement career in Southern Oregon as a reserve officer and police officer with the City of Talent.

In addition to his supervisory and leadership responsibilities, Wilson has served as a field training officer, training coordinator, drug recognition expert, background investigator, reserve officer program coordinator, and instructor for the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST). He has also completed SWAT school and holds a DPSST management certification.

"Since joining the department in 2015, Wilson has served in a variety of roles and taken on increasing leadership responsibilities," said City Manager Steve Forrester. "He understands our community and has demonstrated the experience and leadership needed to lead the department."

"It's a privilege to serve our community," Wilson said. "I look forward to continuing to work alongside our officers and staff as we support and respond to the needs of Prineville."

Wilson's appointment is effective July 1, 2026.

Mayor Jason Beebe has resigned from the Prineville City Council and his position as Mayor effective June 15, citing personal reasons.

Beebe has served on the City Council since 2011 and as Mayor since 2021. His current term was scheduled to conclude on December 31, 2026.

City Manager Steve Forrester thanked Beebe for his 15 years of service and leadership on behalf of the City Council, City staff, and the community.

In accordance with the City Charter, Council President Steve Uffelman will assume the duties of Mayor. The City Council will determine the process for filling the vacant council seat.



Shane Wilson

The City of Prineville extends its sincere appreciation to Beebe for his years of public service.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Oregon (BGCCO) announces changes to their Board of Directors. Vice Chair Vicki Nakata is relocating and stepping down as vice chair, with the board voting Colleen Brosman as the new vice chair. Longtime board member Chris Petty was voted in as the new Board secretary. Finally, Danielle Rosenfield, current Board chair, was voted in to serve in her role for another 2.5 years. Brosman, Petty, and Rosenfield will serve in their new or extended roles until December 31, 2028.



FORMER SENATOR TIM KNOPP PRESENTED THE OSU-CASCADES 2026 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD | PHOTO COURTESY OF OSU-CASCADES

Oregon State University - Cascades awarded its 2026 Distinguished Service Award to former Oregon state Senator Tim Knopp.

The annual award honors individuals, businesses or organizations who have made exceptional contributions to OSU-Cascades, Central Oregon, Oregon or the world.

An Oregonian and resident of Central Oregon for more than 40 years, Knopp served three terms in the Oregon House of Representatives from 1999 to 2005, including a term as majority leader. Knopp later served in the Oregon State Senate from 2013 to 2025, serving as Minority Leader and on multiple policy committees with responsibilities spanning workforce, health care, education and human services.

During his time in office, Knopp helped secure capital funding for OSU-Cascades for land remediation and to construct Tykeson and Edward J. Ray halls, and the Student Success Center.

In 2025, Governor Tina Kotek appointed Knopp as Oregon's chief prosperity officer, a role with responsibilities for increasing the state's gross domestic product, creating family-wage jobs and growing Oregon businesses.

Knopp received the award during a recent gathering of OSU-Cascades' leaders and donors.

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