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BEND Magazine

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WINTER BASECAMP
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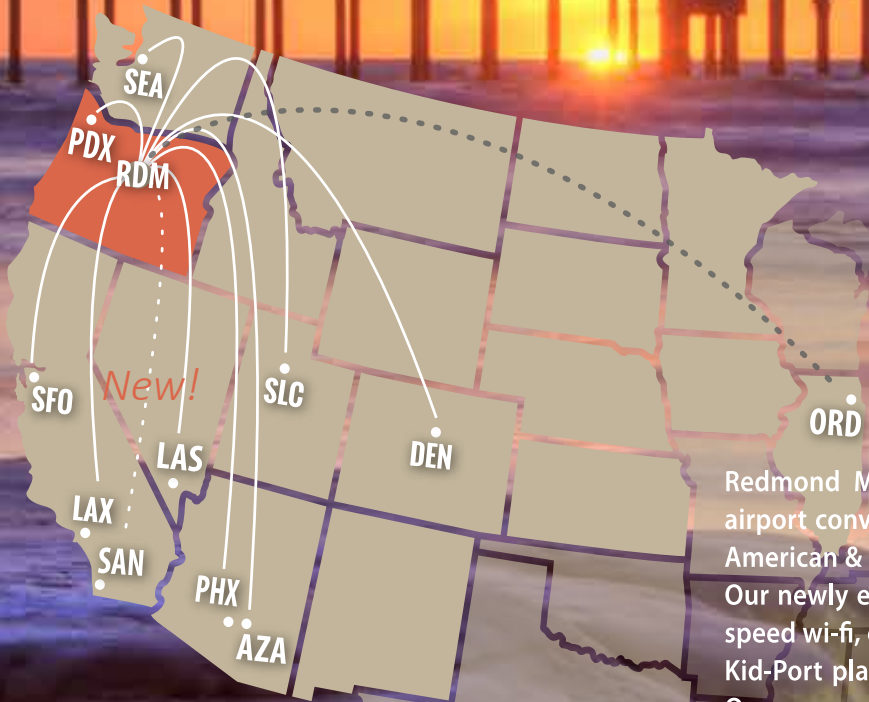

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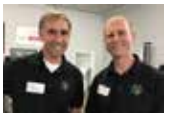

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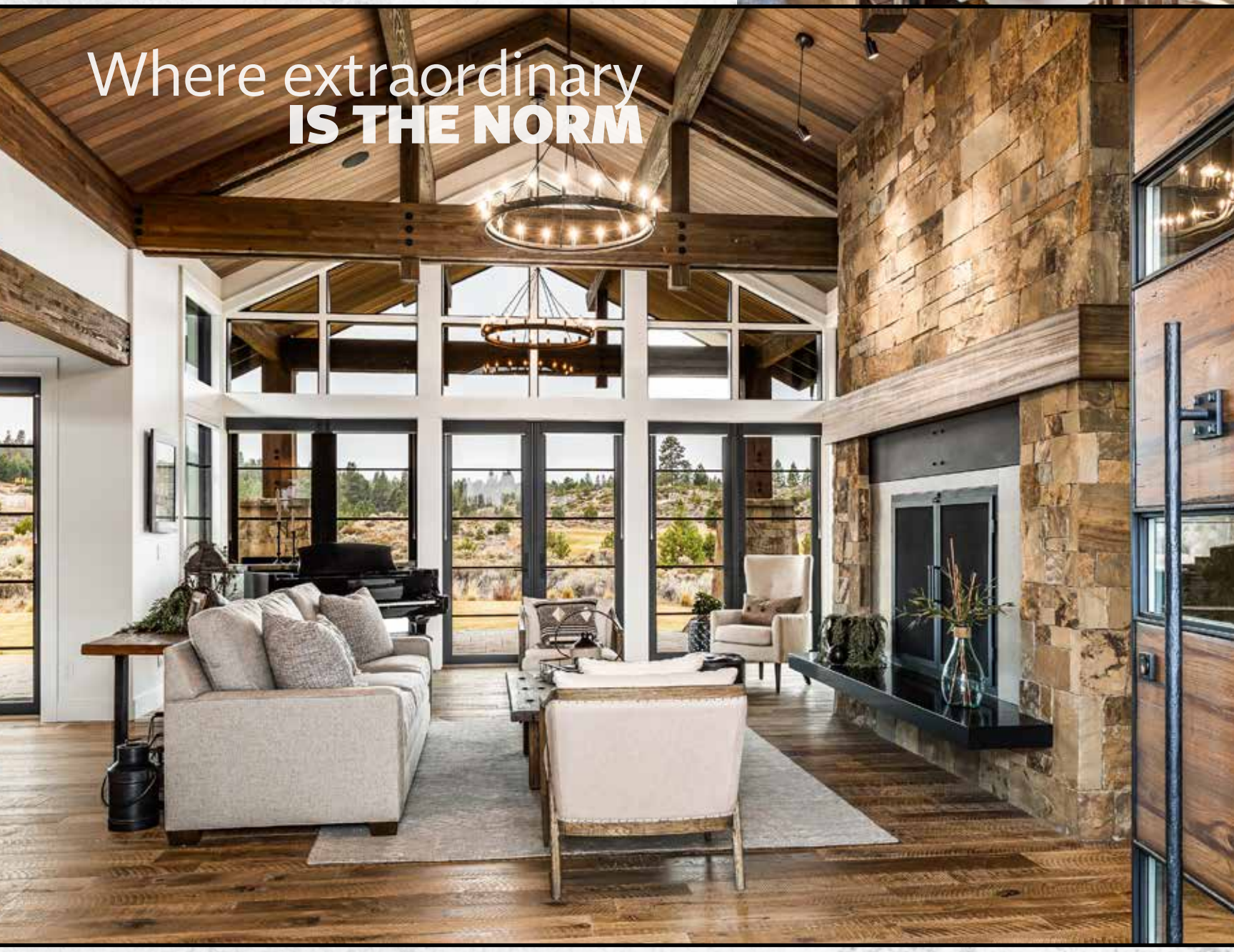

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WINE ENTHUSIAST 2019

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93

Editors' Choice

King Estate 2016 Backbone Pinot Noir
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93

King Estate 2016 Stone's Throw Pinot Noir
Willamette Valley

93

Editors' Choice

King Estate 2016 Bradshaw Pinot Noir
Willamette Valley

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King Estate 2016 Temperance Hill Pinot Noir
Willamette Valley

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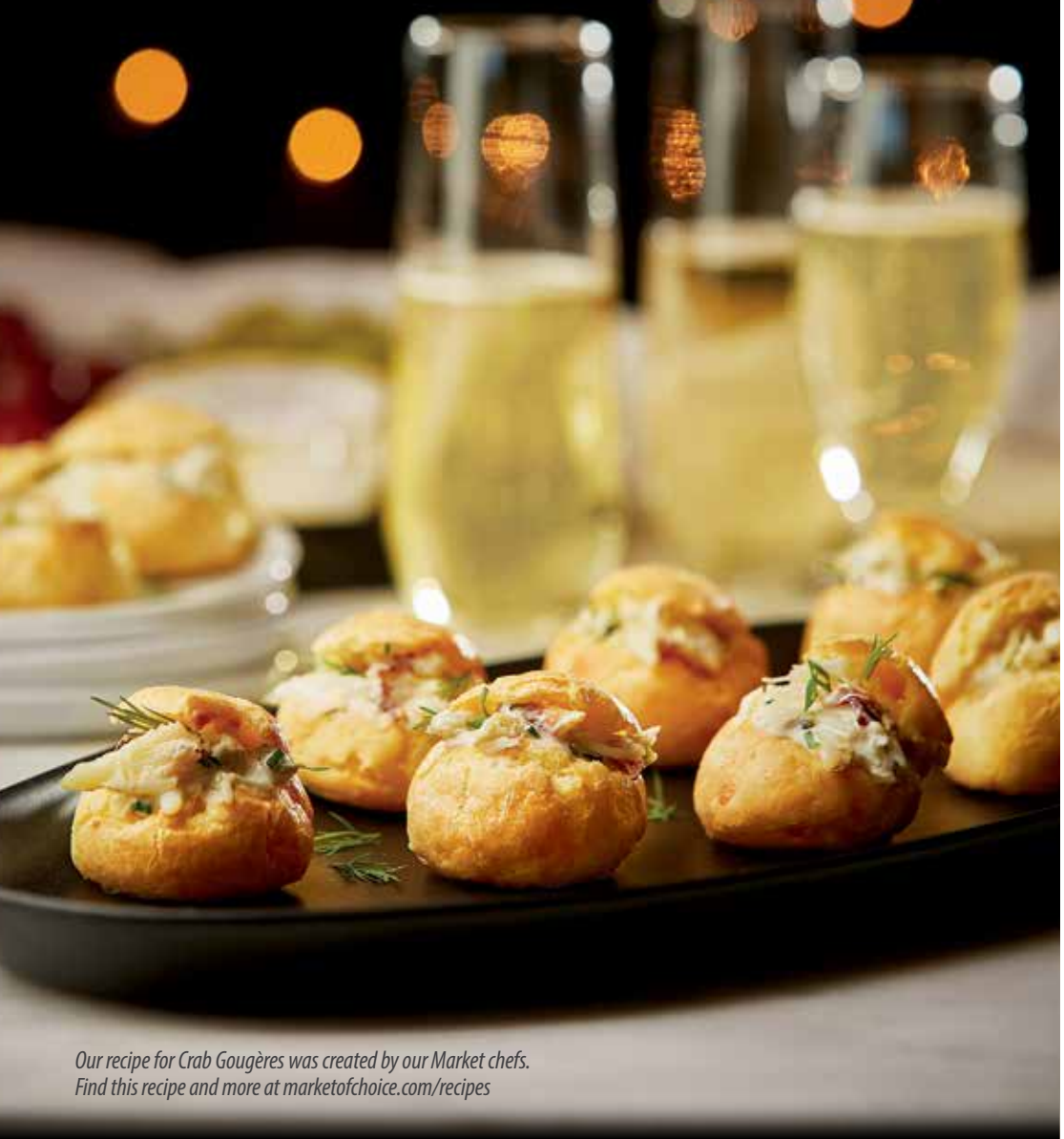

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SECOND SEASON

Sometime around Labor Day, casual boaters and river floaters stow their boats and inner tubes for a long winter's nap. But a smaller band of boaters wakes up after New Year's Day to greet a new season with dry suits and spray skirts. Welcome to the second season when cold and snow are just part of the show.

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Features

January \ February 2020

ON THE COVER
Deschutes Brewery's Chad Berg hams it up with a Pub Burger.
PHOTO BY STEVE TAGUE

PHOTO TREVOR LYDEN

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TABLE *of* CONTENTS *January \ February 2020*

Departments

Also in this issue

PHOTO TAMBI LANE

A neighborhood in perfect rhythm with your snow dance.

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WORDS *and* PICTURES

K.M. COLLINS
An avid paddler, snowboarder, bike commuter, roller skater and freelance media producer, K.M. Collins tells stories through writing, photography and modest filmmaking. Often the subject of her media endeavors is solo outdoor expeditions, social change and natural sciences. K.M. has a master's degree in geoscience. Locally she finds affiliating with the Latino Community Association, Coalition for the Deschutes and Unitarian Universalists of Central Oregon deeply rewarding. In this issue, K.M. wrote about winter whitewater paddling around the region and the hearty souls that are undeterred by snow in the air and ice on the water. (p. 98)

MARISA CHAPPELL HOSSICK
Marisa is a local portrait and event photographer as well as the Communications Director for the Deschutes River Conservancy. She has a BA in French Literature from the University of Oregon and a certificate in photography from the International College of Professional Photography in Melbourne, Australia. Marisa lives with her husband and two sons in her hometown of Bend, Oregon. In this issue, Marisa put down her camera and picked up her pen to tell a story close to a home with a tender portrait of her regular book club. (p. 94)

JOE KLINE
After spending more than a decade exploring Oregon and Idaho as a newspaper photojournalist, Joe Kline continues capturing moments that tell stories through his work as an independent photographer based in Bend. Joe originally hails from the Midwest but has developed an appreciation for the people and landscapes of the West. He also enjoys the abundance of outdoor recreation Central Oregon has to offer. In this issue, Joe photographed painter Donald Yatomi at his home studio in Bend. (p. 115)

SEAN LESLIE
Sean is the president and chief content officer of Cascade Cadence Content Marketing. Sean lives in Bend, where he's an erstwhile runner, mountain biker, backpacker, snowboarder and outdoorsman. Though English by birth, he's a proud Pacific Northwesterner and Cascadian. He's also a passionate proponent of flip-flops in the office and environmental conservation everywhere. (Cascade Cadence gives one percent of its annual revenue to environmental causes). Sean is a member of the BendTECH coworking community, and documented the rapid growth of Bend's coworking spaces (p. 75) in this issue.

CAROL STERNKOPF
Carol Sternkopf has been photographing, and telling stories with photographs, for over 30 years. Perhaps even a few more if you include her childhood portfolio of dressed up family dogs, taken with a 60's polaroid camera! She continues to seek out the nuance and wonder for her portrait and editorial work. And she has recently developed an addiction to photo collage. Carol draws and works with mixed media as well. But photography is her deepest love. For this issue, Carol documented a meeting of writer Marisa Chappell Hossick's long running book club. (p. 94)

STEVE TAGUE
Steve studied at the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California and worked for many years in NYC, shooting out of helicopters, inside museums and through martini glasses. He's part artist, part MacGyver—always game for engineering the perfect light and problem solving to get the shot. If he weren't a photographer he'd probably be professional wrestler. Luckily, he's a photographer. In this issue, Steve photographed the winners of our second annual Readers' Choice Awards. (p. 84)

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Voting Rights & Bragging Rights

The right to vote is the bedrock of our democracy. It's the We in the "We the People." It's the safeguard against tyranny. Yet, it seems that fewer and fewer of us exercise our right. We have lots of excuses about why we don't show up. But in the end, it's apathy that silences us. It's a lack of belief that one vote matters.

I'm happy to report that Central Oregon is an exception, at least when it comes to wedge issues like who has the Best Happy Hour or the Best Tacos. We know this because of the unprecedented (OK, it's our second year) and unexpected turnout for our Readers' Choice Awards poll. This year, we tallied thousands of votes across dozens of categories to determine who would take home bragging rights for 2019. And if you think your vote doesn't count, you're wrong. Some of our most competitive races were determined by the thinnest of margins—just a handful of votes in categories where hundreds of ballots were cast.

And while I'm aware that these "best" lists are greeted with skepticism by many readers, and rightfully so, we went to lengths to make our process as fair and inclusive as possible. That began with two weeks of at-large nominations through our website and a subsequent run-off amongst finalists. Some races were determined early with run-away favorites, while others came down to the wire.

We had a great time tracking the voting process and pouring over the results. We hope that you'll have as much fun meeting the winners. A big thanks also to our vociferous readers who overcame any notions of apathy to make our second annual Readers' Choice Awards a success. If we learned anything this year, it's that *Bend Magazine* readers strongly support all of our local businesses and aren't afraid to speak up about it. Thanks again to the readers and businesses who participated. You're all winners in our book.

Cheers,
Eric Flowers, *editor*

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FROM *the* PUBLISHER

2020 Vision

The beginning of a new year is a time to look ahead. Setting intentions for the future begins with taking stock of the present. When we consider where we are now, we feel incredibly lucky.

We look around us every day in the offices of Oregon Media and *Bend Magazine*, and out and about in our greater community, and find so many reasons to be grateful. We are blessed to work with a talented, hard-working team of professionals, and we absolutely could not create the beautiful publications that we do without them. Nor could we produce this magazine without the Bend community, which inspires us year-round.

And boy, we have fun while we're at it! Just look at those smiling faces in our team photo. We each have so much to celebrate, and we want to share that with the world. Not only do our team members give their best every day at the offices, each has an array of passions outside of their careers. These many ways that we are involved in the community help make it the rich place that it is. Giving back to the people around us is something that is important to each and every one of us.

Members of our team volunteer with The Bend Food Project, Partners in Care, BendFilm, Oregon Adaptive Sports, Bend Parks and Recreation District and Bend La Pine Schools. We donate to Central Oregon Veterans Outreach, the Central Oregon Humane Society and The Environmental Center. We shovel our neighbors' driveways and blow out their sprinklers. We look around us, and we try to find ways to make things better.

We want to take this opportunity to thank our team at Oregon Media and *Bend Magazine* for the hard work and commitment they give to our publications, and to each other. We'd also like to thank you, the Bend community, for all that you do every day to create wonderful things, support one another, and make life in this town better for everyone.

Happy 2020!
Heather and Ross Johnson

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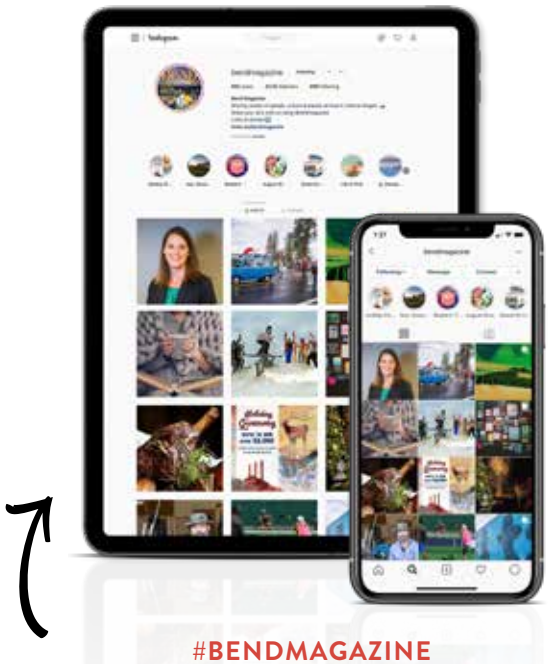

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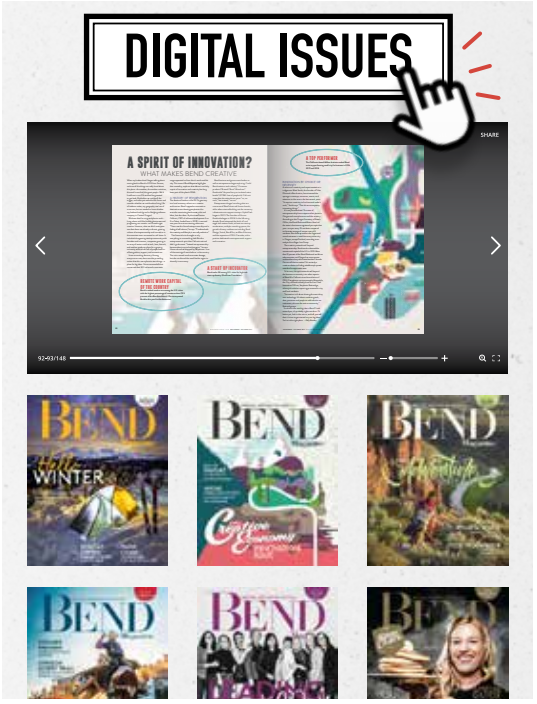
Whether you're visiting breweries on the Ale Trail, exploring a new trail or catching a backyard sunset, share your moment with us by tagging your photos with #BENDMAGAZINE to show what fuels your love for Central Oregon.



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SNOW SPORTS

Hoodoo Backcountry Fest

IF YOU'RE THE KIND OF PERSON who subscribes to the notion that one must "free the heel to free the mind" then get yourself to Hoodoo Ski Area on the third Saturday in January for its annual Backcountry Ski Fest. Formerly known as Tele-Fest, the day-long celebration includes demos, clinics and general backcountry stoke. There will also be a costume contest, races and samples from Sisters' Three Creeks Brewing. Best of all, and just like your liberated heel, it's free.

PHOTO TYLER ROEMER

Front Deck ■ *central oregon*

■ *education*

Sunriver Nature Center Capital Campaign Proceeding

An effort to completely overhaul the popular, but dated, Sunriver Nature Center is going well as it moves into the second year of a five-year plan, according to Nature Center supporters. The Nature Center is seeking $5 million to build a new museum and observatory on its property. Plans also include a 1,700-square-foot amphitheater facility that will also serve as an outdoor classroom on the banks of Lake Aspen. The renovation is a total overhaul of the fifty-year-old Nature Center. The hope is to create a new integrated campus in Sunriver, the centerpiece of which will the nearly 8,000-square-foot Discovery Center with new exhibit space and a state-of-the-art "Earth and Sky" theater with ninety-four seats, a stage and planetarium projection system.

■ *hospitality*

Redmond Hotel Reopens

The iconic Redmond Hotel officially reopened its doors in December after a two-year remodel by new owners Soul Community Planet, a California-based, boutique hotel operator. The newly renovated property debuted as SCP Redmond and features forty-nine combined guest rooms and suites, as well as coworking space, a fitness room, conservatory and seasonal rooftop bar. More than $7 million dollars was invested into the property through a combination of city urban renewal loans and private dollars. The historic hotel, which had sat vacant for several years, has long been seen as a catalyst for downtown redevelopment. "Our hope is that the new SCP Redmond will serve as a welcoming hub for people to experience the beauty and adventure of Central Oregon," said Ken Cruse, SCP's co-founder and CEO.

■ *research*

A Mammoth Find

A crew working for Knife River construction company unearthed a piece of natural history during a routine dig this past year at a gravel pit near Prineville. Excavator operators immediately recognized something unusual in the ground and paused the operation to inspect the find, which turned out to be the remains of what researchers now believe to be a juvenile mammoth or mastodon. Property owner Craig Woodward turned the site over to researchers at Eastern Oregon University, who extracted the fossilized remains of the animal's tusks, skull and vertebrae. Other instances of mammoth and mastodon remains have been found around the Northwest, but the cases are rare. Researchers expect it will take several years to conclude their investigation into the remains, which will then be displayed at the college.

PHOTO BOTTOM LEFT ANNE POLAK

■ growth

Neighborhood-scale Development Planned for East Side

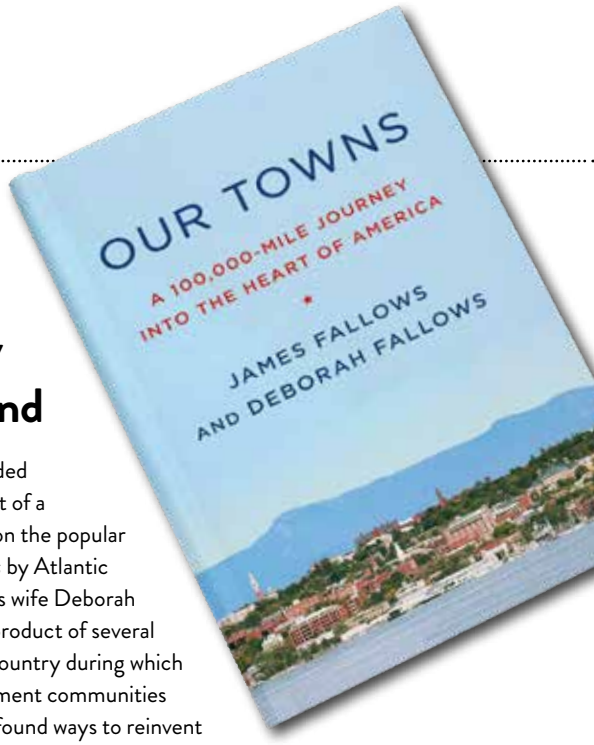
The Stevens Road tract has never been an official Bend park or trail system, but it's one of the most popular destinations for a morning or an evening stroll on Bend's east side. The 640-acre parcel is located east of 27th Street, north of the Humane Society campus and south of Stevens Road. After more than a decade of discussion, it appears as though the de facto park is going to become Bend's next large planned development community, with hundreds of homes, a school site and designated parks all laid out in an early master plan.

The city of Bend wants to expand its land inventory and has asked the Department of State Lands (DSL), which owns the property, to expedite the sale of a 380-acre piece of the Stevens Road tract. In a letter to the DSL, former Mayor Casey Roats said that, when developed, the land could provide up to 1,000 housing units. He noted that about 10 percent of the land would be set aside for single family housing while almost 40 percent would be developed as apartments and duplexes under the city's plans.

The Department was expected to decide on the city's request at a late December meeting. If approved, the state would begin a process of due diligence during which the DSL staff would accept bids from qualified developers. Money from the sale of the land would be allocated to Oregon's public-school fund.

■ media

HBO Documentary to Feature Bend



An HBO film crew descended on Bend this past fall as part of a documentary series based on the popular non-fiction book *Our Towns* by Atlantic writer James Fallows and his wife Deborah Fallows. The book was the product of several years of travel around the country during which the Fallows sought to document communities that endured hardship and found ways to reinvent themselves. Bend's history of boom and bust caught their attention, which prompted a visit and a chapter in their book. HBO optioned the book and handed the project to award-winning producer Jeanne Jordan, who brought a film crew to Bend in October for the upcoming documentary that will premier later this year on HBO.

■ environment

Bend Adopts Climate Action Plan

Following two years of work by citizen volunteers and scientists, Bend city councilors adopted a roadmap for reducing greenhouse gases in Bend. Bend's climate action plan focuses on strategies for decreasing demand, increased efficiencies and a greater reliance on renewable energies as part of a strategy aimed at reducing fossil fuel consumption by 40 percent by the year 2030 and 75 percent by 2050. Unlike climate plans approved by other cities, Bend's plan will be entirely voluntary, focusing on education and incentives to encourage business and individuals to do their part in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The climate plan now moves into a second implementation phase focused on roughly forty action points and twenty strategies that will be reviewed by the city council.

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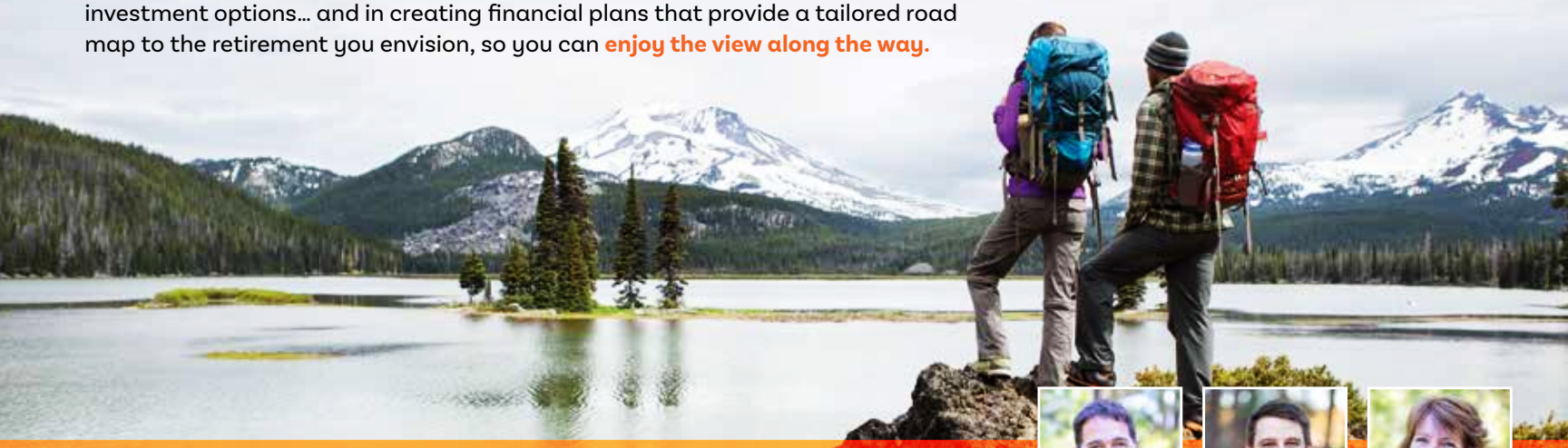

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Six Resolution Reads for 2020

These eagerly anticipated releases belong on your bookshelf in 2020.

WRITTEN BY **BRONTE DOD**

1 ***American Dirt*** **by Jeanine Cummins**

American Dirt is already being called the next great American novel. The novel follows a middle-class family from Acapulco, Mexico as they flee north to the United States, hoping to escape the wrath of a brutal drug cartel. I haven't read any of Cummins' earlier work, but with raving blurbs from authors like Kristin Hannah, Stephen King and Julia Alvarez, this novel is definitely on my to-read list.

2 ***Weather*** **by Jenny Offil**

Jenny Offil's novel *Dept. of Speculation* was noted as one of the best books of its year by the *New York Times* and has been passed around as a quiet favorite in the literary world. Her newest novel *Weather* follows a librarian who agrees to answer letters written to an old mentor who is too busy to answer her own fan mail.

3 ***The Glass Hotel*** **by Emily St. John Mandel**

When people ask me what book they should read next, Emily St. John Mandel's *Station Eleven* is my first recommendation. That means that *The Glass Hotel* has large shoes to fill. Still, I have high hopes for Mandel's latest novel that involves Ponzi schemes and mysterious disappearances at sea. Like *Station Eleven*, I have a feeling that this most recent novel will be one of those hard to summarize, yet must-read books.

4 ***All Adults Here*** **by Emma Straub**

In addition to owning and running Books Are Magic, a popular bookstore in Brooklyn, novelist Emma Straub manages to write contemporary novels to great acclaim. Her next work, *All Adults Here*, is a family-centered epic that is already garnering great reviews.

5 ***My Dark Vanessa*** **by Kate Elizabeth Russell**

Fifteen-year-old Vanessa's affair with her teacher is a source of strength and confidence, until a former student shares a secret. Vanessa is not the only one to gather her teacher's affection. Now she must reconcile her memory with the knowledge that she has been manipulated. Russell's debut novel examines the power of memory, identity, and our willful need for self-deception.

6 ***Dreyer's English*** **by Benjamin Dreyer**

OK, it's more of manual than a novel and it was technically released in 2019, but... if you've argued over a semicolon, debated the validity of the Oxford comma, or taken issue with a split infinitive, this offering from Random House's copy chief is a must-have. Dreyer puts style and personality back into the tired world of style guides, adding humor and anecdotes designed to both entertain and educate.

Front Deck ■ *brewing*

Keep up with Jed on Instagram @positivebrewdude and follow his blog positivebrewdude.com.

WRITTEN BY **JED BELLEFEUILLE**

■ *what's brewing?*

Robin and Todd Clement of Monkless Belgian Ales

MONKLESS BELGIAN ALES opened in 2014 as a niche production brewery with a small tasting room in northeast Bend. Since then, Monkless has been steadily growing its fan base. In November, owners Todd and Robin Clement officially opened Monkless Belgian Ales Brasserie, a taproom and restaurant in the booming Mill Quarter area near the Box Factory. The space, which formerly housed the Brickhouse restaurant and Craft Kitchen and Cocktails, has been extensively renovated and remodeled with a stunning new bar, beer hall-themed dining area, and expanded patio seating. We recently had a conversation with Todd and Robin about the big move.

When did the idea for the Brasserie first come up?

The idea of opening a restaurant space started in early 2017. Before that, the business model was more focused on distribution. We decided that if we really wanted to expand the brand and reach more people, then we would need a more functional place. We wanted to provide a more in-depth experience that paired some great European food to go along with the beer. We originally planned to open something in 2020, but this space came available and worked extremely well with our vision.

What are some of the highlights of the new space?

One of the things we're most proud of is the Bend history that we've been able to capture in this space and the old world feel that has been incorporated. The stained glass panels we have are from the Saint Francis Catholic School that date back to 1936. And of course, the centerpiece is the bar back. We really wanted our brand to come through. The massive pieces of lumber that create our logo and the big abbey arch helps to bring some of that Belgian tradition into the space and make it feel somewhat like a cathedral yet still comfortable. Everyone involved was in tune with our mission of being intentional with the space.

Who is the head chef, and what can we expect?

We wanted a very curated experience, the beer and food needed to play off the Belgian tradition and cuisine. The head chef is Gary Shelly. He's an executive chef out of the Bay Area, who trained under several Michelin Star-rated chefs before moving to Bend. Mussels and frites are the classic Belgian dishes, so we do mussels six different ways right now, three saucy and three platter style. There are also several traditional dishes like chicken schnitzel and a delicious German onion tart that are to die for. There is also a sausage sampler tray and charcuterie platter that really highlights a number of the flavors that Gary can pull together.

■ *tasting notes*

Avid Closes Portland Location

Avid Cider Company recently announced the closure of its tap house in the Pearl District of Portland. This comes on the heels of some other closures in Portland, including Cider Riot, Coalition Brewing, Lompoc and Rock Bottom. Dan Mccoy, owner of Avid, said the company will be focusing more on the production side of the business and expanding its footprint into the Greater Northwest, California, Montana, Idaho, and Nevada.

Tongues were set a wagging in November when news leaked that 10 Barrel brewing's flashy Bend headquarters was up for sale. The asking price: $19.7 million. But that wouldn't get you much—other than a tenant. The brewing and pub operation isn't included in the sale, and it's staying put. Co-founder Chris Cox said the building was constructed by investors who are now looking to sell. If you're looking for a decent rate of return on $20 million, 10 Barrel has a lease on the property that runs through May 2027.

■ *on tap*

Smash in a Can

10 Barrel has recently started canning its highly awarded wheat beer, Smash, formerly known as Passionate Envy. Smash is a wheat beer with additions of fruit, and happens to be one of the best in the country. Brewed by Tonya Cornett, it won silver at the 2018 World Beer Cup, gold at the Great American Beer Festival in 2018, silver at Oregon Beer Awards, gold at Best of Craft, and bronze at the 2019 Great American Beer Festival.

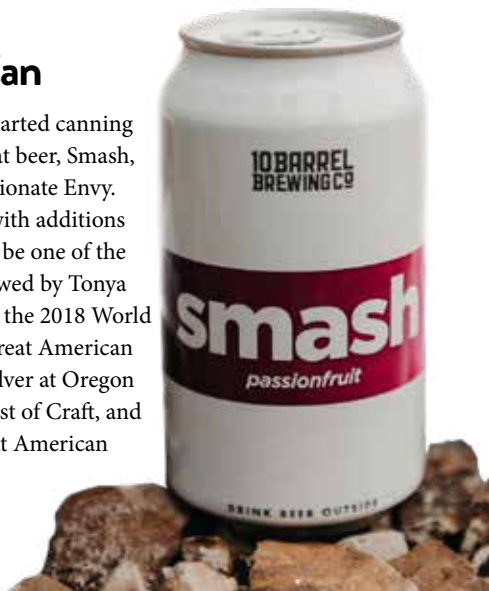

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PHOTO ALEX JORDAN

EXPLORE

PAULINA LAKE *Lodge*

Snow on the mountain and fire in its belly.

WRITTEN BY **DALTON CHAREST**

If the walls inside the cabins of Paulina Lake Lodge could talk, they would tell a story a hundred years in the making. It's a tale of pioneers and preservationists who created and maintained this unlikely recreational outpost and continue to do so today.

Known to many Central Oregonians as a popular summer resort, Paulina Lake Lodge is a spectacular Pacific Northwest destination that takes on a new personality after the first snow arrives. Come winter, it's basecamp for a devout snowmobile community, as well as backcountry skiers and those seeking a cozy winter escape.

On the heels of an epic late winter snowstorm, we visited the lodge to explore this Central Oregon gem. We found not only an epic volcanic wilderness to explore, but also a retreat of rustic comfort and small luxuries, including hot showers and warm meals.

A SHORT HISTORY OF CENTRAL OREGON'S *Mightiest Caldera*

Six hundred thousand years ago, the first volcanic activity began to rumble beneath what is now Newberry Volcanic National Monument. Explosions of molten lava shaped the land in the ensuing millennia. Approximately thirteen hundred years ago, it all went quiet, frozen in time, forming a mesmerizing crater with two crystal clear lakes. The larger of the two is Paulina Lake, which takes its name from a legendary Paiute warrior and chief.

The seventeen-square-mile caldera is the crown jewel of the Newberry Monument, which was dedicated in 1990 and included the adjacent Lava Cast Forest, Lava Butte and Lava River Cave. Each feature tells part of the story of the massive shield volcano that covers more than 1,600 square miles.

The twin lakes are a draw for swimmers and paddlers as well as anglers (Paulina Lake holds trophy-sized brown trout and once yielded the state record fish). There are also ample hiking opportunities, horseback riding, and mountain biking trails and even a natural waterslide on Paulina Creek.

For many visitors, the season ends when the gate swings shut on the access road in late fall. For others, the transition to the winter season opens a whole new world of possibilities. We counted ourselves among the latter.

THE LONG JOURNEY INWARD

Our weekend getaway started at Ten Mile Sno-Park, which marks the end of the road for vehicle traffic and the beginning of a three-mile trek to the lodge, which is usually done using Nordic skis or snowshoes. Our reward: a feast of prime rib and Atlantic cod served with a hearty ale next to a crackling fire at the Paulina Lake Lodge.

At 3 p.m., we clipped into our skis, grabbed our bags, checked the map, and headed into the woods. The gentle uphill ski to the lodge offers views and nature stops, including the roaring Paulina Falls. The tracks lead skiers through a snow-covered wilderness. Alas, our expedition was beset by a broken ski binding that led to a somewhat arduous boot trek over the final mile and a half.

Undaunted, we arrived at the lodge's restaurant and lounge just before dusk. Thanks to a recent storm, snowdrifts reached almost to the rooftops of the low-slung buildings and cabins. Smoke drifted reassuringly from the chimneys beckoning our band of weary travelers.

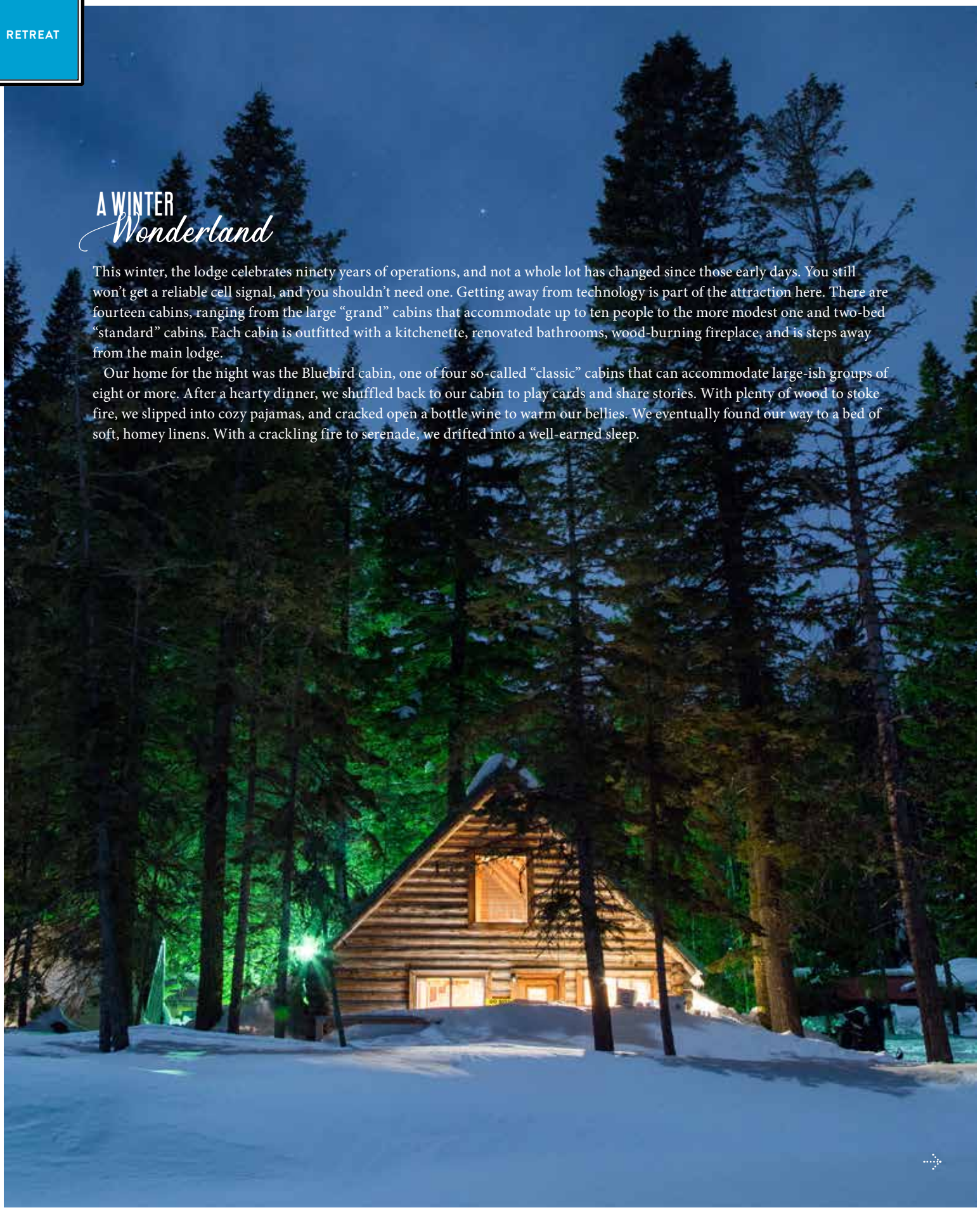
Despite its popularity with snowmobilers, the lodge was relatively quiet for our late-season visit. I found my group in the corner, beers in hand, and a cold one waiting for me right when I sat down. We soon met our generous hosts, Todd and Karen Brown.

The couple has operated Paulina Lake Lodge for more than twenty-five years. That's thanks to their great hospitality and the resort's long-standing role as an outpost for riders exploring the hundreds of miles of backcountry snowmobile trails around Newberry Volcano.

Quirky keepsakes occupy the lodge's nooks and crannies alongside historical and contemporary photos of resort life. There's a shrine of sorts to Todd, AKA the "King of Paulina," complete with an old photo of Todd adorned with a crown.

"You know, we've been up here since '93," Karen said. "Our kids grew up on this lake. We've watched a lot of our guests grow up and start families. Being up here, on this monument, it probably holds our fondest memories."

PHOTO FACING PAGE BOTTOM LEFT CAITLIN EDDOLLS, OTHERS ALEX JORDAN



A WINTER *Wonderland*

This winter, the lodge celebrates ninety years of operations, and not a whole lot has changed since those early days. You still won't get a reliable cell signal, and you shouldn't need one. Getting away from technology is part of the attraction here. There are fourteen cabins, ranging from the large "grand" cabins that accommodate up to ten people to the more modest one and two-bed "standard" cabins. Each cabin is outfitted with a kitchenette, renovated bathrooms, wood-burning fireplace, and is steps away from the main lodge.

Our home for the night was the Bluebird cabin, one of four so-called "classic" cabins that can accommodate large-ish groups of eight or more. After a hearty dinner, we shuffled back to our cabin to play cards and share stories. With plenty of wood to stoke fire, we slipped into cozy pajamas, and cracked open a bottle wine to warm our bellies. We eventually found our way to a bed of soft, homey linens. With a crackling fire to serenade, we drifted into a well-earned sleep.

PHOTO ALEX JORDAN

WINTER WONDER

LEFT Loading the resort's snowcat for transport.

BOTTOM LEFT Sunrise over Paulina Peak.

BELOW Owners Todd and Karen Brown have spent twenty-five winters at the lodge.

Morning breaks with a chill at 6,300-feet elevation, and nothing is getting done before a cup of coffee. Several of us slipped out early and snapped on skis to watch dawn arrive over the snow-covered crater rim. Others opted to enjoy another hour of shut eye, pulling warm blankets tight against the cold outside. Eventually, we clipped into our skis and kicked over to the restaurant for a proper mug of morning brew. Alas, our short stay was almost over. After a quick breakfast, we hitched a ride with Karen on the resort's snowcat, which shuttles guests back and forth from Ten Mile Sno-Park.

Just before we lost sight of the lodge, I glanced back and glimpsed Todd and his granddaughter on their snow machines zipping between the cabins. She followed him, staying right in his tracks. I wondered if I could make it here all winter, a mile high, enduring storm after storm, maintaining a 90-year-old property against the power of Mother Nature and the march of Father Time.

Luckily, I don't have to. I know that the lights will be on the next time I visit. I also know that the cozy beds will be turned down, and the prime rib will be served up thick. I guess you don't have to be a king to live like one at Paulina Lake Lodge—no matter what the season. B

WHAT TO DO AT *Paulina*

At Paulina Lake Lodge, there's plenty to do on top of the Newberry Volcano in the winter months, from backcountry skiing to snowmobiling and cozying up around a warm fireplace.

PAULINA FALLS

Just west of the lodge, a meandering creek tumbles into these picturesque falls. In the winter, some sections freeze solid. When conditions are right, you might spot an ice climber front pointing up its icy face.

PAULINA PEAK

This popular backcountry ski destination boasts narrow chutes, rock drops and glades that provide skiers with a blissful day swimming around in the knee-deep powder. But beware, the Paulina area is expert terrain and can be deadly. Make sure you are familiar with the terrain conditions and weather. Always travel with a partner.

SNOWMOBILE NEWBERRY VOLCANO'S EXTENSIVE TRAIL SYSTEM

Newberry is a snowmobiler's playground in the winter, offering hundreds of miles of groomed backcountry trails. Journey over the caldera of an active volcano while exploring a true geological wonder. When you're done, drive right up to the lodge's door and get ready for a slice prime rib steak and a side of hospitality.

PHOTOS LEFT ALEX JORDAN, RIGHT CAITLIN EDDOLLS

TUMALO MOUNTAIN

The Ballad of Bend's Other Butte

A mid-winter meditation on Central Oregon's second mountain

WRITTEN BY **TIM NEVILLE**

PHOTO AUSTIN WHITE

By late morning the parking lot was still empty, which seems unfathomable now when you think of Dutchman Flat. It was early January 2005. That was the year I fell in love with Tumalo. That was the year I learned how a bad winter could still be great.

Alone, I set out on the two-mile skin to the top of the 7,779-foot volcano in a ritual that would not change over the next 15 years. Hard breathing would soften into a steady chuff set to a mohair metronome swaying over snow. The cold air hitting hot lungs gradually lost its bite. With each stride, the curtain of spruce pulled back to reveal the pink folds of Mount Bachelor to the southwest. In the backcountry, the winding up of gravity is just as pleasurable as the release.

A place of easy access and easy reward is bound to tease out our natures, too. We players want what we want and will tribe up to get it. Two legs, four legs, blue smoke, pedal strokes: we stride, ride, spin and slide up and around those flanks in a microcosm of everything that makes Bend great. The peak may sit in the shadow of one of the nation's largest ski resorts but Tumalo is a destination in its own right. We've mostly figured out how to tolerate, maybe even how to share.

I got to the top that day just as I'd do hundreds of more times over the years. The windswept ridge of storm-punished pines feels impressive every time. The backside bowl howled steep and tempting but the snowpack that year would prove be the shallowest in sixty years. No matter. I stripped skins, locked heels and came down the thousand feet.

Frank Zappa once said you can't be a real country without a beer and an airline. I don't think you can be a real mountain town without a Tumalo. It's the season's great equalizer, where what goes in is what comes out, and the you that's up there is always better than the you that began. B

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WRITTEN BY **KIM COOPER FINDLING**

I pushed my toes into the warm sand of Coronado Beach, the Pacific Ocean lapping waves to shore in the near distance. A rented red beach umbrella cast shade over our temporary parcel of beach real estate in front of the Hotel Del Coronado. A cooler at our feet held a picnic for later, a magazine lay forgotten by my side, and the operative word was "lazy" as we kicked back in wooden folding lounge chairs and basked in the balmy air of San Diego's Coronado Island.

Come late winter in Central Oregon, it's not uncommon for cabin fever to take hold. Too many days of shoveling snow in dense layers of clothing and maneuvering cars down icy streets can just plain wear a person out. A warm-weather vacation is the logical cure. Several direct flights depart the Bend/Redmond airport to arrive in just a matter of hours in decidedly warmer climes, including San Diego.

My husband and I were treating ourselves to three nights at the historic, iconic Hotel Del Coronado. Opened in 1888, the Del (as it's affectionately known) was the largest resort hotel in the world at the time of its construction. Built entirely from wood, this majestic structure has survived its many decades when so many others of its ilk have succumbed to fire, rot, or the bulldozer. Just another reason to appreciate this stunning property. Victorian in design, the hotel is painted in white with striking red peaked roofs. Equal parts history and luxury are all around. We rode the creaky, antique elevator—complete with a human elevator operator—to our modest but lovely room, before choosing the Babcock and Story Bar for a post-flight lunch with a view of the sea.

The sprawling grounds are elegantly landscaped, and there are plenty of places to tuck in and relax around the property. Several pools, a variety of bars and restaurants and a central courtyard vary the experience for the Del guests. But if the ocean is near, you can be sure that is where I will be. The wide, flat beach of Coronado Island is popular for walking, surfing and lounging, and overlooks the Pacific with a view of Point Loma to the north. With the proverbial "nowhere to go and all day to get there," my husband and I napped, sipped and snacked away the afternoon in the sunshine, not missing the winter weather of home one bit.

Balboa Park

ATTRACTION TRIFECTA

Traveling with the family? San Diego will fit the bill. Several years ago, I took a not-quite-as-romantic San Diego trip with my parents and my young children. That visit revolved around the theme park trifecta of the San Diego Zoo, Lego Land and SeaWorld. At 100 acres, the San Diego Zoo is one of the largest in the world and is as immaculately landscaped as it is an ideal place to see many animals from around the world, including the giant panda. On par with the zoo, SeaWorld is one of the biggest and best aquariums and aquatic attractions in the world. Book seats at the live animal shows, including Orca Encounter and Sea Lions Live. Note: They aren't kidding when they warn the audience they'll get wet in the "splash zone." Legoland will thrill the kids for the rides, and the adults might find they geek out on the large sculptures throughout the park, truly made entirely from Legos.

BALBOA PARK

The 1915 Panama-California Exposition was cause for the construction of this expansive park, now registered as a Historic Landmark, which includes gardens, seventeen museums and cultural institutions, restaurants and shopping. If you're with kids, visit the historic carousel and the Natural History Museum. On your own, take a self-guided tour of the diverse architecture found throughout the park, including the Spanish Renaissance-style

Hotel Del Coronado

EXPLORE

SeaWorld

Old Town San Diego

structure Casa De Balboa and the Balboa Park Botanical Building, which features more than 2,000 plants from orchids to cycads.

MISSION BEACH

About as classic Southern-California-lifestyle as it gets, the three-mile stretch of Mission Beach is excellent for strolling, people watching and sunbathing. While the spot is popular with surfers, the waves are mellow enough at shoreline to encourage kids (and maybe adults too) to splash in the ocean. Belmont Park anchors the central stretch of the beach, and is an East-coast style seaside amusement park not to be missed, with a historic roller coaster and street performances.

OLD TOWN SAN DIEGO

Even the largest American cities started small at some point, and Old Town San Diego is the historic heart of the city and the place to see the heavily Spanish- and Mexican-mission influenced beginnings of the city's first settlement. Museums and historic sites are dotted across these blocks, as are contemporary restaurants, shops and hotels. Don't miss the 160-year-old Whaley House Museum (which is possibly haunted) and the Casa de Estudillo, an authentic adobe home restored with vintage furnishings to demonstrate life 150-plus years ago.

CABRILLO NATIONAL MONUMENT

In view from Coronado Beach is Loma Point and the Cabrillo National Monument, the first place a European explorer set foot on the West Coast. He was Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo, the year was 1542, and the monument that exists here today is named after him. A hilltop statue commemorates Cabrillo, and is also the point from which visitors take in amazing views of San Diego and the sea, and in the right season, migrating whales. Walk to the historic Old Point Loma Lighthouse, restored to its 1880s appearance.

WEATHER REPORT

When it comes to weather, San Diego can offer a welcome respite from Central Oregon's freezing mid-winter temps. However, despite its numerous beaches, San Diego is not the tropics. The proximity of the ocean and San Diego's unique geography result in a Mediterranean climate. In January and February, daytime highs average in the mid to upper 60s. But you may encounter cooler weather. Smart travelers will plan a vacation with activities suited to a host of weather conditions.

LET'S BE DIRECT

While air travelers have long been able to reach San Diego from Central Oregon, a new direct flight from Redmond takes the layover out of the equation. The route was announced in August 2019, one of more than a dozen new direct routes on the West Coast provided by Alaska Airlines. Other direct flights from Redmond include non-stop service to Los Angeles and San Francisco.

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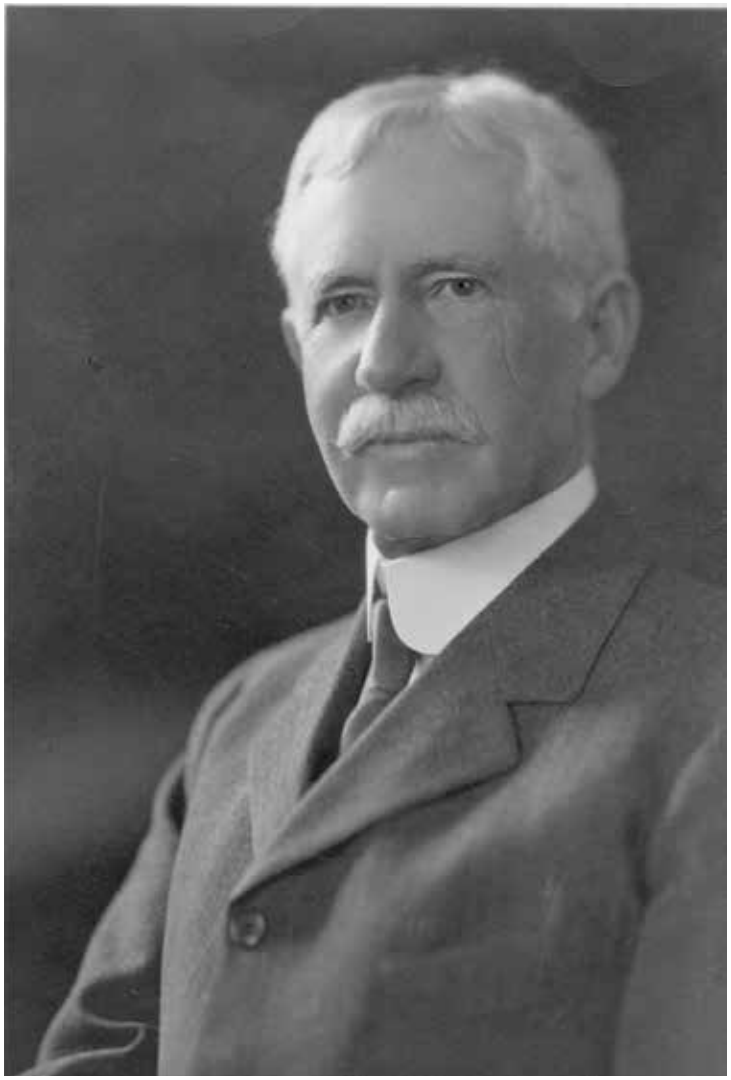

PHOTOS COURTESY DESCHUTES HISTORICAL MUSEUM

PIONEERS

Alexander Drake

Bend's founder left an indelible mark during his stay.

WRITTEN BY **TOR HANSON**

Take a look around the heart of Bend, and it's hard to miss Alexander Drake's handiwork. Drake arrived in Bend more than 100 years ago, but his fingerprints are all over this town, even if you don't know where to look.

Drake laid out the town's street grid, opened the first sawmill, developed the first canal system, and built the infrastructure to bring electricity to his town. And he did it all in just a little over a decade. About the time it would take today to get the permits for any single piece of the public works project.

Before Alexander and Florence Drake arrived, Bend was a rural outpost of just twenty-one souls at the turn of the nineteenth century. The Drakes had a vision of something grander.

"Alexander Drake came from money," said Lisa Lee, historian with the Central Oregon Irrigation District (COID). "The elder Drake was involved in the railroad business and also served as a senator to the Minnesota senate."

The Drake family fortunes took a hit in the latter part of the 1890s, in part thanks to two economic downturns and the railroad stock crash in 1894. The Drakes looked west to the frontier and saw opportunity. They left St. Paul, Minnesota for Portland, before finally settling in, what was then, Farewell Bend.

At the time of the Drakes' arrival, Farewell Bend was barely a dot on the map. Engineer Levi Wiest helped Drake survey and map the irrigation canals for the federal government. In an interview with *The Bend Bulletin* on October 20, 1933, Wiest remembers a desolate place.

"There was only a little log schoolhouse in what is now Drake Park, a caved-in log cabin […] on the riverbank, and the Griggs deserted log cabin."

Drake came to Bend to take advantage of the Carey Act of 1894. The Act gave investors a way to acquire public land if they could bring it under irrigation. With plenty of water on hand, Central Oregon was ripe for development.

In his book, *Frontier Publisher,* Jim Crowell writes, "Drake, even before leaving for the Far West, was familiar with the great economic potential of Central Oregon, especially its water resources, and soon after his arrival, he purchased land of his own."

TOP The Bend Company Mill built by Drake's development company in 1903. The mill burnt in August 1915.

INSET Building at the corner of Wall and Franklin streets built by Drake.

Entrepreneurial pioneers were already lining up to irrigate the desert land of Central Oregon. Charles Hutchinson formed the Oregon Irrigation Company in 1892. He had already filed a claim under the Carey Act but was looking to expand the footprint.

What happened next is murky, according to Lee. Hutchinson and Drake met at an irrigation conference in Spokane. Hutchinson was looking for capital to continue the expansion of his irrigation business.

"Hutchinson told Drake there were opportunities in Central Oregon and wanted Drake to join him as a business partner," said Lee.

Only four months after arriving in Bend, Drake founded the Pilot Butte Development Company (PBDC). Days before the two "partners" were set to file the Carey Act paperwork, Drake cut Hutchinson out and filed the necessary documents as the sole owner of PBDC.

Drake received a state contract to sell the land and water rights and spent most of the next three years developing detailed survey maps for the future irrigation canals. But soon Drake was onto the next project. He sold his interests to Oregon Irrigation Company for $10,000 in 1904. (The equivalent of about $290,000 today.)

Drake's vision for Bend did not end with plans to water the desert. Having helped spur an influx of settlers, Drake knew the growing town would need electricity, a commodity already enjoyed in large cities but scarcely found in rural areas. He founded the Deschutes, Water, Light and Power Company in 1909. He constructed a dam and powerhouse on the Deschutes at what is today Newport Avenue. While Drake sold his interest in the project before the lights came on in Bend, the work was a success. On November 2, 1910, the first electricity crackled through wires running from the powerhouse to business in downtown Bend, and 375 lights blinked on in the darkness.

As the father of Bend, Drake is credited with laying out one of the most picturesque townsites in Oregon, although that honor may go to his wife. In 1910, Drake hired a young civil engineer, Robert

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"Had Mr. & Mrs. Drake chosen some other part of the West, Bend might have remained known as Farewell Bend."

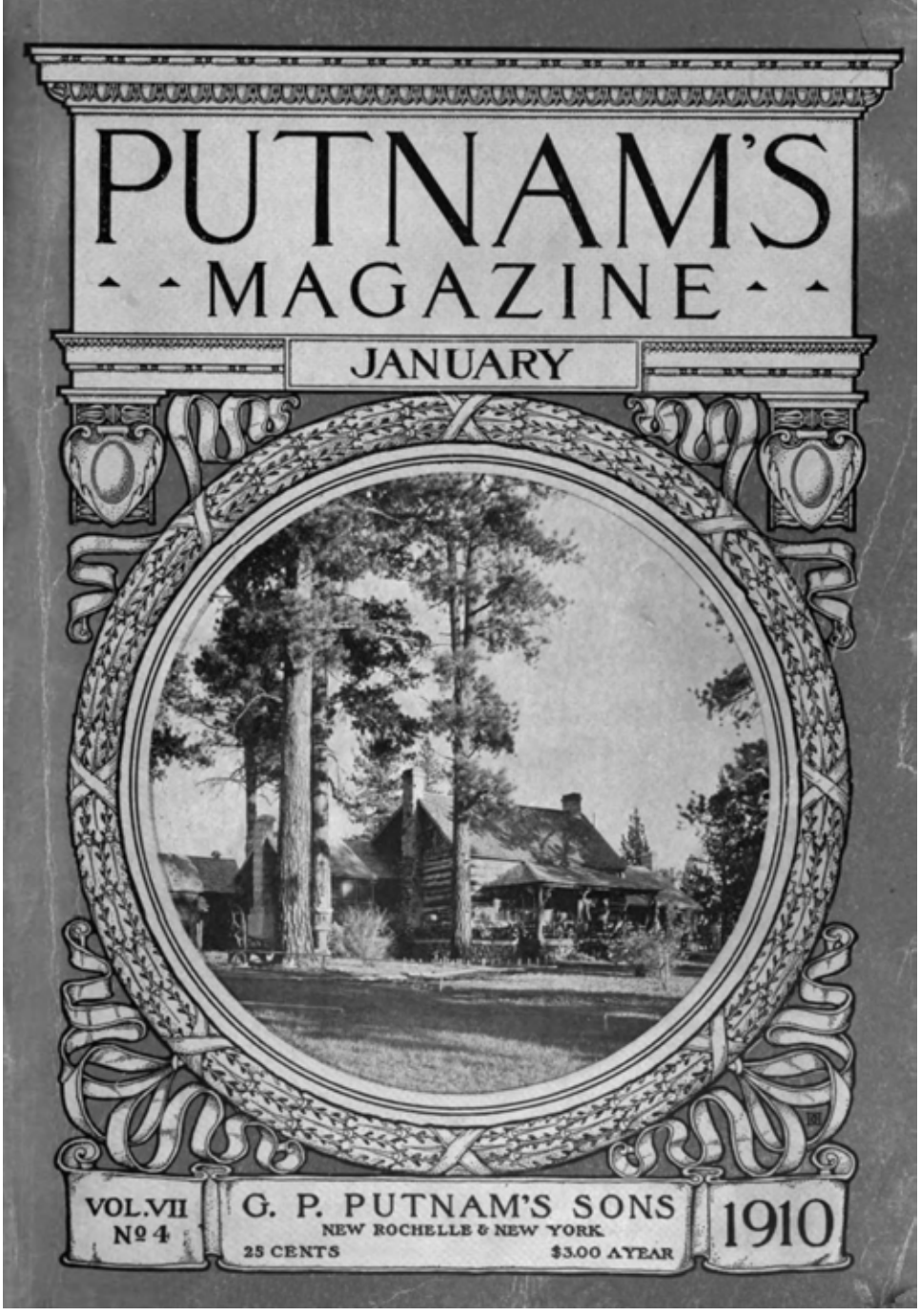
Gould, to start platting the townsite. Gould was assisted by Elmer Ward, who came to Bend the same year.

"Mrs. Drake loved every one of the cow trails on which these streets are located today," said Ward in an interview with KBND's Kessler Cannon in 1953. "She insisted that we locate the streets of Bend along those contours that formed the cow trails of those days. And we followed instructions. And that's why we have the winding streets."

The Drakes left Bend in 1911 for Pasadena, California—the same year that railroad tycoon JJ Hill hammered the last stake in the Oregon Trunk Railroad. The arrival of the rail line set off a second population boom and the construction of two massive sawmills that would transform Bend into a booming mill town for years to come. Drake wasn't here to see the transformation, but he'd laid the groundwork for the town's next phase of growth.

Drake died in his adopted hometown of Pasadena in 1934. *The Bend Bulletin* featured his obituary on the editorial page on October 12, 1934. The writer noted, "Had Mr. & Mrs. Drake chosen some other part of the west for their home, Bend might have remained Farewell Bend […] It was Mr. Drake who organized the Pilot Butte Development company, platted the Bend townsite and interested eastern capitalists in a community which, at the turn of the century, was merely a rangeland frontier."

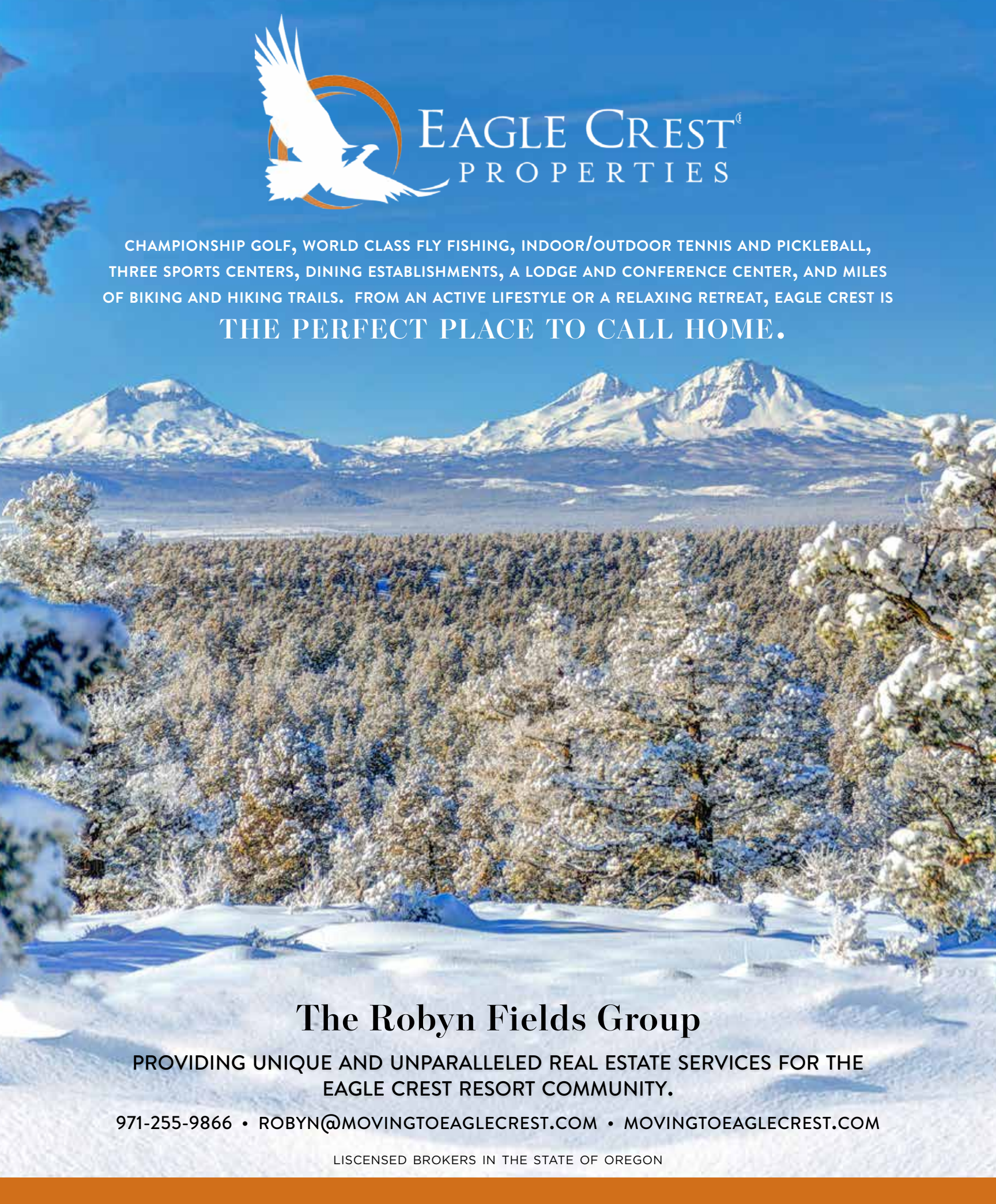
It seems fitting that the town's crown jewel, the thirteen-acre Drake Park, bears his name. More evidence of fingerprints that time and memory may never erase. B



TOP A 1910 cover of Putnam's Magazine features Drake's log home and three "heritage trees" that are still growing in Drake Park.

RIGHT Florence Drake, whose ideas influenced Bend's layout.

PHOTOS COURTESY DESCHUTES HISTORICAL MUSEUM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"We have to learn to bring our awareness of ourselves in the world into alignment..."
—Mark Montgomery

MIND & BODY

Bend Community Healing

Wellness center's approach emphasizes access and affordability.

WRITTEN BY **CATHY CARROLL**

Standing in a relaxed, yet tall stance, eight people raise their arms to shoulder height, graceful and ethereal as long-legged, long-necked cranes. As if moving through honey, striving for quality of movement, they take unforced, diagonal steps, shifting their weight, back to front. In a ponderous, powerful, plié of sorts, they take on the wide stance of the bear, heavy, with hidden agility. Traversing the room like playful monkeys, they extend upturned palms from under their chins, as if offering fruit.

In this qigong class, a dozen students, ranging in age from 20s to 60s, follow the lead of instructor Mark Montgomery. He founded Bend Community Healing in 2014, which now operates out of a small office/healing center off Century Drive on Bend's west side. He offers meditation classes and acupuncture, community-style, in which a group receives the treatment simultaneously, provided on a sliding scale. Each person pays what they can, $20 to $50, no questions asked, and a $15 intake fee at the first visit.

Montgomery, who has studied with master acupuncturists and qigong instructors throughout the U.S. and in China, has long supported the community acupuncture model, believing that it doesn't have to be expensive. In a stressful, conflict-filled world, we need spaces where strangers can turn off their phones and rest side-by-side, healing together in comfy recliners in a large room, amid soft, therapeutic background music. Community itself is a potent healing force, he said, and the way to popularize acupuncture's effectiveness—from calming the mind to helping treat injury and disease—is to make it readily available.

Healing, energy-enhancing, calming practices such as meditation and qigong are free and easy to learn, Montgomery said. Qigong (pronounced chee gung) combines the Chinese words qi (life force or vital energy) and gong (cultivation or skill). The gentle movements, breathing techniques, and mental concentration are aimed at circulating, strengthening and purifying the qi.

"What's frustrating for me is that most of the people who come in have things going on that are the result of never having been taught to tune in to, and feel and tend to their own energy, and for me, living in the 21st century, it is a non-negotiable," said Montgomery. "We have to learn to bring our awareness of ourselves in the world into alignment... There's a way that we can actually tune in and feel not just structure, but energy, and the more we can hone awareness, that ability to attune, the more we can start to take care of ourselves in a much more profound way."

Ryan Redmond said he joined the qigong class six months ago to build on his experience in a similar practice, tai chi. Qigong has taught him how to stay in tune with his mental and physical energy in a distracting world. The 41-year-old said he respects Montgomery's commitment to his clients, the sliding scale and welcoming space, in which clients share not just "rainbows and unicorns" but also their struggles. "People in class are experiencing genuine community," he said.

Sophie Bijjani and Florian Pappafava discovered Bend Community Healing while visiting from Quebec and considering moving to Bend. Bijjani, 25, said she appreciated the time at the beginning of the qigong class for people to tap into their feelings and to focus on an intention throughout.

"It quiets the mind and gives an opportunity to focus on your body, and not just on what you have to do, what's next, what's best for your career or your kids," she said.

Pappafava, 32, said, the class creates an inviting space for exploring your own energy. "I get something through living the movement rather than just doing it mechanically; it was nourishing to think and just live the movement. You are present."

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ON THE AIR

KPOV's Jill Mahler

Practicing the art of community radio in Bend.

WRITTEN BY **ERIN ROOK**

Jill Mahler wasn't looking for another career when she applied to be an office assistant at Bend's KPOV. But, after ten years at the community radio station—including four years as 88.9 KPOV's station manager—there's no denying she found one.

When she walked through the door a decade ago, Mahler thought her previous experience with arts organizations, including Arts Central, Mirror Pond Gallery, and Art Station would make her a good fit for the part-time job. As an empty nester, she wasn't looking for much more than a few volunteer hours to fill her time and a chance to meet some new people.

Despite her lack of experience in broadcasting, Mahler took immediately to her work at the station. She wrote numerous grants to help underwrite programs at the volunteer-operated and donation-supported radio station in downtown Bend. She designed and built a podcast network and created the station's new website.

"It's a weird hybrid of nonprofit and media outlet," she says. As a result, her job includes technical, programming, community engagement, and fundraising elements.

"I see myself as a creative person, but I am doing all this administrative stuff," she said. "But then I realized, this stuff is creative."

Despite her accomplishments, Mahler hardly fits the traditional, type-A executive director mold. She wanted to be a full-time artist when she was younger but said she didn't have the courage to follow her dream. Still, you don't have to do much digging to see there's an artist just below the surface of her station manager facade. On any given day, she can be found wearing one of the many scarves she's knitted. Some of the designs are repurposed from thrift shop sweaters, which she unravels and re-knits to create something new.

"One of the most beautiful things about art is sharing it with other people."

She's been a professional jewelry maker and worked at art galleries.

"I was inspired and motivated by being around art," she said, explaining her creative journey through colored pencil painting, pastels, and mixed media landscapes. These days she's focused on fiber arts like tapestry weaving. Recently, she sold almost all her entries in the $20 art show at Bright Place gallery. It was enough to cover the cost of her loom. Just as importantly, the art is being enjoyed by others, she said.

"One of the most beautiful things about art is sharing it with other people," Mahler explains. "Which is kind of what we do here."

Although Mahler never wanted a traditional nine-to-five job, she said the work at KPOV feels different because of the end goal, which is inform and entertain listeners.

"Community radio isn't something you go to school to study. Most of us just fell into it. "It's created for the community, by the community," she said. "If they have something to tell their community, we provide a platform for that."

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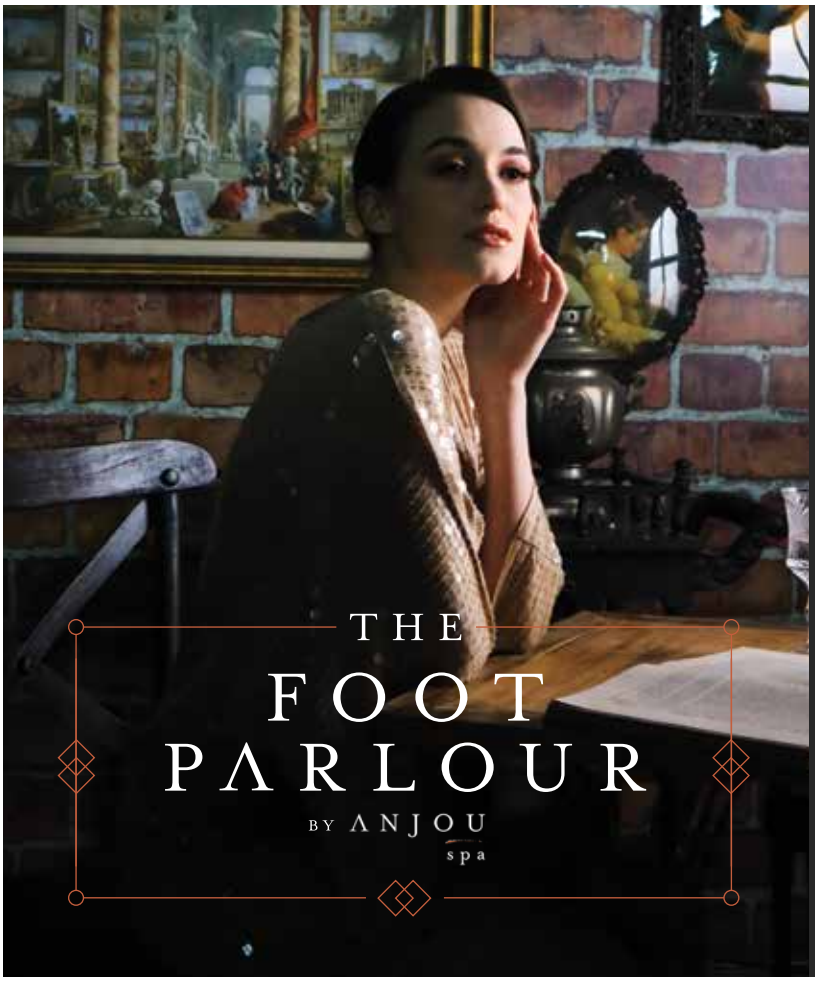

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WORKFORCE

The Childcare Question

Bend Chamber taking the lead on an initiative aimed at tackling the region's childcare shortage

WRITTEN BY **ERIC FLOWERS**


Bend Chamber CEO Katy Brooks

If you asked Bend residents about the city's top problem, you'd probably hear things like traffic congestion, affordable housing and wages. But if you asked that same question to parents of young children, you'd probably hear about the lack of affordable, quality childcare in town. It's not just a problem for parents.

The lack of childcare is pushing employees out of the workforce at an alarming rate as parents of young children, particularly mothers, opt to remain home rather than return to the workplace because of the childcare shortage. According to a survey conducted last year by the Bend Chamber of Commerce, it's also creating problems for employees who remain at work but are less productive because they are distracted by childcare-related issues, The survey confirmed what the business community knew instinctively: that the lack of childcare is an issue of concern for employers as well as employees.

It's not just a Bend problem. Cities around Central Oregon are strapped for childcare, said Bend Chamber CEO Katy Brooks. In places like Madras, there are sometimes only one or two providers to cover the entire community, Brooks said.

"We have a society where both parents are working, or you're a single person working with kids. This is a nationwide issue. We have not built the infrastructure by which we have an affordable, high-quality way to take care of our children," Brooks said.

Brooks said the issue hit the chamber's radar in 2018 when it was developing a series of discussions and programs around its "year of the woman" theme. One thing that kept coming up was how a lack of childcare options, especially for mothers of infant children, was keeping them out of the workforce.

"Only one out of three kids under the age of five are in childcare. What we don't know is how many of them are just folks who have decided to stay home, but we do know there are waitlists for infants, especially under one years old, of at least one year," Brooks said.

This past fall, the chamber decided to get proactive about the childcare crisis. It hired a "Childcare Accelerator," a new position in the organization to provide more options for parents in the short term while developing a new model for childcare in the region through a partnership with Oregon State University and Central Oregon Community College.

The position is funded in part by contributions from local businesses who have a vested interest in alleviating the childcare shortage. For now, the job will be housed at the Bend Chamber under the umbrella of its BendNext program, the chamber's non-profit workforce development program. The goal, however, is to work with partners like OSU and COCC to create an independent umbrella organization dedicated to taking on the childcare issue. OSU Cascades has already set aside land for a pilot childcare program that, if successful, could be replicated across the region.

"Our challenge is going to be [getting] some early wins and starting to add some slots now while we work on some of these bigger pilot ideas" Brooks said.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING

Megan Norris, Childcare Accelerator

A former teacher and a mother of two, Norris will work with businesses and other community partners to entice some of the region's existing providers to expand capacity by opening new childcare centers. She has extensive experience in the intersection of public policy and private enterprise and has developed solar projects, mixed-use neighborhoods and worked with the California Sierra Club. Solving the childcare problem will require her to draw upon all that experience, she said.

So far, she has been encouraged by the initial conversation with potential partners.

"The community coming together around this has been amazing. I think everyone realizes the need and is just embracing it and wanting to help," she said.

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DOWNSIZING

Modest Footprint Inspires Innovation

A health scare prompts one couple to explore whether they can get more out of less.

WRITTEN BY **LEE LEWIS HUSK** | PHOTOS BY **CHRIS MURRAY**

After downsizing into a 1,180-square foot home, Kathi and Tom Denton have no regrets, although Kathi misses a walk-in closet, and Tom parks his car on the street because the single-car garage functions as their primary storage space. The residence is about half the size of their last home, but the couple says its location in NorthWest Crossing's Farmstead 12 development and the thoughtful layout has made the transition smooth.

"This location is perfect," said Kathi. "We can walk to Portello Wine Café or Discovery Park, meet our neighbors at the firepit or snip herbs from a small raised garden bed." It's also close to hiking and biking trails and Shevlin Park, where Tom goes to practice tenkara, a Japanese fly-fishing technique.

Farmhouse 12 is one of several small-scale cottage developments in the popular and growing Northwest Bend neighborhood that prides itself on sustainable building practices, where every home is required to be Earth Advantage certified. Eric Meloling Construction teamed up with Greg Welch Construction to form Farmstead 12 LLC, which recently finished its last dwelling.

"Our intent is to make small homes livable and not feel like a small home," Meloling said. The project features farm-style cottages arrayed around a parklike setting with a common area and a small barn with picnic tables and a fire pit where residents can gather.

The philosophy of downsizing corresponds with a housing-market trend toward smaller, more affordable homes. A recent story in the *Washington Post* cites data from the National Association of Home Builders that shows the average size of new houses fell for the third straight year in 2018. (Data for 2019 is not yet available.)

The Dentons bought their residence less than two years ago after Kathi completed treatment for breast cancer, and they found themselves regarding their lives differently. "Life is short, and the new house gave us a fresh start," she said. "I don't think about having cancer all the time."

The two have been married twenty-three years and feel strongly about reducing their environmental impact. Moving into a smaller, more energy-efficient home is a big step toward that goal. They've never had kids, although they parent two cats, Gus and Deud. The couple explored the idea of small-scale living and became obsessed with tiny-home TV shows but ultimately decided that 400 square feet of living space wasn't for them.

Instead, they ended up with a home that relies on a "reverse living" design that features a kitchen and master bedroom on the second level. It may seem novel, but it's a case of form following function.

The Dentons' home is squeezed into a narrow lot that required their designer, the late Charlotte Van Valkenburg, to create a two-story home that captured views, sunlight and access to Farmstead 12's common outdoor areas. "It's the genius of the designer who is able to see a piece of dirt and imagine what is not there now, but will be there someday," Meloling said.

By necessity, the ground-level had to include the garage, which currently

LEFT Tom and Kathi enjoy a glass of wine in their open kitching dining area.

TOP RIGHT A small park serves as focal point and gathering space for the small community.

BOTTOM RIGHT The first floor den does triple duty, functioning as a guest room, TV room and home office.

TOP The second floor balcony overlooks Farmstead 12.

LEFT The master bedroom includes a floor-to-ceiling herringbone pattern on the wall made of barn wood.

sports a T@B teardrop camp trailer as a fun sleeping place for visiting nieces and nephews. Tom added tall storage cabinets for shoes and coats that they don't have space for in their bedroom. Sports equipment hangs on racks from the ceiling, and plastic bins store everything from photo albums to holiday decorations.

Visitors enter the cottage on the first floor, where a sliding barn door opens into a den that functions as a guest bedroom, TV room and office. A guest bath with a soaking tub, a laundry room and a converted coat closet for the cats complete the first-level layout.

But it's the upstairs "reverse living" where the magic happens. A narrow staircase opens into a large, vaulted and contiguous space for the kitchen, dining and living rooms. One comfy chair and a sofa face the natural-gas fireplace and TV. The room is filled with plants (plastic because Kathi says she doesn't have a green thumb), a large dining table with bench seating, an island and well-appointed kitchen with high-end appliances and hardwood floors. A deck off the living room is where the Dentons go to enjoy coffee with the sunrise or fresh air in the evening.

At the opposite end is the master suite with the bath, and one shared sink that they say is just fine. The bedroom has a view of Mount Bachelor and is large enough to accommodate a king-size bed and two nightstands, as well as a small nook with a view of Awbrey Butte. To add texture and character to the room, Tom built a floor-to-ceiling herringbone pattern on the wall behind the bed made of pre-cut barn wood.

When the Dentons moved into the residence, they left most of their previous furnishings behind and instead selected much of the cottage's décor based on functionality, style and artistic preferences. "Living small forces you to choose the things that make you happy," Tom said. "This fits our needs."

Editor's note: Designer Charlotte Van Valkenburg was killed along with her cousin in an automobile collision with a drunken driver in British Columbia this past summer. Bend Magazine *featured Van Valkenburg previously for her work as a mentor and coach of the Summit High robotics team.*

Resources

Building: Farmstead 12 LLC
Design: Charlotte Van Valkenburg
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WOOL

Katie Ketchum's Fiber Art

A new wool arts studio is woven into the fabric of Oregon.

WRITTEN BY **SUZANNE JOHNSON**

Step through the doors of Katie Ketchum's downtown shop and you'll be greeted by a trio of macramé panels, knotted with long natural strands, hanging lightly from majestic elk antlers that stretch across the shop's front windows. It's immediately clear that this isn't your grandmother's yarn shop. Welcome to Wool Town, a hip new fiber arts studio in downtown Bend dedicated to creating a community of yarn and fabric lovers.

A fourth-generation Oregonian, Ketchum grew up on a ranch in the high desert around Moro. Her childhood balanced between free-range play around the farm and hands-on work caring for chickens and cattle. Her first fiber work, she laughs, may have been braiding her horse's long, black mane.

Ketchum took up knitting in college. The quiet, repetitive motion became a meditation to balance the chaos of campus life, so different from the ranch. Each step after college brought her deeper into her craft and business, first at Web-sters yarn shop in Ashland, a landmark for Oregon knitters, and then at Imperial Stock Ranch between Shaniko and Maupin.

"I've spent most of my life on the ranch or in Ashland, so I'm a blend of country and hippie," said Ketchum. "Both live close to the earth, and that's still who I am," she added. Working with wool gives Ketchum a tactile satisfaction very much like farming. As she creates pieces both useful and beautiful, from sweaters to wall hangings, the colors and textures reflect the years she spent steeped in sagebrush and Cascadian forests.

While living in Maupin, Ketchum filled the quiet evenings by learning to weave on a loom. When the focus shifted from functional fashion to artistic expression, Ketchum found that yarn held new possibilities. With no set pattern to follow, weaving offered a freeform creative outlet that grew into a passion.

"Weaving engages a different part of my brain. I start with an idea, but the design just flows. It rarely finishes the way I expected," Ketchum explained. Her weavings hang from craggy branches of juniper or manzanita and incorporate wooden beads or crystals. Ketchum often adds dimension to the weaving with puffy layers of roving, a type of wool that has not yet been spun into yarn.

PHOTOS ALEX JORDAN

Fabric artists also use roving to create felted projects in three-dimensional shapes. "It's like sculpture with wool," Ketchum said. Felters use needles to attach different colors of roving to the surface of the felted object. "I feel like I'm painting with wool," she explained.

A large wooden table fills the back room of the shop, offering ample space for wool crafters to gather and learn. Ketchum aims to cultivate a community that shares her love of all things woolen with knitters, felters and weavers of all skill levels. The shop calendar fills with classes on knitting, crochet, weaving, needle felting, and macramé—and social hours for working together around the table on unfinished projects.

These gatherings provide a chance to step away from modern life. "The more we go online, and our lives go virtual and remote, the farther we get from being present, here, connected. It's important to make real things," said Ketchum.

Wool Town's shelves and armoires hold an extravaganza of yarn skeins made from wool, alpaca, jute, cotton, and silk. Cloud-like balls of roving sit in contrast to twine-like hemp yarns, and finished samples are tucked into every corner to inspire customers to try something new.

SHANIKO: THE WOOL CAPITAL OF THE WORLD

When Oregon became a state in 1859, settlers realized the poor soil of Central Oregon made for difficult farming, but sheep could thrive on the tough grasses and sagebrush.

By 1900, the sheep industry was bustling, and the newly incorporated town of Shaniko earned a nickname: Wool Capital of the World. The railway from Biggs stayed packed with ranch supplies coming in, and enormous wool bundles shipping out. By 1905, more than $5 million worth of wool changed hands in Shaniko's bustling market.

Shaniko's wool boom lasted about a decade. In 1911, railroad magnates James Hill and Edward Harriman joined forces to build a new rail line along the Deschutes River. Shaniko was sidelined and faded into the historic ghost town we see today. Sheep continue to dot the sagebrush, but ranches now produce more beef than wool.

LEFT An embroidered handbag flanked by more functional wool fashion.

ABOVE Ketchum threads wool through her loom.

Local products round out the Wool Town spectrum of yarns. Ketchum sells Henlia Handmade yarns, which are dyed in Bend with subtle, all-natural colors. Soft, buttery Naftaland yarns are spun from alpaca wool grown in Tumalo. And Imperial Yarns from the Tygh Valley produces merino and alpaca yarns, and finished goods like blankets and ponchos.

Surrounded by fiber in her shop and through her art, Ketchum feels grounded in the landscapes she loves. "Oregon's culture is entrenched in nature. And wool is this natural fiber that literally comes from the land. It keeps us connected to the earth in a very practical way," Ketchum said.

PHOTOS ALEX JORDAN

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DESIGN

Seven Tips For a Beautiful Bathroom

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1. Create an accent wall using patterned tile.
2. Use a neutral or monochromatic palette to create a timeless space.
3. Mix textures to create layers and depth.
4. Be bold. Instead of tile floor, bring hardwood from the main floor into the bathroom.
5. Mix and match metal finishes to add variety.
6. Incorporate shiplap and light Quartz countertops for more light.
7. Use mirrors to stretch the space.

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The Haven

COWORKING

We Can Work It Out

An explosion of coworking spaces has created a wealth of options for Bend's flexible workforce.

WRITTEN BY **SEAN LESLIE**

Before coworking became the coolest thing to do in Bend since opening a craft brewery, it had to go through another stage where it wasn't so glamorous. And it wasn't so long ago.

Kelly Kearsley, a freelance writer and start-up cheerleader, was one of the early adopters. She and her husband, Justin, who was developing a start-up company, joined up with a group of software engineers who had rented office space off Greenwood Avenue.

"It wasn't 'cool'," she laughs. "I mean, it was like a closet, and there were cubicles... But it was rad, because, back then, Bend was just dipping a toe into the tech industry, and this was a space where a lot of people were having meetups."

Software engineer James Gentes was the ad hoc organizer of the group, buying pizza, and managing the space in his free time.

"It kind of grew organically. And we all shared one big lease and figured it out," Kearsley said. Within a few short years the group had a new home on Emkay Drive and had adopted a non-profit model to foster the remote work and start-up culture emerging in Bend.

"We started thinking we could create a much bigger coworking community," said Kearsley, who now serves as BendTECH's board chair.

They didn't know how right they were.

A MOVEMENT AFOOT

Fast forward to 2019, when at least three new coworking spaces opened in Bend, two of them just a few blocks apart in the NorthWest Crossing neighborhood. Another was set to debut before the end of the year inside the SCP Redmond Hotel in downtown Redmond.

By a way of a loose count, the combined capacity of Bend's coworking spaces sits at about sixty-seven private offices (some of which can accommodate multiple workers), 140 dedicated desks, and roughly 300 "flex memberships," which allow members to drop in as needed.

At full capacity, that's a workforce of more than 500 individuals. If it were a business, it would rank among the Bend's top 10 private employers, bigger than Les Schwab and Deschutes Brewery in terms of personnel.

This trend isn't surprising to Damon Runberg, Regional Economist for the Oregon Employment Department. "Bend is bringing in [remote] workers and small business owners who value our slower pace, high quality of life, and relative affordability," he explains.

But what many of these "remote workers" discover, after working from their home office—or kitchen table—for a few months, is that working from home day after day isn't always the dream gig it's made out to be.

"Working from home sounds great, especially

Embark


BendTECH

"I think companies have figured out that, as the workforce has changed, employees want more flexibility."

when you moved to Bend and you're excited about being able to take that conference call in your yoga pants, and you can make that 'slipper commute' and not have to drive anywhere," says Carrie Douglass, co-founder of The Haven coworking space on Bend's near west side, off Colorado Avenue. "But six months into it, you're thinking, 'My toddler's bothering me or walking in on conference calls,' or 'My dog's barking when the truck drives by.' After craving that flexibility, now you're realizing that working from home every day might not be all that great."

It's for this reason that Douglass and her husband, Scott, founded The Haven. Beautifully designed and decorated to replicate a "residential feel," with huge windows and sweeping views of the Deschutes River below, The Haven's members are a mix of remote workers—part of a larger company's distributed workforce—and self-employed professionals or freelancers, a breakdown that reflects both corporate America's embrace of remote work and the rise of the entrepreneurial "gig economy."

"I think companies have figured out that, as the workforce has changed, employees want more flexibility," said Douglass. "Part of that includes being able to work remotely, and technology has allowed for that to happen."

The Haven offers multiple "membership types," from private offices starting at $875 a month, to dedicated desks in an open office setting for $449 a month, to multiple types of flex memberships, and even "day passes" for $40 each. Each of Bend's coworking spaces operates using a similar membership system.

The Collective NWX, for example, deliberately features a selection of different workspaces that cater to different professional needs and budgets.

"We know that some people love to work in their house, but they just need a few hours to get out of their jammies and socialize with other people. So, we built a community drop-in space where you can come work for a couple of hours or meet a client in a location that's not a Starbucks," said Sara Odendahl, Owner and Managing Partner. "We also know some people might not want to work at home but don't have a physical office elsewhere, so we created six private offices and twelve dedicated desks where members can work every single day."

CREATING COMMUNITY

Avoiding distraction isn't the only challenge facing remote workers trying to make a go of it at home. Remote work can also be isolating.

"People are yearning for connection," said Will Blount, president of dog outdoor accessory

PHOTO BOTTOM LEFT JILL ROSELL

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The Wilds

company Ruffwear and founder of another new coworking space in town, Embark.

He thinks this innate desire is one of the biggest drivers of the coworking boom. "Technology has allowed us to work from anywhere, and it's allowed us to be connected with people anywhere. But at the same time, I think we're really feeling disconnected. To physically sit in a room with someone and get to look at them, that's something that you can't experience over Skype or some other digital tool. There's a real sense of communication that happens in the presence of other humans. And I think that our society is deeply yearning for that experience."

Amanda Krantz, the executive director of BendTECH, said that the shared desire for community that leads professionals to become coworkers also sometimes leads to unexpected professional collaborations and partnerships.

"Many of our members initially just want a sense of community, a place where everybody else is also working," she agrees. "But even if they didn't come here trying to network, we've seen a lot of members meet people or find likeminded groups, and they go off and start companies together or hire someone away from what they were doing."

Kelly Thiel, cofounder of The Wilds, a coworking space focused on creative professionals, said that the managers of Bend's coworking spaces collaborate to help new members find the ideal space for their work.

"Each of Bend's coworking spaces has its own flavor, so there's a space for everyone," she says. "Our flavor is more creative. The Haven has a certain flavor, and Embark and BendTECH each have their own feel."

In the case of Embark, the coworking concept evolved from what used to be Ruffwear's product warehouse in Bend's NorthWest Crossing neighborhood. Though it welcomes members from numerous different types of businesses, its focus is in on the outdoor industry.

"What we're creating here is a container where people who share a common goal can come together and learn and grow from each other," says Blount. "We designed the place specifically to create these intersections where people from different backgrounds and companies are going to run into each other and spark a conversation about their passions. And, hopefully, a rising tide lifts all ships." B

MORE THAN AN OFFICE

There may be a secondary benefit to a strong coworking culture in Bend, said The Haven's Scott Douglass. Coworking has the chance to engage people not just creatively, but also civically.

"When you look over history, people tend to be connected to their community through their children's school, their church and their place of work. Well, fewer and fewer people go to church, you're only connected to a school if you have a school-aged kids, and now we've got this huge segment of 12 or 13 percent of people in Bend who aren't connected to a local place-based employer. So how are people growing roots in a community and finding out how to be connected, finding out about volunteer opportunities and civic opportunities?"

Douglass said coworking spaces like the Haven can help fill that void by providing an environment where members of a disparate workforce can help each other connect to the community at large and promote civic engagement, like volunteering.

"If you're at home Monday through Friday, head down, working by yourself, and then on evenings and weekends you're accessing all of the wonderful resources we have in Bend—the river, the trails, the mountains—you're really not fully participating in the broader community. And that doesn't bode well when it comes to a city maintaining that sense of place," he said.

Bend is a great community not just because of the proximity of the mountains or the urban trails, but rather because generations of citizens have invested their time and talents into building our parks, our schools and our social infrastructure.

"As our city grows, and as more and more talented people move to Bend, it's important to ensure that their talents are contributing to our community overall," Douglass said.

Yoga class at The Haven

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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Meet Apricity

Specialized electronics manufacturer grows rapidly in Bend

APRICITY, AN OBSCURE WORD FROM THE 1600S, means the warmth of the sun in winter. While the term never quite caught on, an electronics company in Bend with that name seems to be doing so.

Gabe Ayers had worked as an energy research engineer at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Lincoln Laboratory for five years before he went out on his own, continuing to work on some of his pre-existing defense contracts. He founded Apricity in 2015 in Jackson Hole, Wyo., moved to Bend in 2017, and got a desk at BendTECH, the entrepreneurial coworking hub. "I saw there was a tech community—a landing pad," he said.

The company develops embedded circuit boards, firmware, accompanying software, plastics and enclosures for electronics. Now with eighteen employees and a 4,000-square-foot space in NorthWest Crossing, the company is poised for more success.

Ayers anticipates the staff will grow to twenty-five employees by the end of the year. Even so, he stresses that the company doesn't focus on growth in the way of a traditional startup.

"We have no external investment; we have no debt," he said. "We'll grow as we continue to increase our client base, but there's no speculative growth." That allows them to remain nimble and adjust the engineering team on projects without being top-heavy with project managers. The team is working on twenty to thirty projects at any given time and completes them in a fraction of the time as competitors, he said.


Gabe Ayers

For example, creating an electronics product typically takes nine to twelve months, from inception to hitting the market. Apricity did one in ten weeks last summer, from the first phone call to finish — the plastics, circuit board design, firmware and cloud code, plus securing safety certification and Federal Communications Commission approval.

"We have strong business partnerships with people in the industry, and we haven't been around that long, but we move fast, do good work, and everyone that works with us is happy and comes back," he said.

— Cathy Carroll

BY THE NUMBERS

CHILD CARE CRISIS?

As Central Oregon's population has grown, the supply of affordable childcare has dwindled for working families. The Bend Chamber of Commerce last year attempted to quantify the challenge in a survey of local businesses that found the childcare shortage affected income, attendance and retention efforts. Here's a look at the numbers:

37%

of employers said a quarter of employees need childcare

54%

of employers said they have lost workers who lack childcare

57%

of employers said a lack of child care affects workforce productivity

92%

of employers say childcare issues hurt employee attendance

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CANNABIS

High Hopes

America's leader in online cannabis ordering set to expand in Bend.

INTERVIEW BY **CATHY CARROLL**

When Ross Lipson went off to Michigan State University in 2005, on his first day in the dorm, he got inundated with take-out food menus. Knowing there was a better way to connect restaurants and customers, he dropped out of college in the first week of school to launch one of the first online restaurant-ordering sites in the U.S. capable of aggregating offerings from multiple eateries. He replicated that with GrubCanada, the country's first such service, which became a household name and the hub for online ordering.

After selling it in 2011, Lipson, an avid snowboarder, moved to Bend in 2012. His timing was fortuitous. When Oregon voters legalized cannabis for recreational use in 2014, Lipson saw an opportunity. He founded Dutchie (pronounced doo-chey) an online marketplace where consumers can place pickup or delivery orders from local cannabis shops. With hundreds of participating dispensaries across the nation, Dutchie is dominating the space and expanding locally. We talked with Lipson recently about the endeavor and his plans for its growth.

Tell us a bit about launching Dutchie in Bend in mid-2017.

Shops were starting up, as we all remember, on every corner—lines out the door. Everyone was very excited. I was personally excited. I enjoy consuming, the culture, the people, I see the opportunity. I'm in Bend, in Oregon, one of the first markets to go legal for rec[reation], and so I have this early exposure to this emerging industry, cannabis. I'm in line that first day of legalization, and my light bulb is going off in my head, screaming at me, saying 'You need to apply the online ordering concept, everything you know, to the cannabis space.'

Ross Lipson (left) with brother and co-founder Zach

I called my brother (Zach Lipson), who's my co-founder and chief product officer here. He was living in Chicago, he's a tech startup guy, and serendipitously, he was going through an acquisition at the same time. I called him with my idea and he said, "It's a no-brainer, you have to do it, and I'm in."

How much is the company growing?

We launched here in Bend in mid-2017 with just one dispensary and now, two-and-a-half years later, we're in twenty-two states, we're in more than 500 dispensaries, we have forty-five employees, growing quick. We just signed a lease for a 13,000-square-foot building with room for 130 employees. We're moving in November 2020, so we're really aggressively recruiting. We are recruiting software engineers, product specialists—cannabis connoisseurs, customer support, sales, account management. Those are the buckets for thirty job openings.

Tell us about your funding and sales.

We've raised $18 million in funding. The lead on our first round was Casa Verde Capital, which is [backed by] Snoop Dog, and Gron Ventures led our last round, our Series A in September. We're the leader in the nation in online ordering for cannabis—transacted more sales in cannabis than anyone in the nation last year. We're right now annualized at doing $185 million in GMV, gross merchandise value—transacted sales. (The amount of sales made by dispensaries using Dutchie online ordering.) We work with many multi-state operators like Mission and ZenLeaf and the largest dispensary in the world, NuWu, in Vegas, and the closest recreational dispensary to New York City, Theory Wellness, which averages a two-hour line all day in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, on the border of New York State. Order volume like you've never seen—over 1,000 transactions per day.

Who are your main competitors and how are you distinct?

Leafly and Weedmaps are our two main competitors, however, we're very focused on online ordering. That's all we do, whereas they do many things. They're first and foremost product review, and a dispensary guide of listings in your area. They just recently launched online ordering.

What have been the biggest challenges so far?

I am so optimistic; I see the challenges as positive. In the cannabis space there are these rules and regulations that wear you down. Those are the reasons why the big players aren't in—the barriers to entry—I love those problems. It all comes down to the mindset.

2019 READERS' Choice WINNERS

PHOTOS BY **STEVE TAGUE**

TOTAL VOTES CAST

26,326

CATEGORY WITH MOST VOTES CAST

BEST BREAKFAST (MCKAY COTTAGE)

CLOSEST RACE

BEST WINE LIST (PORTELLO WINE CAFE)

LARGEST WINNING MARGIN

POLE PEDAL PADDLE (BEST COMMUNITY SPORTS EVENT)

LARGEST VOTE GETTER

EL SANCHO (BEST TACO)

OUR READERS WEIGH IN ON THE BEST IN DINING, DRINKS, ENTERTAINMENT AND MORE.

One of the greatest challenges in conducting a reader's poll is determining what categories to include and just how far to drill down into our research. Details matter, we know that. And we appreciate it. So it's difficult for us to, say, ask our readers for their favorite craft brewery (Crux, it turns out) without asking them to tell us who brews the best double IPA or winter seasonal. We want to know the answers to all of these questions. Alas, there's issues of time, space and reader fatigue. So we stuck to the big overarching questions, like Best Breakfast (McKay Cottage), content to let readers argue amongst themselves as to who has the best Eggs Benedict. We removed a few categories that didn't get traction last year and added more opportunities for you to weigh on categories like business, retail fashion and community events. In all, more than a thousand readers took the time to share their insights and opinions. In the results, we found a few surprises and witnessed some extremely close races. Most of all, we were reminded of the wealth of amazing experiences that are available to residents and visitors, thanks in part to the many small business owners who pour so much passion into their products and services. The next time you find yourself in one of these establishments, please congratulate them on their achievement. It's no small feat, given the competition.

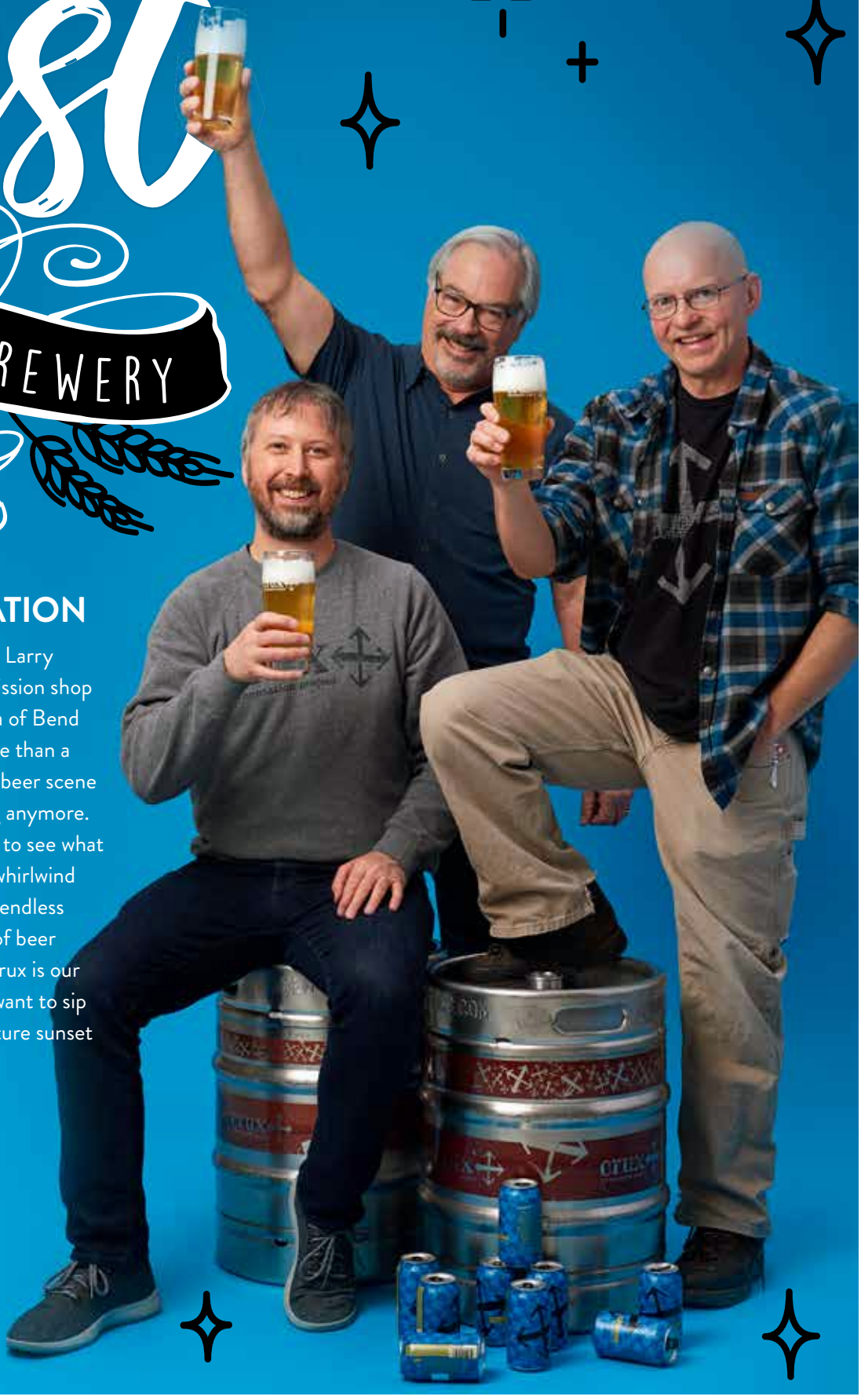
Best RESTAURANT

WILD ROSE

Chef and owner Paul Itti's menu is a never ending melange of flavors at Wild Rose. Featuring Northern Thai-style dishes inspired by Itti's grandmother's cooking, Wild Rose elevates casual ethnic cuisine to a subtle artform. The formula has been so successful that Itti may be opening a second location in Bend, proving that, when it comes to Thai food, you can't have too much of a good thing.

Yum

Best LOCAL BREWERY



CRUX FERMENTATION

When founders Paul Evers and Larry Sidor tapped a defunct transmission shop building in a hard-to-reach area of Bend for their start-up brewery, more than a few casual observers of Bend's beer scene snickered. They're not laughing anymore. Today, beer lovers are lining up to see what comes next from the creative whirlwind that is Crux. With a seemingly endless array of taps featuring dozens of beer styles, and an ultra chic pub, Crux is our readers go-to spot when they want to sip a tall ale while taking in a signature sunset over the Cascades.

BEST PIZZA

PIZZA MONDO

BEST BREAKFAST

MCKAY COTTAGE

BEST BAKERY

SPARROW

BEST WINE LIST

PORTELLO WINE CAFE

Best COFFEE ROASTER

BACKPORCH COFFEE ROASTERS

Owner Dave Beach started experimenting with coffee roasting on the back porch of his college residence in Eugene a decade ago. Quite a bit has changed since then, but not Beach's commitment to a great cup of sustainably sourced coffee. So it's no surprise that Backporch is now a back-to-back winner in our Reader's Choice poll. We'll drink to that.

BEST BLOODY MARY

THE VICTORIAN CAFÉ

BEST FOOD CART

EL SANCHO

BEST TACOS

EL SANCHO

BEST SUSHI

5 FUSION & SUSHI BAR

BEST RESTAURANT FOR KIDS

RED ROBIN

BEST HAPPY HOUR

900 WALL

BEST LATE NIGHT

D & D BAR AND GRILL

BEST NEW BUSINESS

MIYAGI RAMEN

BEST HEALTH FOOD

MARKET OF CHOICE

BEST TRIVIA

SILVER MOON

BEST DATE NIGHT

ARIANA

Best BURGER

DESCHUTES BREWERY

Wars have been started and families divided over less controversial topics than this. To wit, more than a thousand people voted on this question alone in our online survey. In the end the answer was clear: Deschutes Brewery's Pub Burger, a six-ounce Painted Hills Beef patty with housemade pickles, is the king of burgers in these parts.

WANDERLUST

The granddaddy of Central Oregon tour companies, Wanderlust Tours has been an industry leader in Bend and around the Pacific Northwest for more than three decades. Whether, you're looking for a twilight paddle around a high Cascades lake, a moonlight snowshoe tour, or something off the beaten path like an a-cappella concert in a century old tree stand or lava cave, Wanderlust has an adventure that showcases the best of our diverse region with an emphasis on sustainability and conscientious conservation.

BEST WOMEN'S CLOTHING

VANILLA URBAN THREADS

BEST MEN'S CLOTHING

REVOLVR

BEST JEWELRY STORE

SILVERADO

BEST SKI SHOP

POWDERHOUSE

BEST PET STORE

BEND PET EXPRESS

BEST STAYCATION

BRASADA RANCH

BEST PUBLIC GOLF COURSE

TETHEROW

BEST INDOOR PLACE FOR KIDS

TRAMPOLINE ZONE

BEST PLACE FOR A WORKOUT

JUNIPER SWIM & FITNESS

BEST COMMUNITY EVENT

MUNCH N MUSIC

BEST COMMUNITY SPORTS EVENT

POLE PEDAL PADDLE

Best BIKE SHOP

PINE MOUNTAIN SPORTS

In a town known for its singletrack scene, cyclo-cross crazies and road riding radicals, it's no small feat to nab top honors in this category. The competition was stiff this year, with a dozen shops nominated and hundreds of votes cast for our finalists. But when the trail dust settled, it was Pine Mountain Sports that took the top spot on the podium. A well deserved honor for owner Dan McGarigle and his team who take singular pride in their customer-first approach to business.

Best

ART GALLERY

TUMALO ART CO.

Don't go looking for the Tumalo Art Co. in Tumalo—this gem of a shop is located right in the Old Mill District in Bend. The gallery is owned and operated by a collective of artists, who create and curate the best of the best in Northwest art. Walk through the doors and find yourself surrounded by fine art in a diverse array of mediums, including oil, acrylic, mixed media, digital media, ceramics, glass, sculpture and photography. Classic to contemporary, you'll find something of beauty here.

BEST YOGA STUDIO

NAMASPA

BEST SPA

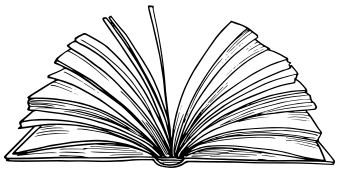
ANJOU

BEST FURNITURE AND DECOR

BEND FURNITURE & DESIGN

BEST SALON

LEMON DROP HAIR SALON

By the B  K

What happens when a book club writes a story of its own.

WRITTEN BY **MARISA CHAPPELL HOSSICK**

PHOTOS BY **CAROL STERNKOPF**

"You're going to want to sit down for this," the subject line of the email read. Kathleen, my dear friend from book club, had just been diagnosed with stage 3B lung cancer. Numbly, I sat down, trying to make sense of this. Kathleen, who is so healthy, never smoked, regular exerciser, mother of two young boys.

We didn't start our book club as a support group or as a social safety net, but when Kathleen came to us with her diagnosis, there was no question that's what it would be.

It's been thirteen years since Erin and I started our book club. Over the years, the group has become more than a reading circle. Our book club has witnessed the most significant moments in our adult lives. Cancer didn't kill our book club. Nor have marriages, divorces, children and careers. Our book club is alive and well, just like Kathleen, who is surviving her cancer scare, teaching us all a lesson in strength and courage along the way.

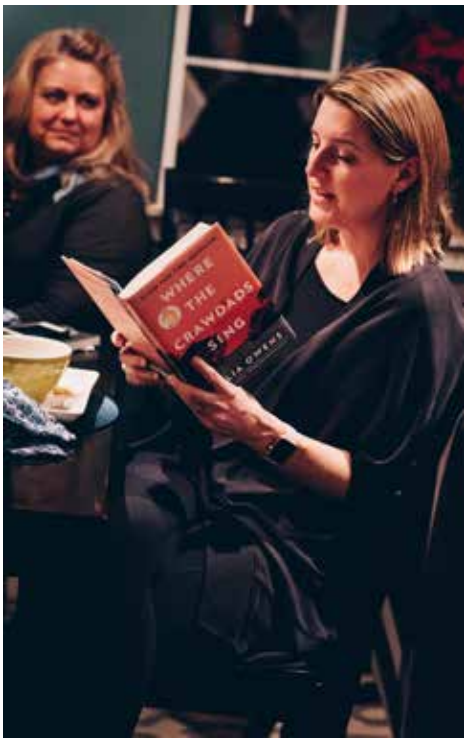
We're not alone. By some estimates, five million Americans take part in a book club. There are dozens of book clubs in Bend and many more options to participate online. Deschutes County Public Library even offers a book club start-up kit.

Our book club started like most others. My friend Erin and I each invited a few people. We decided to read Elizabeth Gilbert's *Eat Pray Love* and see what happened.

That evening, we lived and traveled through Liz Gilbert's story. We learned about the *Dolce Vita* in Italy, struggled with Gilbert during her ten days of silence in an Indian ashram, and followed her journey to become a whole person with Ketut in Bali. The sense of discovery of one's self seemed to fit with a group of women getting to know ourselves and each other.

There are seven of us who gather now. Some of the original book clubbers have drifted off, and others joined in their place. This group of seven—we're not going anywhere.

Amy is an artist. I am always blown away by her creativity and sense of adventure. Erin is an estate planning attorney with a wild, free spirit and steadying wisdom. Markay is a paralegal and explorer. Newly remarried, she and her husband are trying their hand at being Airbnb hosts. Andrea is just magic and cannot be defined by her job. She works in marketing, has a wicked sense of humor and a



Tips on how to start a great book club

Figure out what kind of book club you want to be. Are you true readers or is this more of an excuse to drink wine and get out of the house? Both are great, but successful book clubs know how they want to roll.

Establish a meeting place and time. Will it be your house? A book shop? A café? A kids' play area? We like rotating houses with the hostess preparing a main dish loosely themed on the book and the rest of the club filling in sides, drinks and desserts.

Evaluate the right frequency to meet. Many book clubs meet once a month, but we decided we needed a bit more time to read so settled on six weeks.

Decide how you would like to choose books. We have always allowed the suggestions to come up organically at each gathering when we set the book for the next meeting. These are usually books that one of us has heard about, already picked up and started reading or found while perusing the shelves at a local book shop.

thoroughly contagious laugh. Donna is an acupuncturist and Chinese doctor by trade, as well as a gardener, and a multi-year Burning Man reveler. Kathleen is a physical therapist with a permanent twinkle in her big brown eyes and the heart of a lion. And then there's me, Marisa, a photographer and communications director and now, I guess, a writer. Some of us are mothers, and some are not.

Our book club meets every six weeks or so—a decision we made early on to allow professional women with busy lives to have time to finish the book. We don't all make it to the end of every book, but most of us do. We choose our books spontaneously and in no particular order. Some of us love the feel of a printed book in our hands. Others cruise through the audio versions while folding innumerable loads of laundry. E-readers, library books, and dog-eared borrowed copies all make up our reading sources. No matter what the format, we all get pulled in by the beckoning world of the storyteller.

In a time when loneliness and isolation seem to be on the rise despite so many online "connections," meeting in person with our book club provides a real community that has fostered

> "Before we knew it, we had evolved into lifelong friends."

lasting friendships and created a story of our own.

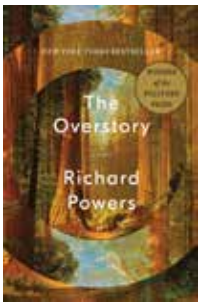
I remember sitting on Erin's bed with her just days after her daughter Quinn was born, marveling at impossibly tiny fingers and toes. We listened with compassion as Markay voiced her disappointment in love and we all wished desperately for her to meet someone who deserved her. We were spellbound when Amy shared the discovery of a baby sister in a graveyard about whom no one ever spoke. We kept Andrea company after a fall left her with a severe concussion and housebound for a month. We all shrieked with surprise when Donna came back married from a trip to Cuba. And when I dodged hosting book club year after year because of my crippling anxiety, no one objected.

Thirteen years ago, eight strangers started a book club because it sounded like fun. Before we knew it, we had evolved into lifelong friends. Together we've been through births and deaths, traumatic injuries and life-threatening illnesses, divorces and remarriages. Today we are sisters, joined at the heart and soul, and bound together through the pages of our own story. B

Must-Reads

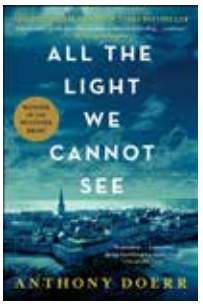
Books to Stir Your Soul

THE OVERSTORY
by Richard Powers



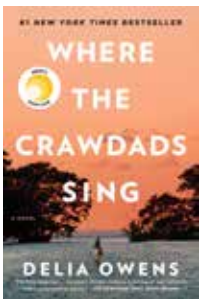
Winner of the 2019 Pulitzer Prize, The Overstory Powers brings the reader on eight separate journeys of characters marked by trees. It's at the convergence of these paths where the magic happens. Interconnectedness of forest and humans, environment and capitalism, history and current day. You might find yourself yearning for the redwoods after reading this.

ALL THE LIGHT WE CANNOT SEE
by Anthony Doerr



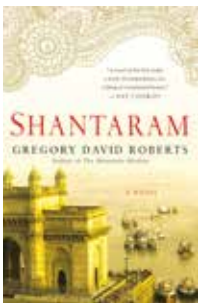
A beautifully written and emotionally intelligent story about a blind French girl who befriends a German boy amid the turmoil of the second World War. It's a book to read slowly and savor.

WHERE THE CRAWDADS SING
by Delia Owens



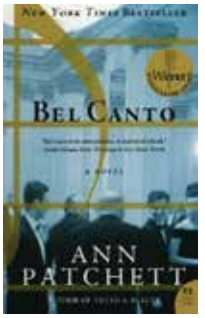
A painfully beautiful story of survival that is both hopeful and devastating. It's a coming of age, celebration of nature, and mystery set in the marsh lands of North Carolina.

SHANTARAM
by Gregory David Roberts



Lin is an escaped Australian convict who disappears with a false passport into the underworld of Bombay. This is a mesmerizing journey through the human experience.

BEL CANTO
by Ann Patchett



A birthday party for a Japanese businessman in South America comes to a violent halt when terrorists take the party hostage. Patchett's writing is always beautiful and the stories are unexpected and brilliant.

PHOTO TREVOR LYDEN

SECOND SEASON

It's time to dust off the dry suit and plunge into winter runs on these four local waters.

WRITTEN BY **K.M. COLLINS**

For most boaters, kayaking is a summer sport. For the one percent, the best time to paddle is when the kids go back to school, the crowds subside, and old man winter begins to stir. With Jack Frost as our co-pilot, let's pull on our dry suits and explore what paddlers around here affectionately refer to as the "second season."

FIRST STREET RAPIDS
ON THE DESCHUTES RIVER

Type: Slalom
Difficulty: Summer - Class II; Winter - Class I
Levels: Spring fed, dam controlled
Length: 100+ yards
Commitment: Low

The only form of kayaking to qualify as an Olympic sport, slalom boating was developed by European skiers who transitioned from snow to water after ski season. Like downhill skiing, the sport revolves around timed runs through a predetermined course. In this case, it's a series of hanging downstream and upstream gates.

Slalom boaters are known as rabble-rousing members of the kayaking community. They are also some of the most knowledgeable paddlers. In Bend, 71-year-old Bert Hinkley, a former Olympic coach and boater, leads the slalom covey that also comprises former Olympians, coaches and intermediate to beginner boaters.

While slalom boating was born in the Alps during spring, it's a winter tradition around here due to weather and river flows. "What's amazing, is in Bend, we have a mild enough climate to ski and boat on the same day," Hinkley said.

WHITEWATER CLASSIFICATION

I Very small rough areas. Requires no maneuvering. Skill level: None

II Some rough water, maybe some rocks. Small drops that might require maneuvering. Skill level: Basic.

III Medium waves, maybe a 4-foot drop. Not much considerable danger. May require significant maneuvering Skill level: Experienced.

IV Whitewater, large waves, long rapids and rocks. Maybe a considerable drop. Sharp maneuvers may be needed. Skill level: Advanced.

V Whitewater, large waves, continuous rapids, large rocks and hazards. Maybe a large drop. Precise maneuvering, often characterized by "must make" moves. Class V sometimes expanded to Class V+ that describes the most extreme, runnable rapids. Skill level: Expert.

PHOTO BEND PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT, FACING PAGE TREVOR LYDEN

RIVERHOUSE ON THE DESCHUTES RIVER
SAWYER PARK TO TUMALO STATE PARK

Type: Freestyle
Difficulty: Winter - Class IV
Levels: Spring fed, dam controlled
Length: 4.6 miles
Commitment: High

Just downstream of First Street Rapids begins the so-called "Riverhouse" section. It's a churning stretch of boulder-strewn runs and narrow whitewater chutes that attracts the region's renegade freestyle boaters.

Will Howerton started his kayak career on Idaho's Payette River, classic big water and a bucket list river for many Western kayakers. Still, he enjoys the Riverhouse run's technical creeking charm. "The walled-in canyon section promotes a remote feeling, which is therapeutic for me," Howerton said. He compares this paddle to the upstream summer run at Meadow Camp, Bend's other backyard section of Class IV river. "Meadow Camp is a bit more difficult but has (the river) trail next to it, so it lacks the remote feel a bit," Howerton said.

With four "named" Class IV rapids (The Wright Stuff, Flumes of Doom, Trex and Oger), the Riverhouse Run provides predictable risks and rewards, said Howerton.

Things can get even more interesting when dam releases upstream of Bend create surges that quickly push water levels from around 500-700 cubic feet per second (cfs) to 2,000 cfs. This typically happens in the fall or winter when irrigation district's need to create room for spring runoff in upstream reservoirs. (A similar event happens during spring on the Crooked River when strategic releases create a short-lived section of Class III-IV water in the Crooked River Gorge below Smith Rock State Park).

If you are wondering just how cold it gets on the water, well let's just say there's a reason the crowds are gone. "I remember when, at the end of [one] paddle, my friends couldn't get their frozen life jackets off. Sometimes you have to get in your truck and warm up before you can remove gear."

Outsiders may wonder why anyone would paddle with ice on the water and frost on the ground. For many boaters, the misery is part of the challenge, plus there's bragging rights on the line.

"In whitewater, your weaknesses come out," said Howerton.

No matter the season, paddling challenges your body and mind.

"How well can you deal with fear? How well can you focus? How well are you prepared and organized?

"You will find out very fast what the answers are," he said.

WHAT TO WEAR

For Bert Hinkely there is a significant cut off at fifty-five degrees Fahrenheit. This is when he trades short sleeves and neoprene shorts for his cold weather kit. Hinkely cautions, "The repetition of a course and gates gets one's heart rate up, and you stay warm. It isn't the same freestyling creeks." At forty-five degrees he'll pull out his poggies, a neoprene mitten-like hand covering that slips over the paddle shaft and acts as a pocket for the paddlers' hands. Winter kayaking gear can be an investment, but there are options. Consider buying at the end of summer on close out, and checking out used and consignment stores like Gear Fix. Have your friends ask around the paddling community.

FROM BASE TO OUTER

- ☑ Fleece long johns (optional double long johns)
- ☑ Synthetic vest
- ☑ Wool socks
- ☑ Dry suit
- ☑ Paddle shoes
- ☑ Tight spray skirt that won't pop off
- ☑ Personal flotation device
- ☑ Plush padded helmet, or helmet and neoprene cap underlayer
- ☑ Fleece-lined poggies
- ☑ Ear plugs
- ☑ Hand warmers for key locations under the dry suit
- ☑ Snacks

METOLIUS RIVER
GORGE CAMPGROUND TO WIZARD FALLS

Type: Freestyle
Difficulty: Year-round Class III
Levels: Spring fed
Length: Two miles
Commitment: Medium

Easily offering Central Oregon's chilliest splashes, the Metolius River springs from the earth with purpose, beckoning boaters and anglers under an umbrella of pine trees in a bassinet of basalt.

Artist and athlete Christina McKeown has been paddling for two decades and said there is nothing quite like the Metolius in a winter snow fall, when it's akin to "paddling in a snow globe." Picturesque encounters like limbo-ing under bridges, drinking from riverside springs and grabbing a sneaky, tightly wound tributary creek line make for one-of-a-kind paddle experience, particularly when it's snowing.

The two Class III rapids in the gorge section are rhythmic, but rather short lived. Although bigger drops can be exciting, there's a certain playfulness to the Metolius. The river seems to escort boaters into each rapid, pacing out the frequency like a metronome. By the time a paddler reaches the crux of the run, there's a sense of rhythm to the task. Most other Class III's on the run are avoidable. (Note: Beware the rogue, river-wide snags and lost fishing tackle dangling like holiday tinsel from the streamside brush.)

"Absolutely magical," said McKeown, who's kayaked on rivers around the world. "The Metolius is one of my favorite winter runs in the Central Oregon area, and the rapids themselves will keep you on your toes."

NORTH UMPQUA RIVER
HORSESHOE BEND TO GRAVEL BIN

Type: Freestyle
Difficulty: Class III - IV
Levels: Spring-fed
Length: Seven miles
Commitment: Medium - High

Lushly painted in velvet green and moss, the North Umpqua rumbles down the western slope of the Cascades, charging toward the Pacific Ocean. The fabled river's abundant salmon and steelhead drew the likes of Ernest Hemingway and Zane Gray, but it has plenty to offer paddlers. There is scenery aplenty despite an adjacent highway. The Umpqua beckoned sisters Isabel and Violet Rodhouse, a pair of accomplished young boaters from Bend, who finish each other's sentences when describing the ambiance of the Wild and Scenic North Umpqua. The duo paddles year-round but appreciates the appeal of winter solitude on the water. How to deal with freezing water and rain or snow? Simple. Don't dwell on it.

"If you're cold, just try not to think about it. If you think about it, it'll make you more cold. I taught myself that skiing," said Violet, 11, as older sister Isabel, 14, nodded in agreement.

The Rodhouse family started to paddling together four years ago, frequenting the North Umpqua. Father and national parks ecologist Tom Rodhouse said the landscape is part of the appeal. "There's more diverse flora than we're accustomed to in the high desert landscape," he said. That includes madrone, oak and a conifer mix, a confluence of the Southern California Mediterranean chaparral and coastal vegetation. He adds that it's fun to paddle through different geology, as well, including rounded boulders that contrast with Central Oregon's sharp young, monochromatic lava rock. That's right, Toto; we're not in Kansas anymore.

With multiple jaunty, terrace-to-pool drops, Horseshoe Bend to Gravel Bin contains one Class IV rapid, Pinball and several must-make moves on Class III rapids that occur with regularity each mile. The Rodhouse crew agreed that Pinball is easier to navigate at winter water levels. The fun begins just above this rapid with a difficult Class II-III "pour-over" feature. At Pinball, boaters should start right of center and bounce spryly to the left. The rapid finishes with a chute and a center boulder at the tail, best passed on the left. Navigating the twists and turns, the Rodhouses didn't miss a beat. When Violet flipped her boat, she caught a combat roll—no problem. All in a day's play. **BJ**

PHOTO FACING PAGE ZACHARY COLLIER, THIS PAGE K.M. COLLINS

BAKING

Cake Wizard on a Roll

Bend middle schooler vies for Food Network's kids baking crown.

WRITTEN BY **CATHY CARROLL** | PHOTOS BY **TAMBI LANE**

Reggie Strom pulled out the family camcorder recently and got nostalgic. Strom is only 12, but he was watching an old recording of himself as a baby, barely over a year old, busy in the kitchen, pouring water back and forth among more than a dozen bowls, wielding an unplugged mixer to achieve artistic culinary perfection. By the time he reached middle school last year, Strom's skills were on par with his childhood imaginings. He's whipped up wedding cakes, crafted European-style pastries and constructed the kind of elaborate desserts you might see at the Bellagio, all for the benefit of neighbors, friends and family in Bend.

Now, the rest of the world will get to see Strom put his skills to the test starting in January, the kickoff of the Food Network's latest season of Kids Baking Championship. As one of a new batch of ten bakers age ten to thirteen, he'll vie for a $25,000 prize by competing in challenges that test the contestants baking skills and originality. The competition, in which contestants strive for excellence in each throw-down or face being booted off the dessert island, is seemingly as difficult as just getting on the show.

Reggie's journey began two years ago, when his parents, Julie Cavanaugh and Greg Strom, gave him for his birthday a class in making macarons at The Kindred Creative Kitchen. It was there, with owner Michele Morris, that Reggie, who previously was happy simply baking sugar cookies and other treats with his grandmother, Karin Cavanaugh, blossomed as a pastry chef.

"We just hit it off," said Strom, 12. He took a few more classes.

Morris recognized his precision and organization, skills integral to the craft. "He

always wanted to try new things and was happy to take my advice and feedback," said Morris, who has worked at Michelin-star-rated restaurants in Las Vegas and taught baking and pastry at Cascade Culinary Institute. "He likes to completely submerge himself in it. I saw that spark in his eye."

She suggested he investigate the Food Network show.

Strom submitted a short video and was asked to interview for the show via Skype. Casting asked him to provide a longer, fifteen-minute video of him at home, baking various confections.

Each time he'd progressed to the next interview stage, he'd be asked to submit more photos of his work. "It's Monday and they'd ask for forty pictures of forty different desserts you've made," he said. "It's absolutely insane."

Without a portfolio of everything he'd made in the recent past, they scrambled to meet each new deadline. They looked back for things he'd made with his grandmother. His mom ran to the store for ingredients and thought up new items for him to make. When they needed to show a video depicting his skill at piping frosting, they grabbed one of his cakes out of the garbage. "I cut a circle out of it, put it on a plate and piped onto it," Strom said.

His mom even let him skip a day at Pacific Crest Middle School because he needed to make eight more things by the next day. By the time he'd submitted upwards of 150 photos, he made it to the final round of interviews with producers.

Every day for weeks he'd ask his mom if she'd heard a response. Nearly a month later, in mid-2018, he learned that he didn't make it on the show. He was heartbroken.

"I wasn't even talking about it," Cavanaugh said.

"He likes to completely submerge himself in it. I saw that spark in his eye." —Michele Morris

His mother gave him a deadline of February 14, 2019 to decide if he wanted to try again, so that he'd have ample time to prepare. The deadline passed, but in early March, Strom said he was ready. In the interim, they kept taking photos of his work.

Strom went through the whole submission process again. When his parents learned he was selected for the show, they took him out to dinner to celebrate.

Strom was ecstatic but had to conceal his thrill. The show requires absolute secrecy about what transpires on the series, with suspense building through each episode that ends revealing which contestant is eliminated, a la Project Runway. To prepare, he took private classes with Morris, taking his skills to the next level, learning how to make French, multi-layered, mousse-filled entremet, toffee and work with chocolate.

When he missed the last week of school to tape the show in Los Angeles, he told friends he and his mom were just taking advantage of getting cheap tickets (not untrue, considering the production flew them there and provided their hotel accommodations).

The experience, from classes to competing on the show, has been transformative.

"Watching your kid find that thing that he loves so much is pretty cool," said Cavanaugh, adding that she and her husband are sports junkies who know nothing about baking. "The whole show, from casting on, it felt like they believed in your kid more than any other kid on the planet. And the way they handled the kids, it's emotionally intense for that age, and the producers were amazing, so kind, and so thoughtful.

That's all they can say about the show, though, until it airs in January.

Nancy Patterson writes about food and drink even when she's told not to. Follow her exploits at @eatdrinkbend.

Saints and Sinners

SAN SIMÓN BRINGS A BIT OF BOURBON STREET TO BEND

San Simón isn't your typical patron saint. If you pray at his shrine for monetary and tangible gains, feel free to light a candle, but you better leave moonshine and cigarettes. Guatemalans and Latin Americans have honored the deity, known as San Simón, since the early 1500s. And while his swindling ways are said to be benign, it's probably best not to leave your wife alone with the shape-shifting trickster.

If your interest is piqued, you can find a shrine of sorts downtown in Tin Pan Alley at the eponymous cocktail lounge, San Simón. Upon entrance, you may notice the absence of neon signs and televisions and the abundance of tea-light candles and intimate seating. The cocktail cozy cocktail lounge is the brainchild of Ashley and Brian Trottier, who after spending years in New Orleans, surrounded by some of the most colorful restaurants and bars in the world, decided to open their own. After settling down in Oregon, the pair searched high and low for

an old building with ample character and history, something that would bring a bit of Bourbon Street to Minnesota Avenue. Finally, they discovered a space that a real estate agent might deem "charming" with "room to renovate"—precisely what the Trottiers had envisioned. The married couple later recruited Brian's brother, Kevin, to join their venture as a co-owner before opening in early October.

Patrons quickly become companions within the speakeasy-like setting, sharing recommendations and swapping stories. Rum and gin, possibly the most commonly misunderstood distillations, are the spirits of choice for several signature drinks, including the Shorewood Greyhound, made with Gomper's gin, elderflower, and fresh grapefruit juice. There's no dress code, no pretension, and certainly no pomposity. What you will find is an appreciation for the art of a flawlessly crafted concoction, paired alongside cheese and charcuterie boards. Supposing that you make your way slightly off the downtown grid into Tin Pan Alley, there will undoubtedly be exceptional conversation and liquor awaiting. Just be sure to leave the saint himself a shot of Mezcal on your way out. — *Nancy Patterson*

COCKTAIL

Go West, Young Bourbon!

When John Stafford and Matthew Bowler started Crafted Life, a high-end traveling cocktail catering business serving mostly supper clubs and private events, they had the foresight to think beyond premium hospitality. Bowler, who formerly operated the Mandala advertising and marketing agency in Bend, describes Crafted Life as the 'sandbox' in which they chose to play and intend to evolve. In 2018, the pair came up with an idea to start expanding outside of their cocktail-shaking services by bottling a bourbon. So, they created Stafford's Reserve, a 92-proof bourbon whiskey. Using a distillery partner in Kentucky, they've developed a small-batch bourbon made from 70 percent corn, 21 percent rye, and 9 percent barley. "We strive to make bourbon the proverbial exclamation point of gatherings, bringing it west of the Mississippi," Stafford says.

Just as Champagne must come from France, and real Scotch whiskey from Scotland, true bourbons must emanate from Kentucky for historical and practical reasons. Kentucky's climate makes it an ideal casking site for whiskey bourbon. Barrels are continually expanding and contracting as the temperatures fluctuate, causing the bourbon to seep into the oak barrels and then flow back out, thus producing its woody characteristics and deep amber hues. Using Cascade mountain water, the bourbon is bottled in Bend and distributed throughout local liquor stores and found in select restaurants in Central Oregon. For your next event (or maybe just a Wednesday evening), I suggest Stafford's Reserve in one of Crafted Life's signature cocktails, *Stafford's Boulevard*.
– Nancy Patterson

STAFFORD'S BOULEVARD

1.5 ounces Stafford's Reserve,
1.5 ounces Gran Classico bitters
1 ounce Imbue sweet vermouth.

Pour bourbon into a cocktail tumbler over ice. Add bitters, vermouth and stir. Garnish with an orange twist.

PHOTOS TOP LEFT AND BOTTOM NANCY PATTERSON

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LAROSABEND.COM

Grace and Hammer Pizzeria

If you're one of those true pizza lovers for whom a great slice of pizza is practically divine, you've got a friend in Redmond, where Grace and Hammer Pizzeria is perfecting the secular art of pizza within the sacred halls of a historic Presbyterian church.

Cathedral stained glass windows and medieval lanterns festoon holy-high ceilings. The modest aesthetic melds with rustic wood and alloy that was used to fashion a bar, deck and trellis. The ambiance is part sanctuary and part organic hipster barn vibe. That's probably not a coincidence.

Founders Chad and Cinnamon Nemec, co-owners Pio Valensin, Adam Valentine, and Anthony Leal all met while running Stanley's Farmhouse Pizza in Austin.

"Before Stanley's was bought out and reworked in 2018, it was an open-air pizzeria with an out-in-the-country feel just twenty minutes from the city. Stanley's was a family business that grew to a great destination place for Austinites and out of towners alike," said Cinnamon.

While visiting Central Oregon at the end of 2017, Chad and Cinnamon snapped up the historic Presbyterian church property and soon relocated themselves to Central Oregon.

"Our aim is to make Grace and Hammer Central Oregon's favorite place to meet friends or family and enjoy great food," said Cinnamon.

To that we say, Amen. — *K.M. Collins*

Welcome Home, Ronin

Japanese-influenced Ronin is the latest eatery to make the leap from food truck to traditional sit-down restaurant.

The eclectic Ronin gained a loyal following as a regular feature of The Bite in Tumalo, but owner and chef Scott Byers shuttered the food-truck in September to focus on a new permanent location in Bend. Byers and his team were planning a soft opening for early December and hoped to be fully online before the new year in Bend's Century Center mall. Byers said he intends to offer a simple, but flexible, menu that will look familiar to Ronin's fans but also offers some surprises. That includes Robata, grilled meats and vegetables that are meant to be enjoyed in a tapas-like atmosphere that is popular in Japan's Izakaya cafes. "It's loud, it's smoky, it's fun. It's high energy," said Byers, who has spent time sampling and studying Japan's cuisine.

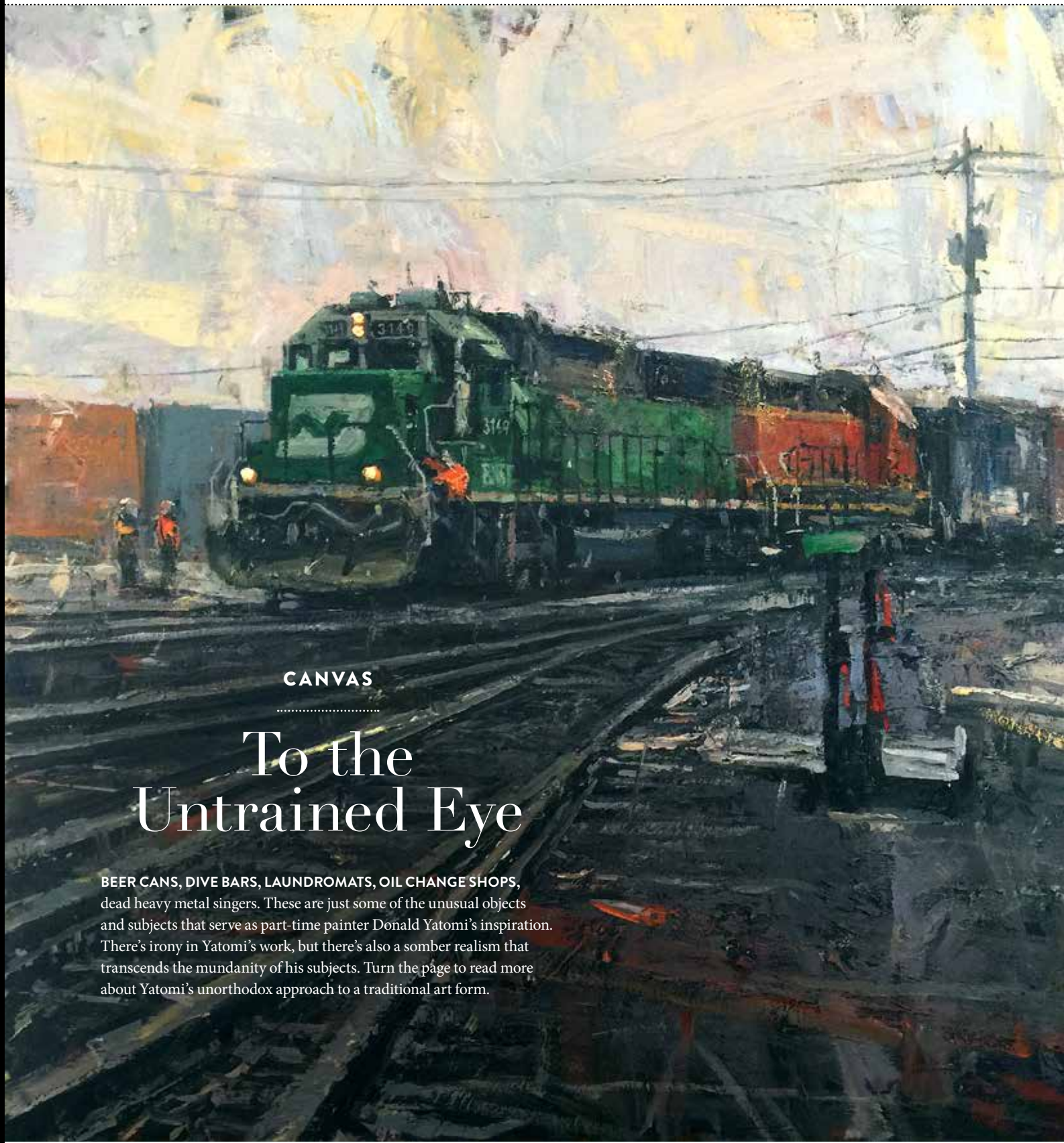
Enveloped in rouge and charcoal black walls with Japanese-style mural art from Mark Rada and tattoo artist Nick Pulzone, Ronin features forty-seven tables, beer and wine and a limited bar menu with an emphasis on local spirts and Japanese whiskey. In addition to traditional sushi and the grilled meats, Byers and his team make ramen and udon noodles. He said he envisions skiers and boarders dropping into Ronin for a bowl of hot noodles after a long day on the mountain, washing it down with a cup of sake.

Byers acknowledged that moving from a food cart to a full-blown restaurant is a big step, but said he felt the time was right. "We built a following. We built a brand, and that's what I wanted to do," he said. — *Eric Flowers*

Ronin's Kobayashi Dog

Back Deck *art & events*

ART BEAT + EXHIBITS + DATEBOOK + SCENE & HEARD



CANVAS

To the Untrained Eye

BEER CANS, DIVE BARS, LAUNDROMATS, OIL CHANGE SHOPS, dead heavy metal singers. These are just some of the unusual objects and subjects that serve as part-time painter Donald Yatomi's inspiration. There's irony in Yatomi's work, but there's also a somber realism that transcends the mundanity of his subjects. Turn the page to read more about Yatomi's unorthodox approach to a traditional art form.

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PAINTING

Donald Yatomi

Contemporary realist seeks to master the mundane

WRITTEN BY **LEE LEWIS HUSK**

One of the first things Donald Yatomi does upon entering his home studio is to flip over a ten or fifteen-minute hourglass. It's the amount of time he can reliably devote to painting, given his responsibilities as a father of four teenagers and his job as a full-time visual designer for Sony videogames.

"We're always happy to get one of his paintings because we know he is so busy," said Tracy Knish, an art consultant with Peterson/Roth Gallery in Bend.

But Yatomi's short stints in the studio have built a body of contemporary realism that depicts scenes not typically associated with fine art. Rather than mountains or meadows, Yatomi turns his eye and his brush to "the industrial mundane, the urbanized deserts and the metropolis serenity," he said. "My challenge is to find the uncelebrated things in life – trailer parks, laundromats, the homeless. I'm not interested in capturing the romance of life."

"I know I'm not a good painter, and I don't want accolades as someone who handles the craft well," he said.

Despite this self-effacement, Yatomi offers new insight on every day and often overlooked situations and objects. A typical Yatomi scene might center on idle passengers awaiting a flight, the lone patron sitting at a diner, salt and pepper shakers, or shimmering cocktails and beer cans. He turns everyday machines, such as cars, motorcycles and even washing machines, into statements of time and place.

PHOTO TOP JOE KLINE

"I want to capture places people don't want to see. My realism celebrates things we take for granted."

Yatomi's canvases have a rough-hewn quality of paint laid down helter-skelter. The result is a vibrancy of color and movement achieved with brushes, palette knives, spatulas, caulking guns and brayers. His handmade cabinet holds the implements as well as oil paint, which sometimes ends up on the carpet, evidence of a painter in a hurry. The studio also includes a mirror where he can view a piece in reverse. "When you flip over a painting, you can see composition mistakes," he said.

He draws inspiration from American artist Chuck Close whose large-scale paintings of faces appear from a distance to be photo realism but upon closer inspection, "expose blemishes, stubbles, hair and pimples," Yatomi said. "These are things we don't like to look at when we get close to a person's face. That's what I like to paint, things that aren't good to look at, the unromantic scenes of life."

Yatomi calls himself a Realist after an art movement that took off in the mid-19th century. And while his subjects are real enough, his works have the soul of an Impressionist.

Yatomi said he is drawn the Realists' approach that avoided romanticizing subjects. "Before then, classical artists painted bourgeoise and the elite," he explained. "Realists began painting the poor, farmers, people on long train rides, slaves and the unromantic. I want to capture places people don't want to look at. My realism celebrates things we take for granted. My challenge is to look at subjects that aren't on gallery walls and put my own twist on them."

The Japanese-born artist graduated from the University of Hawaii in Honolulu with a BFA in painting, and then attended the prestigious Art Center of Design in Pasadena, completing a BFA in illustration with distinction in 1996. After college, he lived in Los Angeles and entered the entertainment design field, working in video and film. He also painted and wondered how he could feel so lonely. His canvases then and today evoke these mundane and lonely urban landscapes.

While living in Southern California, he met his wife, Leslie, a Corvallis native. They lived in LA for a while and then spent several years in Salt Lake City. Sony Interactive Entertainment eventually moved the couple to Bend in 2006. An artist herself, Leslie wanders into the studio during our interview and the pair begins an easy banter about the urinal painting he's working on.

Leslie: "It's too personal."

Donald: "That's it! That's the point."

Donald: "One of our favorite things to do on a road trip is stop by a dive bar. I really want to be the guy who paints urinals."

Leslie: "It borders on the line between humor and disgust."

Donald: "A transgender man in Utah bought one of the urinal paintings. Until he transitioned, urinals were inaccessible. He bought the painting because that's the space he always wanted to be at."

The urinals were part of works he recently shipped to an art gallery in Utah. He says the gallery was initially surprised but when his show opened, all the urinal paintings sold. Despite his success, Yatomi says he's indifferent about whether a painting sells, which gives him freedom to follow his own impulses. B

Donald Yatomi's work will be on display at Bend Magazine's offices during February, beginning with a kick-off event on Friday, Feb. 7 in conjunction with the monthly downtown Art Walk.

To see more of his work, visit Peterson/Roth Gallery or go to his website, DONALDYATOMI.COM. *Better yet, follow the prolific Yatomi on Instagram* @DONALD _ YATOMI _ FINEART

PHOTO TOP JOE KLINE

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■ ***art exhibit***

From Black Rock to Bend

HIGH DESERT MUSEUM BRINGS THE SPIRIT OF BURNING MAN HOME WITH EXPERIENTIAL EXHIBIT

PHOTO JILL ROSELL

Driving through the Black Rock Desert of northwest Nevada, Laura Ferguson began to feel the air inside the truck thickening — a dust storm was moving in. She tied a green bandana around her face, covering her nose and mouth to make it easier to breathe. Outside, a veil of fine, pale-brown particulates intensified, casting a surreal filter. At sunset, the earth-tone curtain lifted, revealing a sky in hues of pink, copper and gold.

Ferguson, senior curator of Western history at the High Desert Museum, and two of the museum's exhibits staff had arrived at Burning Man, a desert mecca for art and self-expression. Every year, in the nine days leading up to Labor Day, Black Rock City emerges on the alkali flats of the desolate, 1,000-square-mile desert. The pop-up populace of 80,000 is a hundred times the size of the nearby towns Gerlach and Empire. Ferguson and her colleagues were there to soak it all in, so they could emulate the experience with the exhibit Infinite Moment: Burning Man on the Horizon, which opens February 1.

The night that Ferguson and colleagues Dustin Cockerham and Gus Braden arrived, they hopped on bikes wrapped in strings of LED lights and electroluminescent, neon-colored wire, and pedaled with the flow of thousands of fellow festival-goers. They rode through the camps, laid out like a clock face, with themes from A to Z, beginning with "A Playa Home Companion," (featuring a small stage for live comedy and podcasting) and ending at "Zendo 9:00." (offering psychological support). The trio pedaled on through the hundreds of art installations, some towering several stories high, others whirling, aglow, emitting sound, transformed by the natural elements and human interaction.

"Riding out onto the playa, with so many sounds and colors, it engages all your senses," said Ferguson. "And it's a really fun experience to explore the desert by bike. Ride up to art that encourages you to engage with it, and explore what it means to you."

An experiment in community as well as art, Burning Man has ten core principles: radical inclusion, gifting, decommodification, radical self-reliance, radical self-expression, communal effort, civic responsibility, leaving no trace, participation and immediacy. "It's a place to explore art unlike any other, and that extreme environment creates a space for people to really come together and to build community, and rely on each other," said Ferguson.

Those principles will be central to the museum's exhibit. It's designed to be immersive, prompting visitors to engage with the art, each other, and to show how the desert's vastness fosters creativity not typically seen in staid galleries.

The focus may also change perceptions that Burning Man is simply a giant party. "For most people, it's about the art and the community, which creates a unique space to connect with people and express yourself in a way you may not in day-to-day life," said Ferguson. "It's an opportunity for self-discovery, and for some people that may be a whole range of things, but at its core, it's really about art and community."

Those values were present from the beginning. In 1986, artist Larry Harvey and his friend Jerry James built a wooden man that stood eight feet tall. Joined by twenty friends on San Francisco's Baker Beach, they burned the effigy to mark the summer solstice. The tradition, which drew more people every year, lead organizers to move it to the Black Rock Desert in 1990. Every year, a man structure, at times more than 100-feet tall, is set aflame at the center of the "crucible of creativity."

Original art will be a part of the Bend exhibit. For instance, artist Jesse Small co-created a "mutant vehicle" to represent the creatively altered cars and trucks approved by Black Rock City's DMV, the Department of Mutant Vehicles. Related programs include an evening celebration set for March 6 and several talks, including one by an exhibiting artist who is also a representative of the Burning Man Project nonprofit. — *Cathy Carroll*

Infinite Moment: Burning Man on the Horizon
High Desert Museum
February 1 - October 6

■ ***gallery***

Rimrock Gallery Debuts in Prineville

NEW SPACE WILL FEATURE WORK FROM ARTISTS AROUND THE NORTHWEST

Pamela Claflin, a Prineville-based artist and experienced gallery manager, started Rimrock Gallery in August with an impressive line-up of two dozen artists from around the Northwest and beyond. Claflin founded and ran Mockingbird Gallery in downtown Bend from 1992 until she sold it in 2007 to its current owners, Jim and Nathalie Peterson.

Rimrock will highlight the work of its artists through monthlong shows and sales that open on the second Saturday of each month. The gallery is across from McDonald's on Third Street in Prineville.

The gallery has several upcoming opportunities for the public to meet with its featured artists. On Jan. 11, Randall Tillery, an award-winning oil and acrylic impressionist painter, will be on hand from 1-4 p.m. A Sisters resident, Tillery draws inspiration from the natural surroundings. He is a signature artist of the American Impressionist Society.

On. Feb. 8, Rimrock will host a reception for the month-long show and sale of works by painters Laurel Buchanan of Prineville and Melanie Thompson of Richland, Wash., and bronze sculptor Rodd Ambroson of Joseph. Buchanan will present Impressionist landscapes, florals, still lifes. A former wildland firefighter, Thompson has garnered accolades for her landscape paintings that include desert vistas of eastern Washington and Oregon.

Ambroson will unveil a new sculpture for gallery visitors and provide a brief overview of the casting process during the opening.

"Peonies & Oranges" by Laurel Buchanan

■ ***exhibit***

Monumental Questions

NEW INTERACTIVE INSTALLATION EXPLORES PUBLIC LANDS AT RISK

In January and February, At Liberty presents Rick Silva's riveting images of U.S. National Monuments at risk for drilling and mineral extraction. The installation, Western Fronts: Cascade Siskiyou, Gold Butte, Grand Staircase-Escalante, and Bears Ears, combines aerial drone footage of the landscapes in question superimposed with scrolling, 3-D animation that reveals the shimmering mineral wealth hidden beneath the surface.

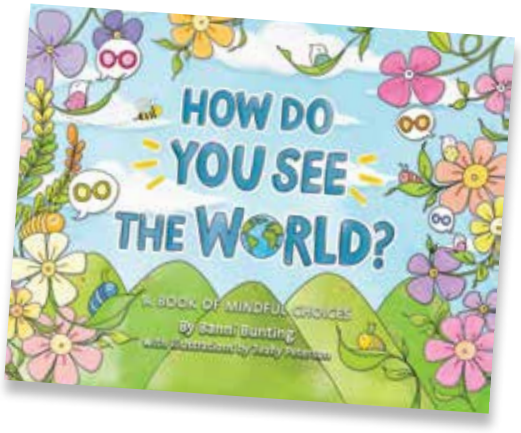
The Brazilian-born Silva teaches art and technology at the University of Oregon in Eugene. His works has been acquired by the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York City among others.

Located in downtown Bend, At Liberty is open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday.

■ ***books***

Keeping an Open Mind

NEW BOOK FROM LOCAL ARTISTS ENCOURAGES YOUTH TO PRACTICE MINDFULNESS



Yoga and meditation instructor Banni Bunting and visual artist Teafly Peterson have teamed up on a children's book, *How Do You See the World?*

"For the past six years, I've been teaching mindfulness in our local classroom, often using picture books to deepen the understanding of various themes. But I didn't have a picture book to convey the idea of perspective, 'How do you see your world? What lens are you looking through,'" said Bunting. It took her three years to write the book. She then approached Peterson about doing the illustrations. "It was Teafly's first picture book, but she knocked it out of the park, making the writing come to life," she said.

Along with the book release, Bunting created a supplemental mindfulness curriculum that Bend-La Pine schools has approved for use by its teachers. Bunting says the curriculum is a "perfect way to bring mindfulness into our classrooms and communities, promoting wellbeing and connection."

The book is available at BANNIBUNTINGMINDFULNESS.COM

OUR LEGACY

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HideawayTavernRedmond.com

Back Deck ■ *datebook*

JANUARY

11

BEND

JIM O'NEIL AS CLARENCE DARROW

This one-person play, featuring acclaimed actor Jim O'Neil, will be on the stage at the Tower Theatre for only one night. It follows Clarence Darrow, a prominent defender in the 20th century who was a leader of the American Civil Liberties Union. There will also be educational events around the play, including a post-show panel with local lawmakers.

17

BEND

MARTHA REDBONE

Martha Redbone, an award-winning American roots vocalist, will be performing at the Tower Theatre. Her songs take on African American and Native American heritage to tell a story about legacy set to the backdrop of blues, gospel, bluegrass and soul.

18–19

SISTERS

HOODOO BACKCOUNTRY FEST

For those who adventure in Central Oregon's extensive backcountry network in the winter, make sure to attend Hoodoo's annual Backcountry Fest. There will be safety clinics, demos for the latest gear, and requisites like a beer garden, DJ and giveaways.

18

BEND

HIGH GRAVITY BREWFEST

On a chilly Saturday in January, warm up by the firepits at McMenamins while you taste a variety of craft beer from around the area and meet local brewers. McMenamins will also have its brews and ciders on tap.

10-11

BEND

JAZZ AT THE OXFORD: ELDON "T" JONES & N TOUCH

Tickets are already selling quickly for this anticipated performance from the Portland-based saxophonist and band. Sip a cocktail or enjoy a meal while listening to a group that has laid down its signature groove-jazz style for more than two decades.

23

BEND

AUTHOR! AUTHOR! BARRY LOPEZ

Barry Lopez is an acclaimed nature writer who has published seventeen fiction and non-fiction books. His 1986 book Arctic Dreams won the National Book Award. Lopez will open the 2020 Author! Author! Series and talk about his writing and newest book, *Horizon*.

25

BEND

RUBBISH RENEWED ECO FASHION SHOW

The annual event is a one-of-a-kind fashion show that turns garbage and recycled items into original apparel. The evening features two runway shows, one with creations from students and one with garments from artists and designers. The event draws a crowd and is a fundraiser for the Realms Schools.

31

BEND

BEND BOULDER BASH

The premier bouldering competition in the high desert returns in January. There are competitive challenges for all levels of bouldering and prizes for winners from Bend Rock Gym and sponsors, including a $5,000 payout for the winner. There will also be beer and kombucha available for the audience.

18

BEND

CASCADE WEDDING SHOW

Future brides and grooms will want to check out the Cascade Wedding Show, a one-day event that covers every task on your wedding to-do list. There are vendor workshops and presentations, bridal displays, giveaways and more.

Back Deck ■ *datebook*

FEBRUARY

14-16

BEND

OREGON WINTERFEST

Thousands of people will be at Oregon WinterFest, a three-day event that takes place in Bend's Old Mill District. Local food vendors will be there, along with craft beer and fine wine. Shop the local marketplace, watch the rail jam and ice sculpting competitions, see the light installations, play in the family zone, and stay for the raucous, nightly concerts.

1/30-2/2

BEND

WINTER PRIDEFEST

Winter Pridefest is an annual LGBT community event that takes place over the entire weekend. Join activities like alpine and Nordic skiing, drag tubing and plenty of aprés ski parties on the mountain and around town. If you're visiting from out of town, check out their website for lodging and airline discounts.

8

BEND

LUMINARIA

Held at Virginia Meissner Sno-Park, Luminaria is an annual tradition that brings out the community for an evening snowshoe and cross-country ski on an illuminated trail. The 1.5-mile route leads to the Meissner warming hut and bonfire to enjoy with your company.

8

SISTERS

HOODOO WINTER CARNIVAL

Bring the whole family to Hoodoo's Winter Carnival, an all-day event at the base of the ski hill. There will be activities and games for all ages, including the traditional Dummy Downhill contest. The day ends with a special dinner menu and fireworks on the mountain.

8

BEND

POLAR PLUNGE

Each year, brave Bendites take the annual Polar Plunge into the freezing Deschutes River to raise money for Special Olympics Oregon. Wear a costume and join the community on an early morning in February at Riverbend Park and take the plunge.

10

BEND

DARK STAR ORCHESTRA

Grateful Dead fans will want to get tickets to see Dark Star Orchestra at the Tower Theatre. The band has been recreating the Grateful Dead live concert experience for twenty years and will be in Bend for one night for a special acoustic performance.

28-29

BEND

TASTE OF THE TOWN

Get a ticket to Taste of the Town and get unlimited samples from Central Oregon's top local restaurants and food carts. The event takes place at Central Oregon Community College and, in addition to great food and drinks, will have live music from Precious Byrd and raffles to enter.

14

BEND

THE SPIDER'S WEB

Don't miss this production of "The Spider's Web," a play by mystery great Agatha Christie. "The Spider's Web" is a parody of detective thrillers that blends humor and suspense produced by Cascades Theatrical with a cast of local actors.

22

CENTRAL OREGON

ZWICKELMANIA

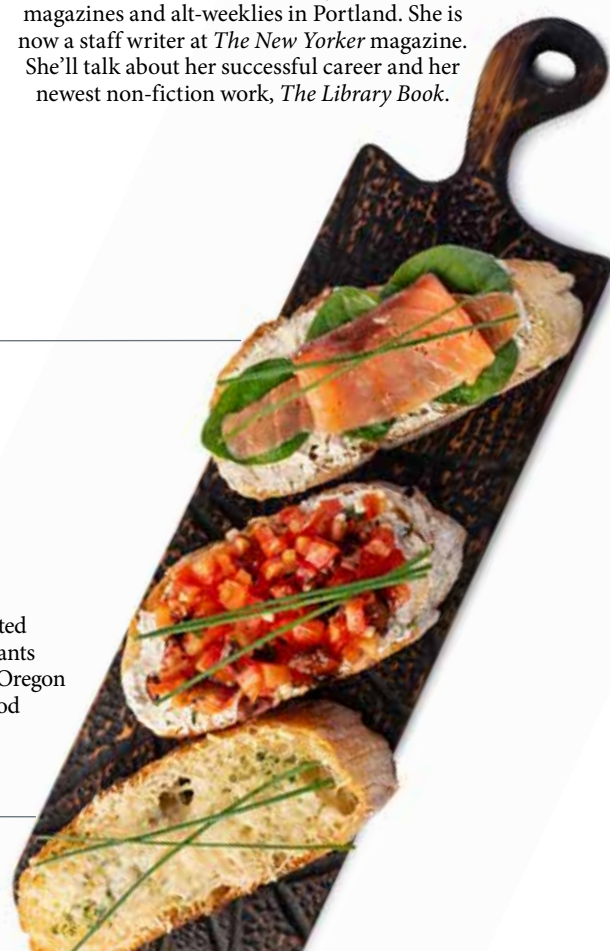
Zwickelmania is a statewide celebration of Oregon's local breweries, and a chance to taste new beers straight from the barrel. Head to participating breweries throughout the high desert to get tours and learn more about the brewing craft.

22

BEND

AUTHOR! AUTHOR! SUSAN ORLEAN

Longform journalist and author Susan Orlean takes the stage for the second installment in the 2020 Deschutes Public Library Foundation Author! Author! series. Orlean got her start at magazines and alt-weeklies in Portland. She is now a staff writer at *The New Yorker* magazine. She'll talk about her successful career and her newest non-fiction work, *The Library Book*.



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CENTRAL REDMOND: 974 SW Veterans Way, Redmond, OR, 97756

SOUTH REDMOND (IN 1440): 3853 SW 21st St #107, Redmond, OR 97756 | **PRINEVILLE:** 415 NW 3rd St, Prineville, OR 97754

PHOTOS JILL ROSELL

1. David Boorstein and Lynda Beauchamp at Embark's grand opening event. **2.** Will Blount and Patrick Kruse at Embark's Grand Opening. **3.** John Schiemer and Molly Cogswell at the 33rd Annual MBSEF Snowball. **4.** Kent Towlerton, Anne Low, and Steve Lowe at the Snowball. **5.** Kim Brown and Barksdale Brown the Snowball. **6.** Ellie Derosier and Christy McLeod at the Snowball. **7.** Kelly and Dan Simeoneau at the Snowball.


1


2


3


4


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8

1. Daniel and Troy Barneyat the NeighborImpact Empty Bowls fundraiser **2.** Ceramic bowls for sale at the NeighborImpact Empty Bowls fundraiser **3.** Ashley Sharvis and Lauren Nolan at Empty Bowls. **4.** Lacey Kloster and Christina Benson at Empty Bowls. **5.** Catalina Conger, Christina Chavez, Isabelle Senger, Rebecca Alstott, Katie Young, Constance Botelho at the annual High Desert Chamber Music Gala. **6.** Jim Felton and Patty Felton at the annual HDCM Gala. **7.** Lizi Aluigar, John Rogers, Pat Rogers, and Gretchen Pays at the annual HDCM Gala. **8.** Spencer Williams and McKenzie Hopfer at the annual HDCM Gala.

NEIGHBOORHOOD IMPACT PHOTOS CAITLIN EDDOLLS
HDCM GALA PHOTOS TRACY LYNN PHOTOGRAPHY

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1925

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