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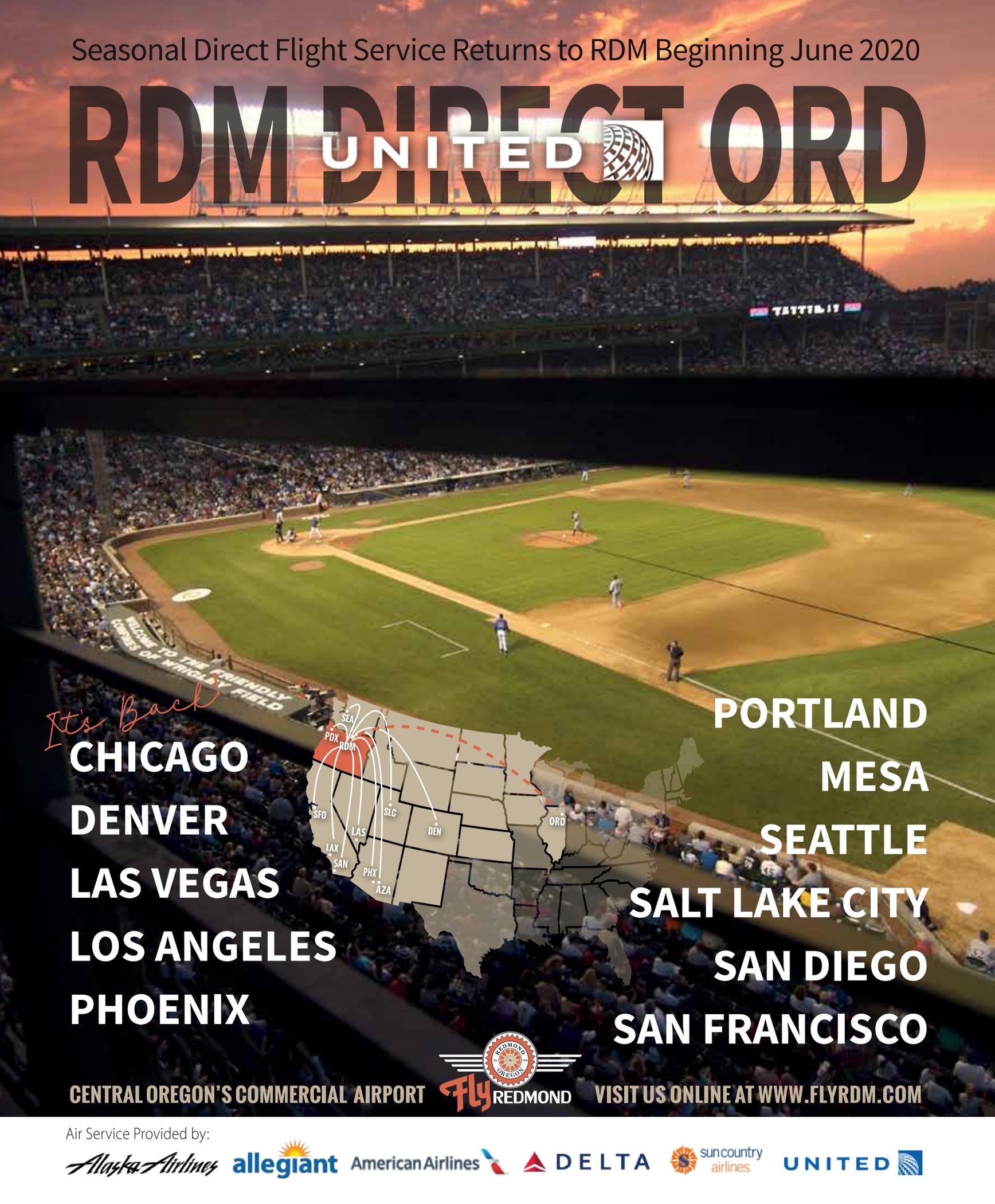
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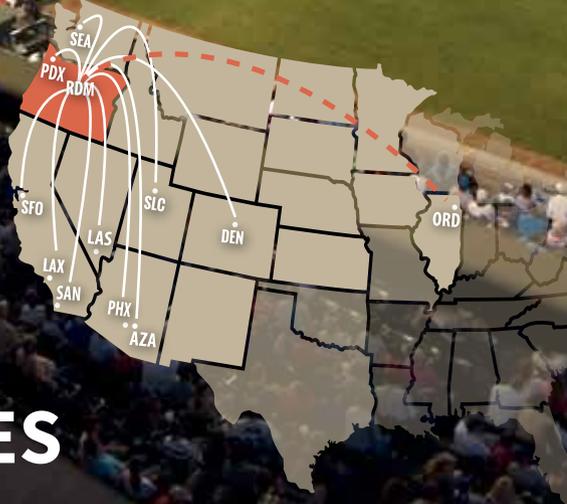
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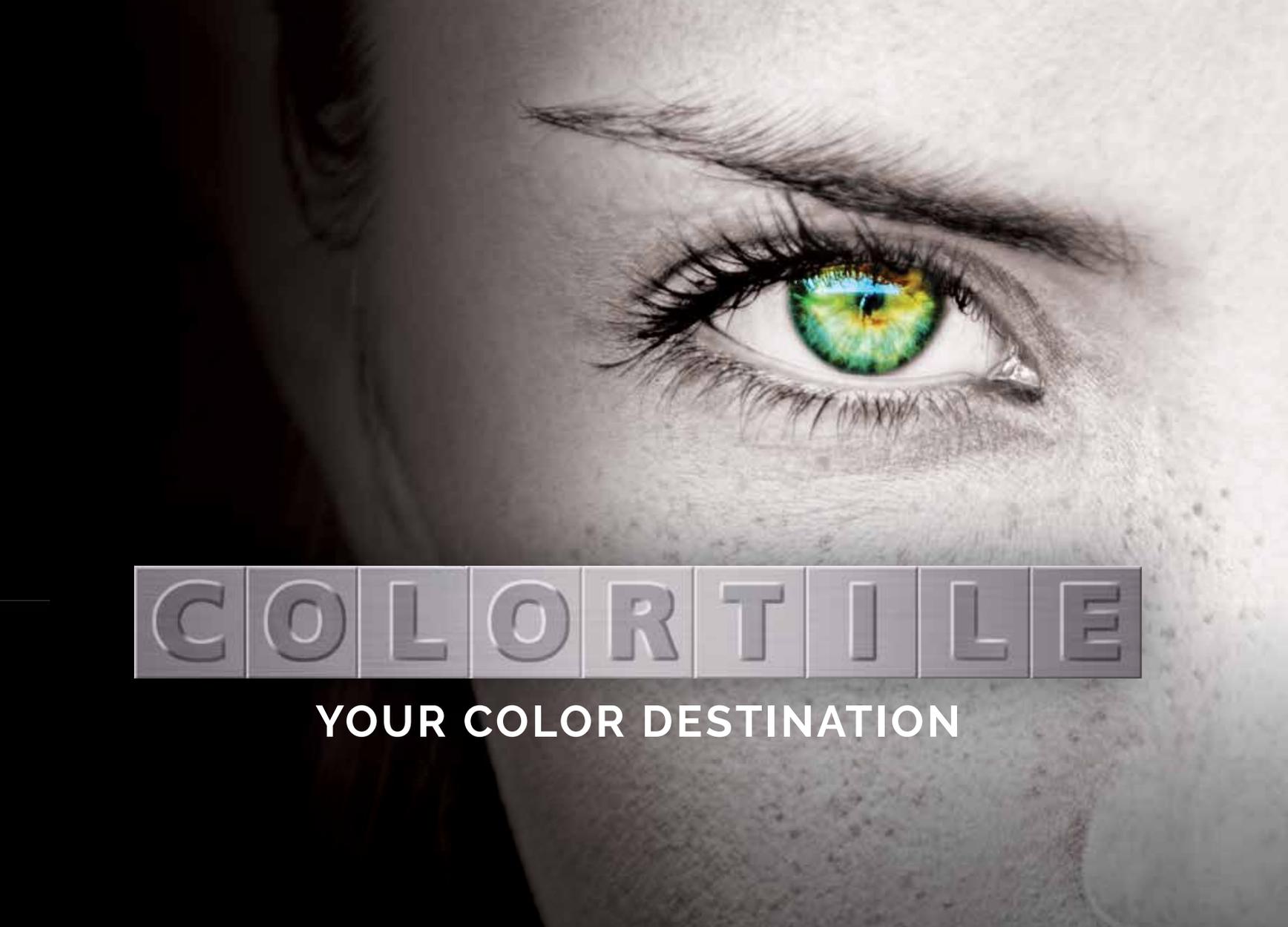
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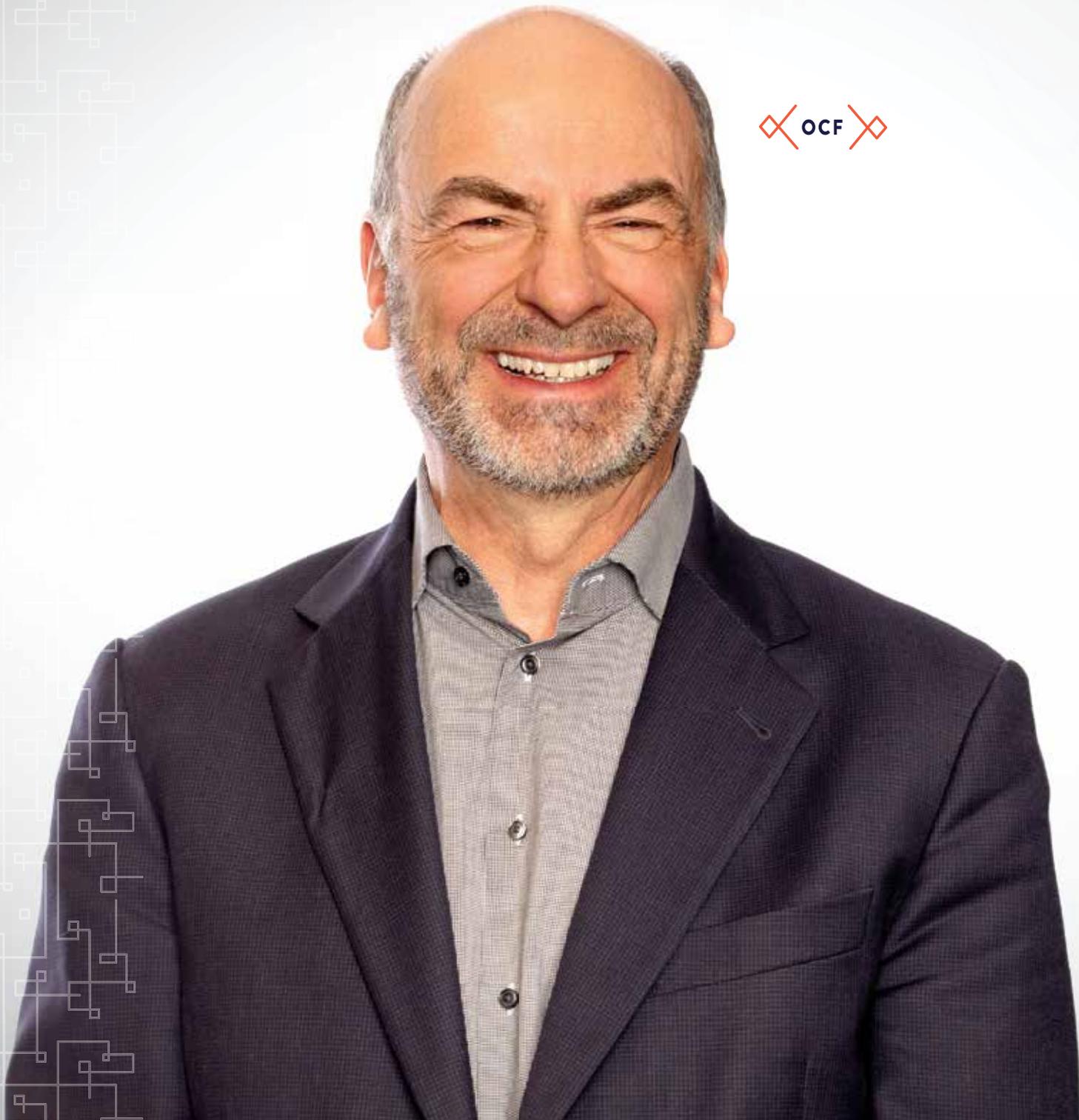
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SPRING SKIING

Say goodbye to whiteout days and darkness at 5 p.m. and hello to slushy snow and bloody marys in the sunshine. Oregon has some of the best spring skiing conditions in the Pacific Northwest. Here's where to find them.

WRITTEN BY BRONTE DOD

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LIBRARY CENTENNIAL

What started as an informal magazine exchange club between friends transformed over the decades into today's Deschutes Public Library. Learn how you can join the organization as it officially celebrates 100 years serving the community in 2020. WRITTEN BY PENNY NAKAMURA

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BUNNY BRIGADE

A dozen adorable, furry rabbits and their teenage owners may sound like a bunch of fun, but this 4-H club devoted to raising bunnies can be serious business, too. In a world where many teens are focused on social media, the young women of Central Oregon's Bunny Brigade are practicing animal husbandry, and learning about teamwork along the way. WRITTEN BY SUZANNE JOHNSON



ON THE COVER

Cheyenne Silbough and her friend Rosebud the rabbit.

PHOTO BY CAROL STERNKOPF

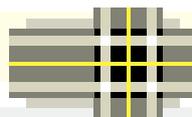
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WORDS *and* PICTURES



• **BRONTE DOD**

• Bronte Dod was born and raised in Oregon and got her start writing for *1859* and *Bend Magazine* in Bend. She
• now lives in Maupin with her husband and their dogs. Bronte is the director of the Southern Wasco County
• Library by day and is a freelance writer and editor by night. She has worked with BendFilm, OSU-Cascades,
• Dancing Moon Press and more on a variety of projects. In this issue, Bronte rounded up the best spring skiing
• options in Oregon (p. 84) and talked with debut author Kelsey Freeman about her book on migration (p. 104).

SUZANNE JOHNSON

Suzanne Johnson lives, writes, and plays in the Cascade Mountains around Bend. Her writing often focuses on nature, community, and travel. The trails and rivers of Central Oregon will always be home base, but she hits the road as much as possible to explore new corners of the world. Most of all, she loves to chat with interesting people and learn what makes them tick. In this issue, she profiles a group of young women as they build leadership, teamwork, and problem-solving skills through a shared passion for raising rabbits (p. 76).



• **TAMBI LANE**

• An entrepreneur at heart, Tambi has had a portrait photography business since 2006. She loves
• collaborating with, and supporting, other local artists. Currently, she is focused on food photography
• and shot our story on Carnaval Mexican Grill (p. 96). She has been published in *Sunset* magazine
• and photographed two nationally published celebrity cookbooks. When she's not cooking, eating or
• photographing food, you can find her in the garden, doing something outdoors or creating something
• new and fun. See TAMBILANE.COM and ALLTHINGSFOOdBEND.COM.

TREVOR LYDEN

Trevor Lyden hails from Juneau, Alaska, but for the last six years has called Bend home. In 2017 he graduated from OSU-Cascades with a degree in tourism and outdoor leadership. When he's not shooting photos, Trevor is shooting rapids in his kayak, bombing trails on his mountain bike or snowboarding the backcountry slopes around Central Oregon. Trevor likes shooting action photography because it allows him to capture fast-paced extreme sports in a brief moment in time. In this issue, he photographed the gorgeous Owyhee Canyon and River (p. 34).

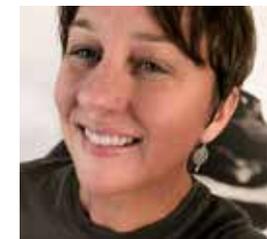


• **TERESA RISTOW**

• Teresa Ristow joined Oregon Media this year as Managing Editor. She grew up in Humboldt County,
• California and has worked for newspapers in Oregon and Colorado since graduating from Southern Oregon
• University with a degree in journalism in 2011. Teresa also advises the student news organization at Central
• Oregon Community College, and in her free time, she loves snowboarding, paddleboarding and letting life
• revolve around her terrier mutt, Henry. In this issue, she wrote about hatmaker Gene Baldwin (p. 64), the
• Bend Food Project (p. 52) and Carnaval Restaurant in Redmond (p. 96).

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 works with mixed media as well, but photography is her deepest love. For this issue, she photographed a batch of adorable 4-H rabbits and their equally adorable handlers (p. 76).





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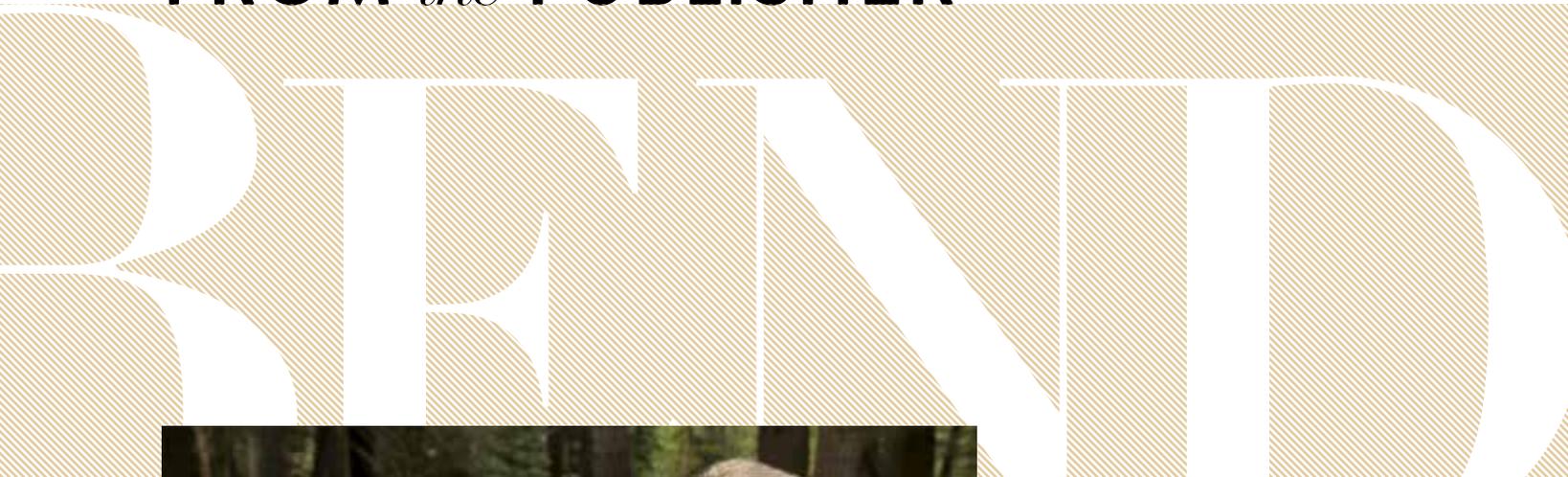
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FROM *the* PUBLISHER



Looking Back, Looking Forward

When we first moved to town back in 1997, things looked a lot different than they do today. One of the only restaurants in town that could hold a candle to the fine array of dining options we have today was a special place tucked back on Irving

Avenue called Cafe Rosemary. Bill Smith's vision of The Old Mill District was just starting to unfold, there were no traffic circles and the parkway project had just begun.

What hasn't changed is that most of the people we first met and spent fun hours with continue to call Bend home after all of these years. These are the friends who have seen us through the victories and challenges of life. We've raised our kids together, held each other up during some of life's hardest moments and celebrated with each other when hard work has paid off. While we've made many new friends along the way, there is still something about that core tribe of us who were doing our best to make a living in a small town that was not yet on the national map.

One of those dear friends is Kim Cooper Findling. Over the years, Kim has developed into one of the best journalists in town and has written for numerous publications, creating a resume beyond compare. She's authored five of her own books and owns Dancing Moon Press with her husband, Todd. It's hard to believe, but Kim also finds time to work for Oregon Media full-time. Most recently Kim has been our Custom Publishing Editor and has done an incredible job helping clients such as the Central Oregon Visitors Association, Eastern Oregon Visitors Association and Travel Southern Oregon develop world class content for their annual visitor guides.

We are excited to announce that Kim will now be the Editor in Chief of all Oregon Media products including *Bend Magazine*. It's about time. Kim has worked incredibly hard and is always dependable, loyal, caring and above all, she's just a great human being and member of our community. So please help us raise a glass to celebrate our dear friend and colleague, Kim Cooper Findling. Here's to her first issue as the Editor in Chief of *Bend Magazine*, our best issue ever.

Cheers!
Heather & Ross



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FROM *the* EDITOR



Living our Dreams

When I was 8 years old, I wanted to be a librarian or a farmer. The library I knew well—it was the place I spent most school recesses, avoiding the clamor of the playground and devouring book after book after book. Of farming, I knew nothing. My parents were professors who preferred an uncomplicated home environment. We had neither dog nor cat, not even a houseplant. Perhaps that is what made me crave a sprawling farm, which as it lived in my imagination was populated with dozens of friendly animals and lush rows of produce we'd grown ourselves from the seed.

At some point, my dream shifted to becoming a writer. In the last twenty years, my writing career has taken me amazing places—most recently, to this very page, and my new role as the editor of *Bend Magazine*. I am thrilled to be here.

But even as my passions changed, my love for libraries never wavered. Walking serene aisles of books, finding a quiet table to occupy for a few hours, choosing any book I want to borrow—all of this is home to me.

And when I saw the cover of this issue, the white rabbit Rosebud and her charming handler Cheyenne Silbough, and read about the adventures they share in 4-H, I thought maybe I'd been on to something with my big childhood farming ideas.

In this issue of *Bend Magazine*, we honor Central Oregonians who grew up to be librarians and farmers—as well as chefs, skiers, surfers, doctors, architects, painters, brewers and hatmakers. In our Heritage section, read about 100 years of the Deschutes Library. What began a century ago as a club to share magazine subscriptions has grown to an institution that is truly the heart of our community. In our feature story “Bunny Brigade,” learn more about Rosebud, Cheyenne and the 4-H club they belong to, which raises rabbits for competition in the Deschutes County Fair. Then hit the slopes in the pages of our spring skiing extravaganza, which highlights some of the best places to take turns in Oregon.

Read a Q&A with a medical doctor who is trying to change urgent care in Central Oregon. See the striking paintings of Whitney Nye and learn about her journey to big art and even bigger shows. Read the story of a Tumalo architect who created her own family's perfect dwelling. Read about a Sisters hatmaker who stumbled upon the craft late in his career. Follow the tale of a chef and a bartender who dreamed of owning a restaurant of their own, and opened Carnival in Redmond last year.

These pages celebrate people of Central Oregon who are living out their ambitions, whether those forged at the age of 8 or 80. Our hope is that their stories will inspire you to live a little larger yourself, even if that just means making a trip to the library or a visit to the fair.

Thanks for reading, and if you need me, I'll be out shopping for a rabbit.

Kim Cooper Findling, *editor in chief*

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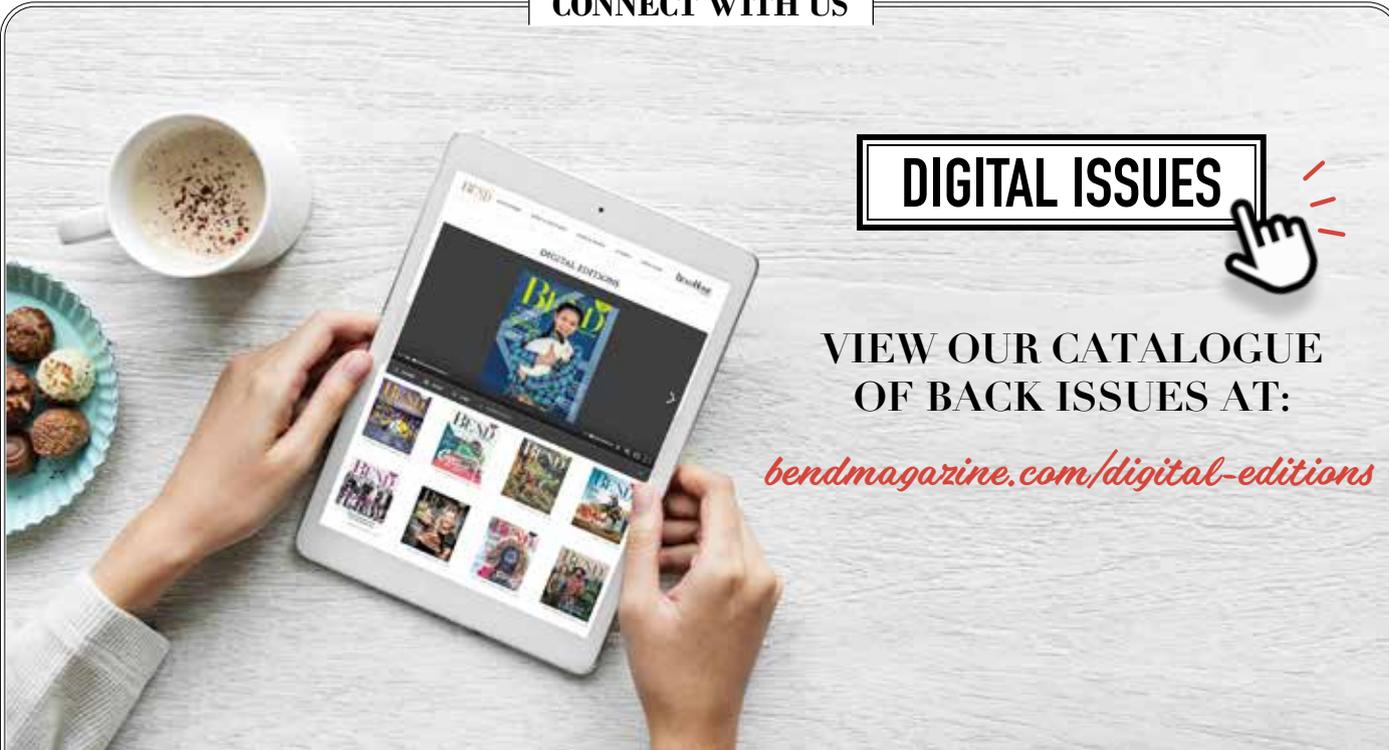


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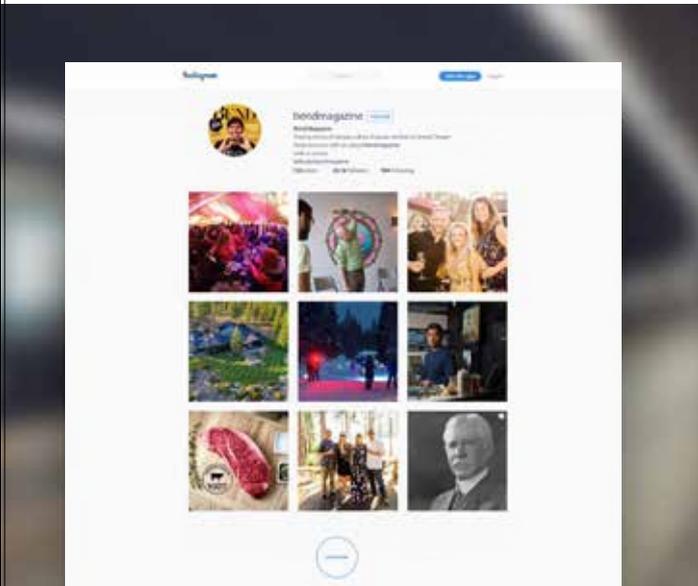


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■ *fire*

New Fire Station Opens in the Center of Bend

In early February, Bend's sixth fire station opened for business. Located near Pilot Butte in Bend, the new station features the same brick exterior and large red garage doors as the city's historic firehouse in downtown Bend, which closed two decades ago. The old fire station opened in 1920 and now houses the Brickhouse restaurant, but its classic style inspired the design of the new structure. The new station is located on NE 15th Street, just south of Highway 20 and the Bend Police Department headquarters, and was built as a partnership between Deschutes County Rural Fire Protection District No. 2 and Bend Fire and Rescue, which both use the same fire stations. Bend Fire and Rescue responds to over 11,000 calls a year, over 80 percent of which are medical calls. As the first new station to open in Bend in nearly twenty years, the new station's central location and proximity to the hospital will help reduce response times for medical emergencies.

■ *growth*

A Home for the Next Bend Library

Bend is one step closer to having a new library on the north side of town, following the Deschutes Public Library Board's approval in early January to purchase a 12.75-acre parcel for the future Central Library. The land, purchased for \$1.35 million, is west of Highway 20, opposite the Cascade Village Shopping Center. The purchase is the latest step forward in the library's facilities capital plan. Plans for the new Central Library call for expanded collections, a hands-on learning and play center for children and flexible gathering spaces. An estimated cost is still forthcoming, but library leaders have said the project will be funded by a mix of grants and donations, and that taxpayers will be asked to approve a bond measure. Plans for the new location come as the Deschutes Public Library celebrates 100 years of serving the region in 2020 (see page 46).

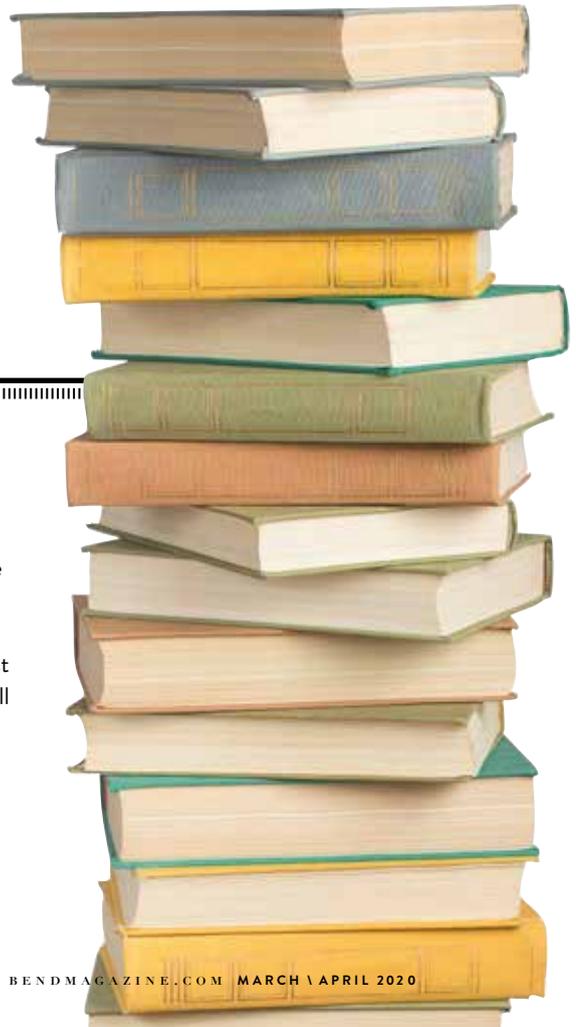
■ *transportation*

Bond Measure Aims to Tackle Traffic and Safety

If you feel like traffic around Bend is getting worse, but biking doesn't feel like the safest option either, you might want to get up to speed on the city's upcoming transportation bond. The Bend City Council in early February gave approval to add a \$190 million bond measure to fund transportation improvements to the May primary ballot.

The money would fund better east-west connections across the city to improve livability—i.e. traffic—and safety, specifically along Reed Market Road, U.S. 97/Parkway, Third Street intersections and other routes. The bond would also pay for more cross-town bicycle routes, filling in missing sidewalks in some places and implementing safer crossings to access schools, parks and workplaces.

When ballots hit mailboxes this spring, voters will decide whether to approve the bond, which would levy homeowners based on their tax-assessed home values (about \$170 per year for a tax-assessed home value of \$220,000).



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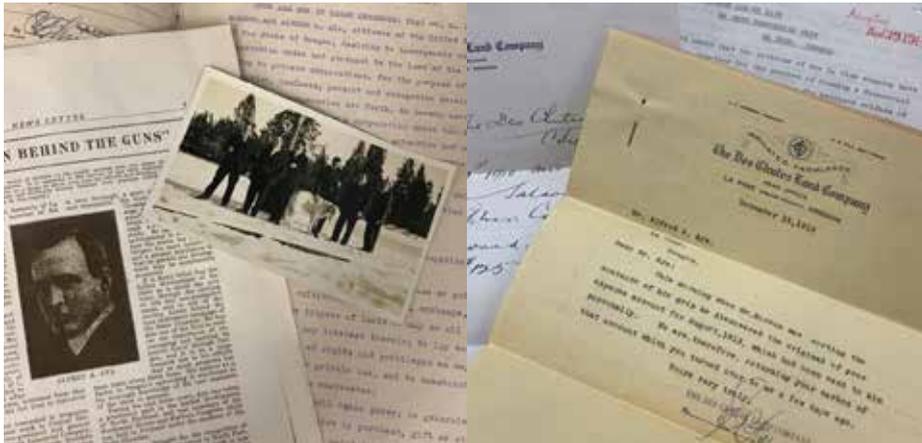
Front Deck ■ *central oregon*

■ **lodging**

New Hotel in the Works Near the Airport in Redmond

Redmond is on the rise, and one case in point is the new 113-room hotel expected to break ground later this year. Mereté Hotel Management is partnering with Syncon B Corp. to develop the SpringHill Suites by Marriott Redmond Airport, with a goal to open by fall of 2021. The hotel will be located at 1908 NW Canal Blvd., along U.S. Highway 97 and just north of Wal-Mart in Redmond.

“Redmond will benefit from the addition of an upper midscale Marriott hotel,” said Liz Dahlager, Vice President of Market Intelligence for Mereté Hotel Management, in a news release. “The hotel will offer an airport shuttle, and has great proximity to the revitalized downtown area and event venues in the area.” The project includes plans for a future second hotel on the site.



■ **history**

Documents Help Tell the Story of La Pine

If up until now you didn't know much about the history of La Pine, a small city 30 minutes south of Bend, you weren't alone. It was only recently that a safe full of documents and photos chronicling the history and formation of La Pine was discovered, as part of the belongings of a Cannon Beach man who died in 2018.

As part of his estate, Alfred Aya Jr. left a note for his friend's son, George Hawley, directing him to the safe on the Oregon coast, according to the January newsletter of the Deschutes County Historical Society. Inside, Hawley found documents detailing the founding of La Pine by Alfred Aya Sr., including original articles of incorporation from 1910. The documents, given to the Deschutes History Museum, show how Aya Sr. and others had grandiose plans to develop the town, attract the railroad and commercial businesses and sell plats of land. Prior to the discovery, old newspaper clippings and oral history were relied upon to tell the story of La Pine. History buffs can see the materials at the Museum, upon request.

■ **development**

Rural Central Oregon Development Gets a Boost

Bend may be a modern-day boomtown, but some of the region's smaller towns could still use support when it comes to economic development. The Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council is doing their part through the Rural Community Building Program.

The new program will use grant money to support development projects in Madras, Prineville, Sisters, La Pine, Culver and Metolius. The COIC laid the groundwork in 2017 and has leveraged an increasing number of funding sources to grow the program into a permanent source of support for city and county governments, local nonprofits and other economic development organizations.

As part of the program in 2020, the COIC will support the Sisters Country Vision, City of Culver Strategic Plan, Madras and Prineville Downtown Associations, Metolius Community Vision and La Pine Parks and Recreation District.

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Front Deck *brewing*

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WRITTEN BY JED BELLEFEUILLE

■ *what's brewing?*

Tony Lawrence, Founder and Brewmaster of Boneyard Brewing

BEND'S BONEYARD BREWING is well known for their big IPAs, specifically RPM, a consistent favorite of locals and visitors alike. However, brewmaster Tony Lawrence and his team recently accepted a gold medal for a different brew, Diablo Rojo, at the Great American Beer Festival in Denver. This annual event is regarded as one of the most important competitions in American beer.

Have you ever won an award at GABF?

This is our first medal at GABF. We have been entering the festival for years, but the competition is always stiff, especially in the IPA categories. The majority of our beers don't fit into the required style guidelines so it can be difficult to submit the ones we really want to, but we decided to bring in Diablo this year and it worked out for the whole team.

How long has Diablo Rojo been in production?

It was actually one of the first batches of beer we made. We always thought it was an important style of beer to produce for people new to the craft beer world; it is very simple and accessible. Diablo is a jumping-off point for

people that are curious about the craft beer industry but aren't sure how to enter.

How can people get their hands on some Diablo Rojo?

It's staying as draft only, same with the vast majority of our beers. It works really well with food, so a lot of bars and restaurants carry it as a permanent handle now. We are distributing Diablo Rojo and a few other options from Seattle to San Francisco, so you can find it just about anywhere on the West Coast. The easiest way to find it, and all of our other brews, is at the Boneyard pub (located at 1955 NE Division in Bend).

How do you plan to defend your gold medal?

Diablo Rojo definitely isn't going anywhere. In fact, we are planning to take it to World Beer Cup this year to compete with the best breweries in the world.

What does it mean to you to be the only Bend brewery to bring home a gold medal this year?

It was great to win and be recognized by the public and our peers, but business goes on and there is always more beer to be made. The



best part of the win is the recognition that our entire team gets. They deserve a ton of credit for everything we make. Winning any event also revs up the motivation to keep pushing the envelope and improving our processes.

Are there any new beers coming from Boneyard that have gold potential?

Absolutely. We have a bunch of new stuff getting ready to make its way into the pub, specifically some of our Belgian style lambics that have been in the works for a while and are already earning awards and recognition. We are always trying to improve upon what we already have; you can always do better.

■ *on tap*

The Boss, In a Can

Boss Rambler has become a well-known name in Bend beer since they burst onto the scene in 2018, and now they are moving forward with a canning program. The most recent additions to the custom line of cans are the Jet Ski Ken Hazy IPA which is dry-hopped with heaps of Aussie-grown Galaxy hops and a touch of Meridian to jet a full throttle of peach and tropical fruit notes into your senses. Second

on the list is their Ski Barbie IPA, which is double dry-hopped with loads of delicious hops for a modern take on a classic. Ultra-smooth with just the right amount of juicy dankness, it's sure to stand out in any crowd. Keep your eye out for more custom cans coming from Boss Rambler in the near future, available at their pub located at 1009 NW Galveston Avenue in Bend.

■ *tasting notes*

New Tap Room on Tap for Box Factory

Ready for another new place to drink delicious beer in Bend? Crosscut Warming Hut No. 5, a new tap room set to open in April, will feature thirty-four taps, food carts, and advertises a large garden and patio area. Located across from the Box Factory in Bend, Crosscut will add to beer lovers' options in Central Oregon.





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A few days float on the remote Owyhee River delivers dramatic scenery and plenty of peace and quiet

WRITTEN BY MATT WASTRADOWSKI

PHOTOS BY TREVOR LYDEN



Every bend in the Owyhee River hides something new and enchanting. On this stretch of remote river near the Oregon/Idaho border, canyon walls of black basalt and red rhyolite rise up to 2,000 feet before giving way to wide-open, sagebrush-covered badlands. From the water, paddlers can spy 14 million years of geologic history in towering rock formations, etched petroglyphs and bubbling hot springs.

And much of that scenery looks just as it has for thousands, if not millions, of years.

The 280-mile Owyhee River spans three states, originating in northeastern Nevada, and cuts through the heart of the 2.5-million-acre Owyhee Canyonlands—one of the most remote, inaccessible regions in the country. And with only three paved roads crisscrossing the region, your best bet for exploring this wild expanse is from the seat of a raft or kayak on the Owyhee River.

Even with the drive—at least four hours from Bend—getting on the water is easier than you think. Follow our journey through the Owyhee and plan a trip of your own.

MILLENNIA BY THE MILE

Hunter-gathers roamed the Owyhee as many as 10,000 years ago, and petroglyph carvings—still visible today—indicate that Native Americans hunted and lived in the region for centuries.

More recently, a group of North West Company fur trappers became the first non-Native people to enter the Owyhee in the winter of 1818-1819; three Hawaiian members of the party left to explore but never returned, and the river was named for the trio (using the Polynesian pronunciation of “Hawaii”).

The first white settlers arrived in the 1860s to establish cattle ranches on the vast rangeland, and Basque sheepherders followed suit in the 1870s. More than 150 years later, ranching remains an economic driver and way of life in the region.



EXPLORE



WILD ON THE WATER

With a little know-how and planning, the Owyhee River is accessible to paddlers of all abilities. The high season for paddling is generally March to June—but check with the Bureau of Land Management office in Vale before heading out. Water levels and temperatures can fluctuate wildly, and heavy rain can render some roads impassable. And note that all paddlers must fill out a free self-registration form at each of the approved put-in sites before launching.

Paddlers generally put in along one of two stretches of river: the Lower Owyhee River and the Middle Owyhee River, both offering wildly different experiences.

The most common put-in site along the Lower Owyhee is near the hamlet of Rome, roughly four hours southeast of Bend. Trips along this stretch navigate Class II to Class III+ rapids through Sweetwater Canyon and the wide-open Chalk Basin before arriving at Birch Creek or Leslie Gulch.

Most paddlers on the Middle Owyhee, meanwhile, launch at Three Forks—a nearly six-hour trek from Bend—and take out at Rome. Experienced rafters enjoy the fast-moving, more technical Class IV and Class V rapids along this less-traveled stretch, which hosts some of the most dramatic canyons and red-rock formations in the whole Owyhee River basin. ➤

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Experienced paddlers can tackle the river's rapids alone. Others choose from several outfitters that make the journey easy by providing multi-day trips that include shuttle services, meal preparation, campsite setup and teardown, and recommendations for smooth navigation.

At the end of each river day, unwind with a soak in hot springs along the Lower Owyhee, hike to nearby rock formations, spy wildlife (from raptors to California bighorn sheep), or gaze upon the stars glinting down from some of the continent's darkest skies.

Take a little of the Owyhee's beauty and serenity home with you, until next time. **||**

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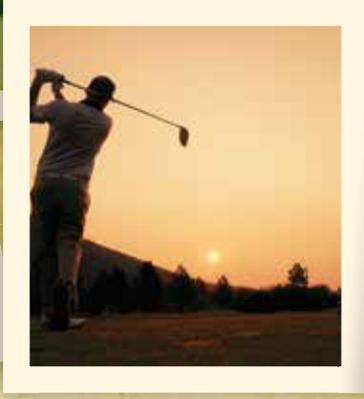
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SUTTLE LAKE

Subtle Pleasures

Culinary adventures at Suttle Lake

WRITTEN BY CATHY CARROLL

The road winds through the forest beneath the lofty green canopy of hundred-foot ponderosas. The one-lane bridge over the creek is like a threshold into another world. Then you spot The Suttle Lodge, its massive timbers and national parkitecture fitting the environs perfectly.

At the hefty front doors, the giant carved wood slabs depict the lake, mountains, deer, a life-size swooping eagle and a Native American dancer, all created by artist J. Chester “Skip” Armstrong. Armstrong has said his goal was “to reawaken your soul to the primal energy and life force of earth-based imagery.”

The mile-and-a-half long Suttle Lake laps at the shore as you make way to your base, where you can get cozy, start unwinding and embark on a weekend adventure—this time, a culinary one.

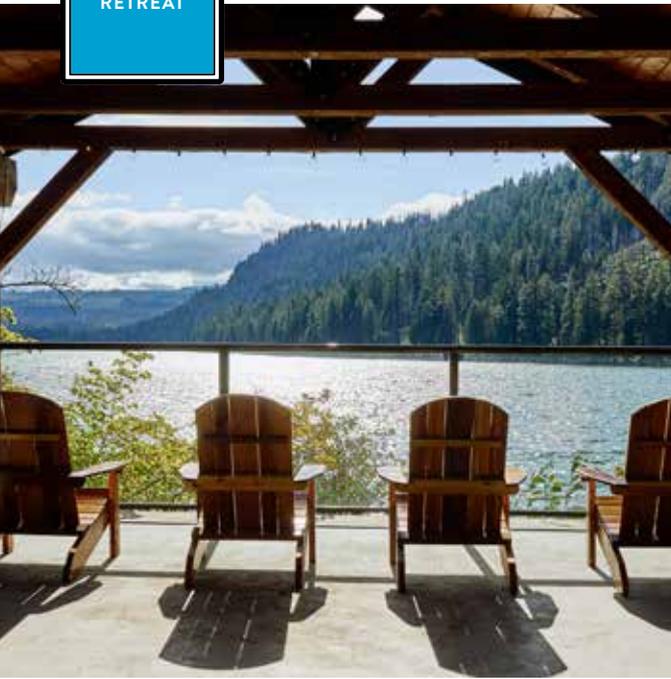
Here in the middle of the forest this spring at The Suttle Lodge and



Boathouse, some of America’s best chefs are swooping in like the eagle on the front door, each making the journey to create a multi-course dinner inspired by the surroundings.

Earlier this year, Chef Ben Sukle arrived from Providence, Rhode Island, where his restaurant, birch, was named one of the fifty best new restaurants in America by *Bon Appétit* in 2016. At a handful of long, rustic tables around the fireplace, locals joined guests from around Oregon and the country, sipping cava (a sparkling wine from

PHOTO TOP: AJ WEEKER, BOTTOM: EMILY TRIGGS



GUEST CHEF DINNER SERIES

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MARCH 14

Genevieve Villamora and James Beard Award-winning chef Tom Cunanan of Bad Saint, the Washington, D.C. restaurant hailed for bringing Filipino cooking into America's national spotlight.

APRIL 4

Kindred's Katy and Joe Kindred, a James Beard semifinalist for Best Chef Southeast in 2017, take inspiration from the Southern-style fish camps around Lake Norman, North Carolina.

APRIL 25

Elliott Moss of Buxton Hall recreates the world-famous, whole-hog BBQ he grew up with in South Carolina's low country. *The New York Times*, *GQ* and *Food & Wine* have lauded this two-time semifinalist for the James Beard Award for Best Chef.

Spain) while vinyl spun on a vintage record-player console. Each course, served family-style, enhanced the conviviality.

"Restaurants have such an easy platform to reach people," Sukle said. "They aren't just about keeping people from starving, they are cultural meeting places, integral to the community and dinners like this reinforce that."

We passed platters of roasted Hama Hama oysters with cream, dill and pork fat and discovered we also shared a mutual friend with others at the table. Next came the Painted Hills beef tartar with umami-heightening mushrooms foraged by Sukle's aunt and uncle who traveled from Coos Bay, and had nurtured Sukle's interest in food as a boy.

When the Dungeness crab salad with preserved, sweet habanada pepper and ginger dressing made the rounds, I was certain I'd met another woman at the table before. After the steelhead salmon with Portuguese, spicy-sweet piri piri sauce and winter greens, we realized she was my dentist. Dessert, Portuguese egg tarts, citrus punctuating the sweet, creamy custard, were en route, so guests took a few minutes out on the deck, watching the moonlight reflect on the lake.

Strolling the path to their cabins, guests vowed to make another reservation soon. They weren't alone. It had been Sukle's first trip to Central Oregon, but he intended to return. "You come out here and feel these endorphin rushes from these giant trees," he said. "I want to come back."

STAY AND PLAY

The Suttle Lodge offers eleven lodge rooms, a few lakeside cabins with kitchens and bathrooms, and a handful of rustic cabins. The lodge and the Boathouse restaurant are your source for food and amenities.

The lake is central to the experience here, no matter the season. Stroll, hike, mountain bike or ski around the mostly flat, three-and-a-half-mile trail around the lake, formed by a glacier 25,000 years ago. Kokanee (tasty land-locked salmon) may be biting as early as March.

At the nearby Hoodoo Ski Area, grab free-heel skis for a day of lessons, stories and Nordic culture, March 9, or check out Spring Fling pond skating, April 11. **IB**

PHOTO TOP LEFT REMY GOMEZ, RIGHT EMILY TRIGGS, BOTTOM CARLY DIAZ

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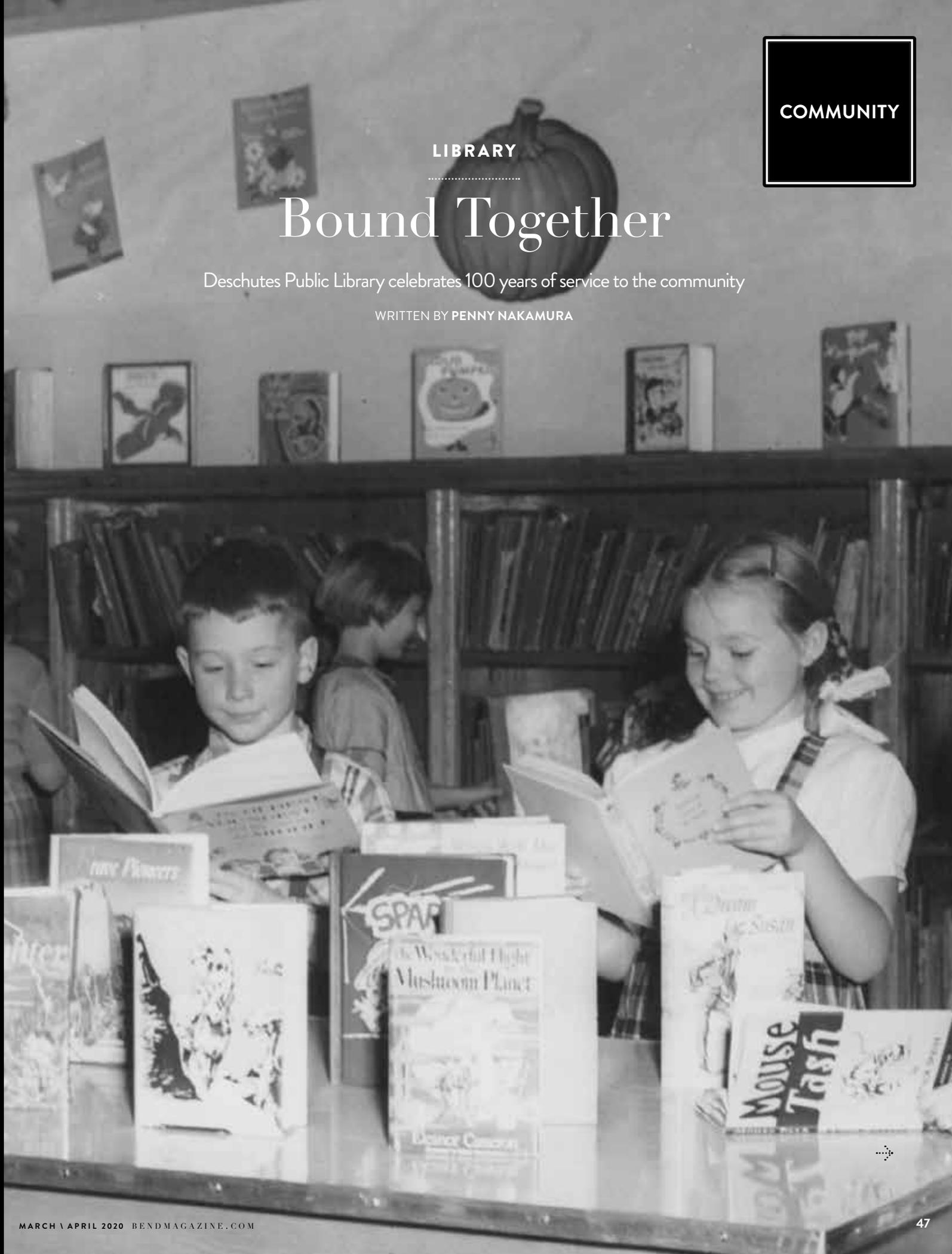
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Deschutes Public Library celebrates 100 years of service to the community

WRITTEN BY PENNY NAKAMURA

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In 1904, a handful of citizens who lived in the not-quite-yet-incorporated community of Bend were craving greater access to news from all around the nation. They formed “The Bend Magazine Club,” a subscription club that allowed members to read a multitude of national magazines by borrowing them from one another. With this initial modest idea of sharing resources for the greater good, Central Oregon’s first lending library was born.

The idea quickly grew to include books donated from citizens or borrowed from the State Library, explained current Deschutes Public Library Director, Todd Dunkelberg. But what the library didn’t have, was, well, a “library.” Without a specific location to house books and magazines, patrons would meet wherever they could to make their exchanges, usually in various public spaces. “We did not have permanent homes for our libraries, relying on various store owners to lend us space to operate,” said Dunkelberg.

Deschutes Public Library was officially formed in 1920, bringing together independent, informal library systems both in Bend and Redmond. But it wasn’t until nearly twenty years later that a permanent structure was built, at the cost of \$27,000. The Bend Library—today in use as the library administration building in downtown Bend—opened in 1939 as the region’s official library.

From there, the library only continued to grow. “By 1970, we had permanent facilities in La Pine, Sisters, Redmond and Bend, and a bookmobile service that traveled to the outskirts of the county,” said Dunkelberg. The bookmobiles brought the library to all sorts of people who may not otherwise have access to its resources, including those at the local lumber mills and living in rugged logging camps. Plenty of citizens traveled long distances to visit the library itself, too. It wasn’t unusual to see dedicated patrons ride up to the library on their horses, having come from the region’s most rural areas, said Communication and Development Manager Chantal Strobel, who’s worked at the library for 26 years.



Even back in those early decades, the library made available more than just books, Dunkelberg added. “Customers had the ability to check-out hardware and tools from our tool library collection.”

Despite the variety of services offered and the popularity with patrons at the county’s libraries, Dunkelberg says there were dark days in Deschutes Public Library’s history in 1998, when the organization faced permanent closure because of lack of funds. After a few months of closure, the library secured a small, but reliable tax district

TOP The library’s early bookmobile brought the books to the people (and the horses to the books).

INSET The first library building in Deschutes County still stands in downtown Bend today.

base, voted in by the people of the county that same year. Contributions from private donors, coupled with fundraising efforts by the non-profit Friends of the Deschutes Public Library, keep the library running.

Still, surviving a centennial is no easy feat for modern libraries, amidst the vast changing technologies and ever threatening



Original library interior

budget cuts. To stay relevant, our library had to become more than just a place to borrow books, it had to become the heart and soul of our community. Those old enough to remember searching for books alphabetically in card catalogues housed in long wooden drawers or when librarians had to hand stamp the due date on the front page of a book, know how transformational the changes have been.

In 1920, the founders could never have imagined the kind of resources the six branches of the library would offer. Today's Deschutes Public Library provides hardback and softcover books, audio books and downloadable electronic books. Patrons can also use computers, borrow movies, check out music of every genre, and attend a plethora of free cultural programs and speakers. The library partners with more than 180 agencies to help expand outreach, everything from working with the AARP and United Way to help senior citizens with their taxes and finances, to helping patrons with resume writing and interviewing skills through The Opportunity Foundation.

"Community librarians visit senior centers, day care centers, schools, low-income apartment buildings, and several other community areas that may not have access to library buildings or the technology to access information," said Strobel. "We have partnered with 'Thrive' to bring social service assistance into our libraries to support people with basic living needs and access to affordable housing, food and other support systems."

"What has not changed is the importance of being the vital infrastructure that helps bind our community together," said Dunkelberg. "We remain one of the few spaces in our community where people can gather to converse, learn, work, play, connect and read without cost."

"I would argue that libraries are more relevant today than in the past as we are immersed in this daunting Information Age. We are information stewards for the public," said Strobel.

One hundred years ago, when Deschutes Public Library opened its doors, it allowed anyone who entered an opportunity for

CELEBRATING DESCHUTES PUBLIC LIBRARY'S CENTENNIAL

From January through October, the library will highlight a different decade each month with historical displays, costume parties and events. March celebrates the 1940s, April the 1950s, and so on. To culminate the ten-month celebration, the library is organizing a masquerade ball similar to the one held in the 1920s, which was attended by more than 800 Deschutes County residents.

knowledge and empowerment. Anyone, no matter their color, employment level or financial situation, could enter the library and travel anywhere their imaginations took them, or learn as much as they could about any given subject. In that respect, the library hasn't aged at all. **▣**



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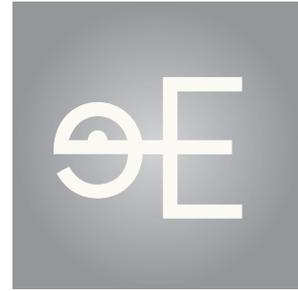
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FOOD BANK

Hungry to Help

Bend Food Project rallies community to fight food insecurity

WRITTEN BY TERESA RISTOW

Sue and Larry Marceaux vividly remember the first collection of the Bend Food Project back in 2015.

The couple had heard about the Ashland Food Project—which has residents place a reusable green bag of non-perishable foods outside their front door every couple months for donation to people in need—and dreamed of bringing a similar program to Bend. They spent months planning the launch of the new organization, recruited a dozen friends to help collect food and identified a local food bank, The Giving Plate, to work with.

When the coordinators joined together on a drizzly day in October at The Giving Plate, the Marceaux were stunned to see the results—2,572 pounds of food gathered through the first collection of the Bend Food Project. “We were so excited,” said Sue Marceaux.

Fast forward to 2020 and the organization will soon celebrate its fifth anniversary. The bi-monthly collections have continued and as of January the nonprofit has gathered,

organized and donated more than 400,000 pounds of food to The Giving Plate, which then distributes it in Central

Oregon. The original twelve volunteers have multiplied to 133 neighborhood coordinators and the local donor base has exploded to 2,500 residents setting out their green bags on collection days. The project makes it easy for volunteers to get involved. Anyone interested in participating in the bi-monthly donation can sign up to receive a green donation bag at bendfoodproject.com. Those interested in collecting from others can also sign up on the

“I think it’s a real eye opener for people, how great the need is here.”



site. “We’ve been able to grow primarily by word of mouth,” Sue Marceaux said.

While the project continues to grow, so has the number of people in need. For longtime Bend Food Project volunteer Arlene Stafford, that was demonstrated before her eyes during a collection day early on. As volunteers hustled to unload and organize food outside The Giving Plate, a woman coming to pick up groceries from the organization mistook the commotion for something else, and thought the food was being taken away, rather than being delivered. “She had tears in her eyes. She was so frightened that it was going to go away,” said Stafford, who explained the food was just arriving, but found herself tearing up too. “I realized the desperation people feel when they’re food challenged.”

The Marceauxs said many factors play a role in the growing need in Central Oregon, including the lack of affordable housing and the high cost of childcare and healthcare. When a person is struggling to meet those needs, food can often fall to the bottom of the list. Larry Marceaux said, “I think it’s a real eye opener for people, how great the need is here.” **B**

THE GIVING PLATE

The Bend Food Project’s impact on reducing hunger in Central Oregon is reliant upon having a food bank to accept and disperse their collections. What started as a modest relationship with The Giving Plate in 2015 has blossomed into a partnership core to the operation of both organizations.

“They’ve become a huge partner in the work we’re doing,” said Ranae Staley, executive director of The Giving Plate, the largest food bank in Central Oregon. Staley’s parents, Gary and Debi Kelso, started the organization in 2010 after both she and her parents lost their homes in the recession and fell on hard times. “The story of The Giving Plate is really our family’s story,” said Staley, who had never expected to rely on a food bank herself, until she did. When things improved for the family, they used some money they had to start The Giving Plate, with an initial goal to serve 500 families.

Within months they were on pace to grow much larger. “We haven’t had to turn anyone away because of partnerships like the Bend Food Project,” she said. “Without them, we’d be forced to scale back what we give each person.” Instead, The Giving Plate continues to grow, and has been able to turn their focus increasingly to children, now providing 60 percent of the food they give to those under 18, through a Kid’s Korner youth food bank and a weekend backpack program with Bend-LaPine schools, all in addition to the regular food bank. About 25 percent of the non-perishable foods supplied to The Giving Plate come from the Bend Food Project.

In 2019, the Giving Plate served nearly 26,000 individuals in Central Oregon, including more than 8,500 children visiting the Kid’s Korner.

THE
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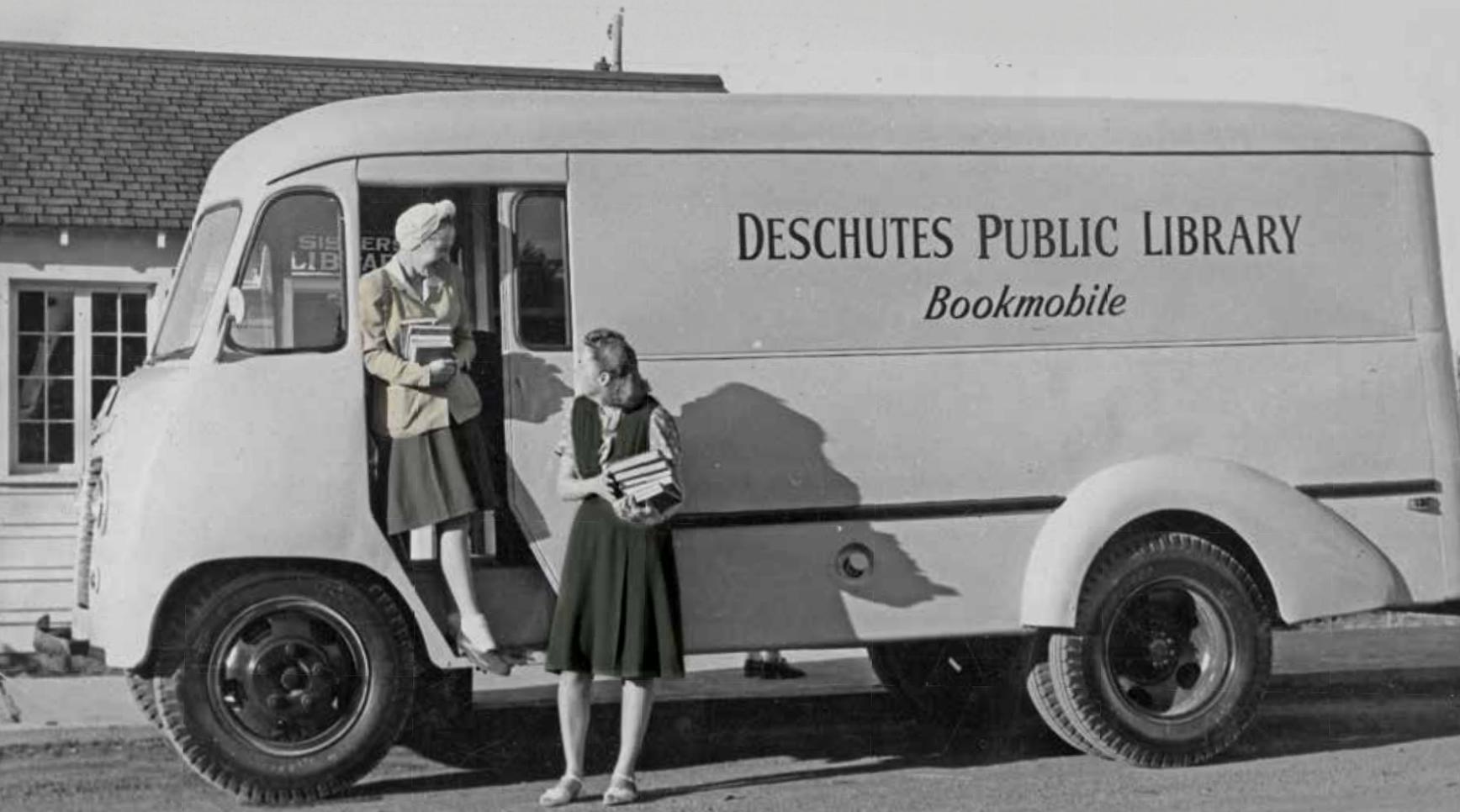
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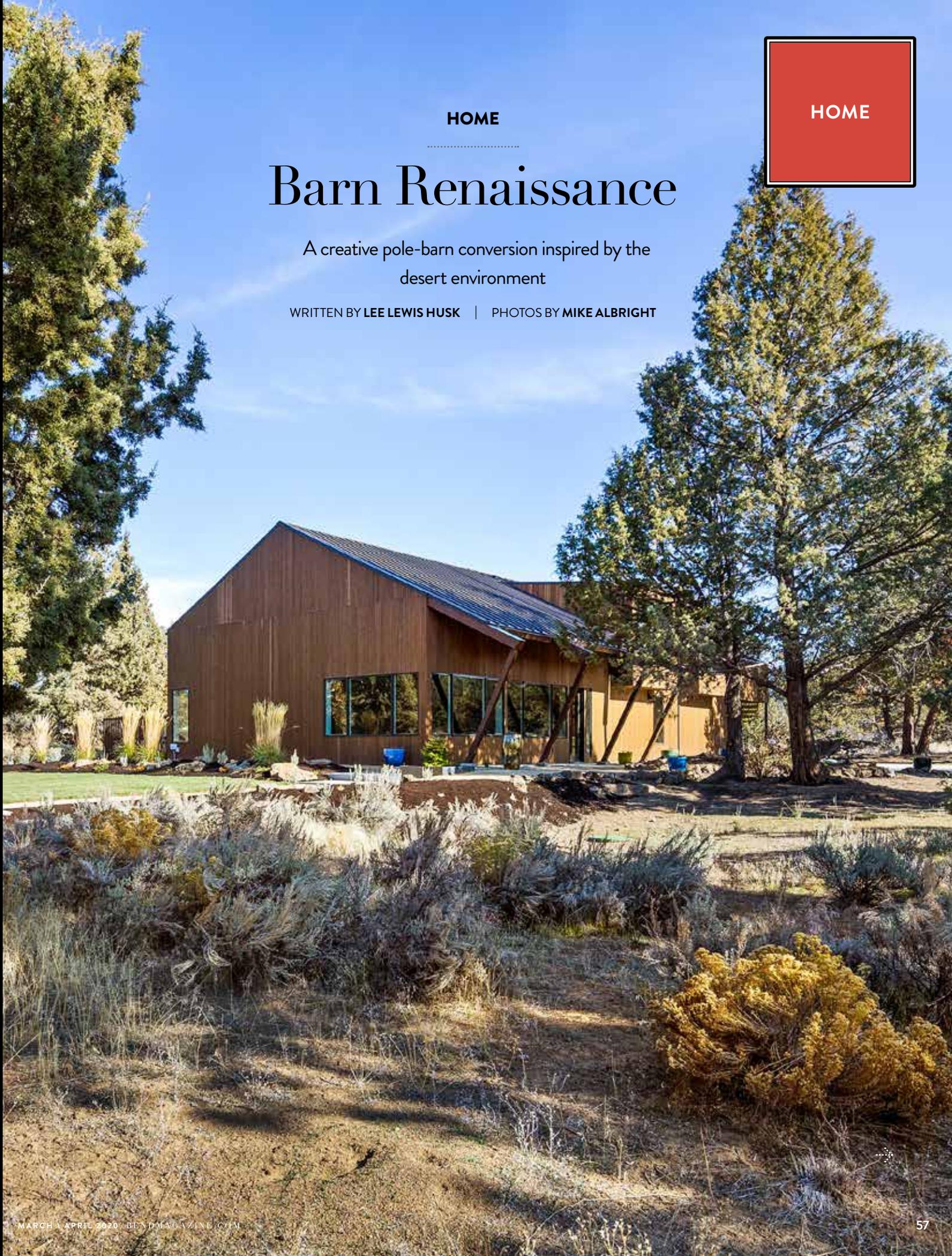
HOME

HOME

Barn Renaissance

A creative pole-barn conversion inspired by the
desert environment

WRITTEN BY **LEE LEWIS HUSK** | PHOTOS BY **MIKE ALBRIGHT**





Pauline, Stella, Adin and David

Architect Pauline Lyders landed the job of her lifetime—designing the dream home for her family. “We succeeded in creating something unique to us but very livable,” she said of the renovated pole barn that she and her husband, David Neidorf, along with their two daughters, moved into last year. “There’s nothing precious about the materials we used—it is just what it needs to be,” she said of the elegant, modern-minimalist dwelling.

The couple moved to Bend from Los Angeles in 2011, and bought the barn, situated on ten acres off the Old Bend Redmond Highway, in 2016. Instead of seeing a plain structure amid the junipers, they imagined a living space integrated into the environment. Neidorf credits his wife for achieving their goal, but she sought his input throughout the process. “Truth is, David was my client,” she said.

The third partner in the conversation was Jason Duckowitz of Contour Design Build. “It was really important to Pauline to have a builder with an appreciation and understanding of design and who was part of the project from the beginning,” he said. “The three of us had a nice back and forth. I’d sometimes tell Pauline that a design might not work from a construction perspective, but she’d hold onto a concept, and she was usually right.”

The two-story layout is conventional in some ways, with a large, open room on the main floor incorporating the living, dining and kitchen areas and master suite with a private patio. The upstairs has kids’ rooms, an office, studio/guest bedroom, lounge and a deck. But creative flourishes abound in the 3,900-square-foot home, making it unique to the Lyders-Neidorf family.

When Neidorf heads to his office, he gets there from the master bedroom up a winding staircase. This unique and private entrance is for him alone—a place from which he runs his own property management company, Full House Consulting, Inc. He loves the office with its large north-facing window overlooking another beloved feature—an outdoor hot tub accessed either from the bedroom or directly through a sliding LaCantina door in the master shower.

Duckowitz says it’s the first time in twenty years of building homes that he’s seen a sliding door in a bathroom. “It was important to Pauline to maintain an indoor-outdoor connection, both visually and physically to the space outside. The door through the shower was the simplest way to achieve that,” he said.

Without an attic, Lyders was free to design the second-story rooms with a combination of sloping roof and 10-by-10-foot cutouts or dormers, allowing for insertion of 10-foot-wide windows in each room. “When you sit in one of the upstairs rooms and look out those full-height windows, you feel like you’re outside,” Duckowitz said.

The couple’s daughters, Adin, 15, and Stella, 9, have bedrooms the envy of any child. “I tell my daughters they have the nicest rooms any kid ever had,” Neidorf



LEFT TOP An open aesthetic blends the living and dining areas on the main floor.

LEFT BOTTOM The four members of the Lyders-Neidorf family, at home.

TOP A 14-foot Caesarstone island divides the kitchen from the dining room.

BOTTOM The master shower boasts a sliding glass door leading outdoors.





TOP Spacious bedrooms for each daughter are upstairs, with views.

BOTTOM A spiral staircase leads from the master bedroom to Neidorf's private office.

said. Each is expansive, providing space for a queen bed, sofa, desk and areas for projects, games and music. Their mother also incorporated perhaps their favorite feature—a sleeping loft up a vertical staircase (Adin's ladder is tucked in her closet). A small "sky" window in Stella's room looks down into the living room and "gives her a sense of comfort and connection to be able to see us," Lyders said.

The kitchen, dining and living rooms are spacious, with two of the barn's original trusses exposed to honor the structure's history. A series of tall windows faces the outdoors on two sides. Along the living room wall, a lichen-green recess houses the TV; another lichen-colored recess next to the dining room is for a bar and espresso machine. The bright green color matches the lichen that grows on junipers. A recess with neutral white vertical tile in the kitchen is for the range, oven and hood. A 14-foot, Caesarstone island divides the kitchen from the dining room where the family enjoys meals at the long antique baker's worktable. The wool dining chairs are the color of blue juniper berries.

Large portraits of the daughters hang high on a wall and "make the room," according to Neidorf. He commissioned Xander Berkeley, a well-known character actor and friend of Neidorf's when he worked in film and TV, to paint the girls.

One of the family's favorite spots is a covered deck off the second floor looking east over a pristine desert landscape. "It's a place to meditate," Lyders said. "Downstairs is about moving and engaging with each other. Up here it's about witnessing nature." The spiral stairs from the deck match the green-gold moss growing on rimrock. "It's an escape hatch for my teen," Lyders joked.

The pole barn's exterior gable shape remains largely unchanged, although the





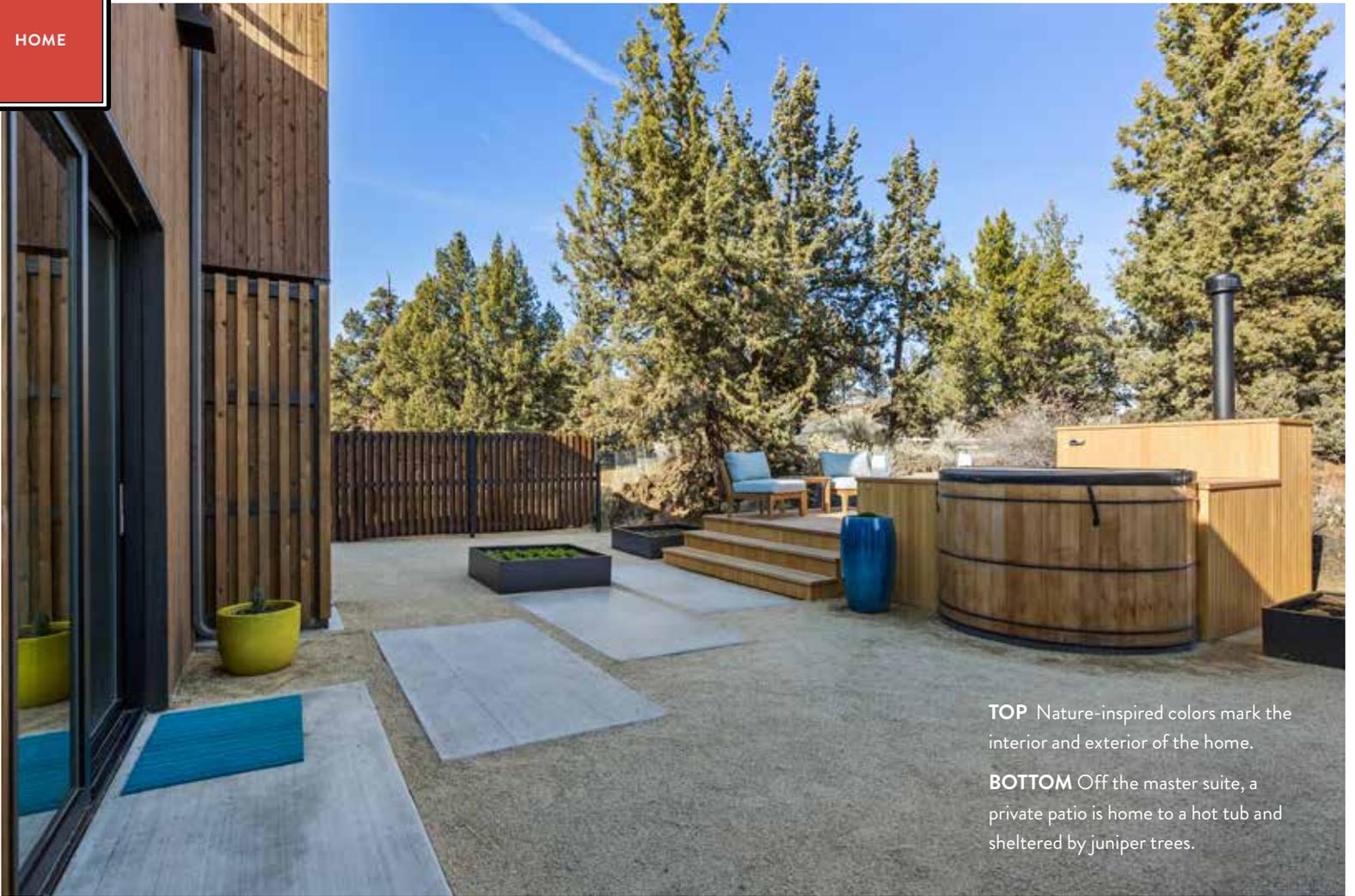
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TOP Nature-inspired colors mark the interior and exterior of the home.

BOTTOM Off the master suite, a private patio is home to a hot tub and sheltered by juniper trees.



new design lengthened the structure by 36 feet to include the garage and deck addition. “The easiest way to stay true to the structure and create a covered walkway from the parking lot to the main entrance was to follow the pitch of the existing roofline to the ground,” Duckowitz explained. “It tells a story of what the house was built from and draws you to the entrance.” With another nod to nature-inspired colors, the dark brown cedar siding was chosen to blend with the bark of juniper.

The creative collaboration between builder, architect and “client” resulted in a family home unique to its inhabitants while honoring its placement in the environment. “I live in my dream house that my incredibly talented and beautiful wife created,” Neidorf said. **IB**

Resources

Building: Jason Duckowitz

Architecture & Interior: Pauline Lyders

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HATS

Gene Baldwin's Custom Hats

One-of-a-kind creations unique to your head only

WRITTEN BY TERESA RISTOW | PHOTOS BY JOE KLINE

Not all hats are created equal. That's something you learn the first time you walk into Gene Baldwin's hat studio outside Sisters. Inside the narrow shop is everything Baldwin needs to create his handcrafted masterpieces, which range from more traditional cowboy and cowgirl hats to Gus crowns, cattleman hats, oversized fedoras or just about any combination of hat crown, body and brim a customer dreams up. Each hat Baldwin creates is unique to the style, needs and head measurements of its future owner.

"This will fit his head and his head only," said Baldwin, showing off one of his latest pieces, a custom hat that's just between the typical sizes you might see on the shelf at a western apparel store.

Though Baldwin takes great pride in his work as a milliner, or hat-maker, and seems at home in the studio—it wasn't always his calling. Baldwin spent his career in Portland as a funeral director and then later raised Arabian show horses. "I like to do things that are different," Baldwin said. It was only in the early 2000s, after retiring

from Portland to Sisters with his wife, that Baldwin turned to hat making.

After taking up a new hobby of selling Serratelli cowboy hats, a friend asked whether Baldwin had considered making hats himself. It wasn't long before he'd purchased, restored and in some cases modernized the needed equipment, including antiques dating back to the 1880s. One shelf of his studio is filled with curved wooden blocks, used to represent various head sizes at the beginning of the process. Baldwin stretches and shapes his material



“He has quite a measuring technique that he uses, so that it’s truly your hat.”

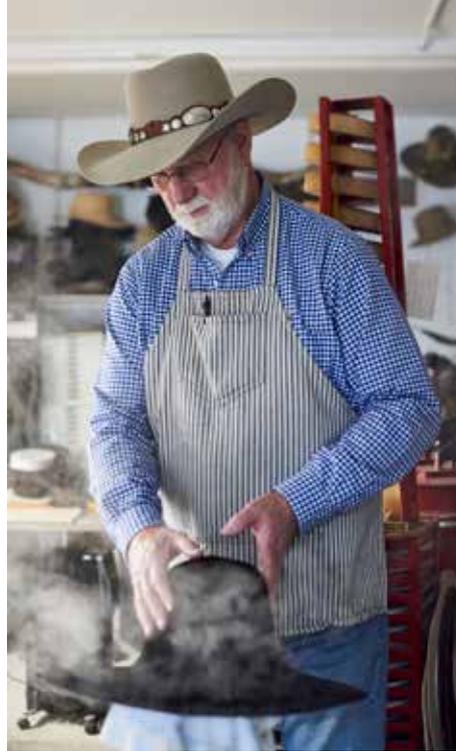
over the hat blocks using lots of steam. A plater is used to curve the brim into a ninety-degree angle and an antique crown iron smooths the top of the hat as it spins.

More than fifteen years after taking on his new hobby, Baldwin has earned a reputation for his custom hat making, and gained customers from around the world, mostly through word of mouth. “I’m busy,” he said, pointing to stacks of new orders around his studio. “There are times I’m getting two new orders a day.”

Baldwin estimates he’s one of thirty-five or forty custom hat-makers in the United States, though not everyone holds themselves to the same standards as Baldwin. The quality European hare and beaver Baldwin uses to form his hats mean they last longer, retain their shape better and stand up to the weather longer than more commonly produced wool hats or those with a blend of wool and some fur.

“They’re wonderful hats,” said John James, a friend and customer of Baldwin’s who together with his wife owns four Baldwin hats. “He has quite a measuring technique that he uses, so that it’s truly your hat.”

The hats aren’t priced for everyone—they start at \$365—but for the cost, you’re getting personal fittings and a commitment from Baldwin to make a quality custom hat, the old-fashioned way. Old-fashioned values are important to Baldwin, who on his website shares a list of tips for proper hat etiquette (men, tip your hat when meeting a lady) and



promises when it comes to hat making, he’ll take the time to do things right the first time. “He’s a good guy—if he gives his word he keeps it,” James said.

The hats earned Baldwin recognition many times, including top honors at the Art of the Cowboy Makers Contest for the five years he entered. The contest recognizes contemporary makers of traditional cowboy wear, including boots, saddles and of course, hats.

For Baldwin, it’s about more than hat-making, and he’s quick to share the stories behind each hat. Like the hat Baldwin was wearing this winter—sporting a silver

and leatherwork band. The silver was melted down from a former customer’s wedding plates, gifted to Baldwin in hopes he could breathe new life into the material. The owner of the plates had recently lost his wife, and was so touched by the repurposing of the silver he wrote Baldwin a heartfelt email of gratitude. Baldwin carries a printout of the note in his wallet wherever he goes to illustrate the personal connections behind his work.

“It’s not just hat-making,” Baldwin said. “You can really touch people with the things you can do.”

Moving forward with grief.



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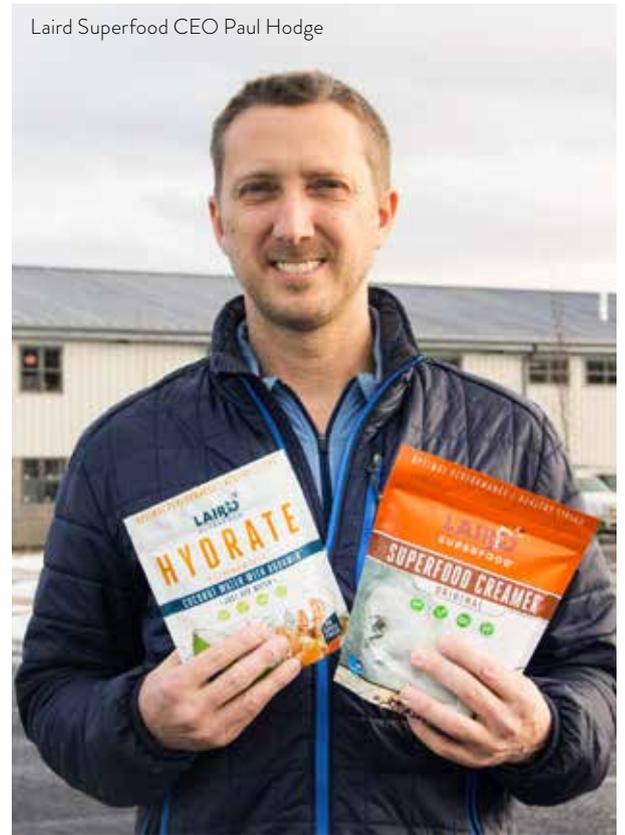
Sisters entrepreneur forgoes early retirement to launch startup with surfer Laird Hamilton

WRITTEN BY CATHY CARROLL

PHOTO COURTESY LAIRD SUPERFOOD



Laird Superfood CEO Paul Hodge



In 2011, serial entrepreneur Paul Hodge was about to retire in his mid-30s. He'd sold his interest in a renewable energy business in New York, but he and his wife hail from Washington, and were looking to the West. They moved to a 132-acre ranch along Whychus Creek near Sisters, to raise their three children and grow all their own organic food. That winter, in Kauai, a surfing buddy introduced him to world renowned big-wave surfer, Laird Hamilton. Hamilton, behind innovations such as standup paddle boarding, wanted to meet Hodge because he had a new idea.

It was the Golf Board, a motorized skateboard/golf cart. Hodge, although not a golf fan, helped develop it at his ranch and successfully launched it. Along the way, he and Hamilton got to be friends.

"He'd invite me to coffee before surfing, and he'd be putting all this stuff

in my coffee, and I'd be out surfing and realize my energy level wouldn't last just an hour and a half, but five hours," said Hodge, 46. Hamilton educated him about fuel-efficient, medium-chain triglycerides in coconut and the benefits of trace minerals in things such as calcified red marine sea algae from Iceland. Hodge found Hamilton's nutritional philosophies intriguing, so he did a bit of research.

"I said, 'I think the world needs this, and it's a great opportunity now to build a company based on your name,'" Hodge said. In 2015, they launched Laird Superfood, starting with powdered, plant-based, dairy-free creamers. Since then, the "rocket ship ride" has brought the Sisters company to about 110 employees, with a plan to employ 500 in the next two to five years.



Hodge and Hamilton at the Laird Superfood ribbon cutting

CRAZY GROWTH, SISTERS STYLE

They expect to continue adding workers and build a 30,000-square-foot warehouse this year, Hodge said. Now Sisters' third-largest employer, when they reach 500, they'd rank nearly in Central Oregon's top ten, ahead of Deschutes Brewery, according to Economic Development for Central Oregon.

The speedy trajectory from startup to global company is significant, said Caprielle Lewis, Sisters Area Director of Economic Development for Central Oregon. "In just a few short years, they've created a sustainable, stable base of family-wage jobs that pay above the average Sisters wage," she said.

All aspects, from research and development to product testing, packaging, sales, marketing and management are done in about 24,500 square feet of space in two buildings in the eight-acre former Clear Pine Business Park, which Laird Superfood owns. Small food businesses typically outsource manufacturing and packaging, but instead the company invested in the property and its own production facility to have better quality control, Hodge said.

Typically, startups (including Hodge's dozen others), hire to meet demand, but this time, the company built a strong executive team first. "This positioned us for the crazy growth we're seeing," he said, plus a less stressful workplace offers time to enjoy Central Oregon's lifestyle perks.

RIDING CORPORATE WAVES

The company took in \$32 million in a private funding round that included the global shared workspace company WeWork. It had seemed the perfect fit—superfoods, from creamers to Hydrate coconut waters—would be fueling tens of thousands of entrepreneurs renting WeWork

"...we're looking to bring clean ingredients back, build a brand that's trusted, and continue to roll out these products across multiple categories."

spaces. After that company's IPO plan failed last year, though, the Sisters company bought back the shares. They're seeking another strategic partner, and targeting the "corporate warrior."

Meanwhile, innovation keeps flowing. In January, they launched a line of plant-based, liquid creamers with nutrient-dense mushrooms. The refrigerated liquid market is ten times larger than powdered beverages, and the company will introduce healthy snacks this year too, Hodge said. Products are carried in thousands of stores, from Whole Foods to Costco, while 60 percent of sales is online.

"We're not just building a coffee creamer or hydration company, we're building the Laird brand, the next large, trusted food brand," Hodge said. "The goal is to be like a Kraft or one of these legacy brands. These larger companies are losing trust from the consumer, and we're looking to bring clean ingredients back, build a brand that's trusted, and continue to roll out these products across multiple categories. It's really endless." ■

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A doctor opens a private urgent care clinic to improve healthcare options in Bend.

INTERVIEW BY KIM COOPER FINDLING



When Dr. Terri Mucha and her family moved to Bend in 2012, her impression was that Central Oregon needed more convenient, lower cost healthcare options. This wasn't a new feeling—she'd felt similarly about other places she'd lived, and practiced medicine, in the United States. After receiving her medical degree from The Ohio State University in 2004, Mucha completed her family medicine residency in Grand Junction, Colorado, and then moved to McCall, Idaho, where she practiced as a full-spectrum, rural physician for five years. It was during her time in Idaho that Mucha began to become passionate about instigating changes in medicine that would improve access to low cost health care for patients, and keep them out of the emergency room. After a few years in Central Oregon, Dr. Mucha went out on her own, launching Family Choice Urgent Care in Bend in December of 2016.

What led to your decision to launch Family Choice Urgent Care?

I have worked for several health systems in my career and one multi-specialty clinic doing both urgent care and emergency medicine. At none of these health care institutions was the focus on the patient. These employers cared more about finances, image and control than they did about doing what was right for the patient. The reason that I became a physician is because I love helping the patient. The reason that we exist in healthcare is the patient.



Somewhere along the way, large healthcare institutions have lost their way and their focus on the patient.

What are the most pressing challenges you see when it comes to urgent care in Central Oregon?

Urgent Care in Central Oregon is much different than urgent care in Portland or San Francisco. Traditional urgent care across the U.S. tends to treat more low-acuity conditions such as cough and colds. In Central Oregon, we do a large number of procedures, due to our recreation base. Our urgent cares

treat orthopedics and do many skin repairs. In addition, there is a strong desire [in Central Oregon] to minimize unnecessary use of the ER. Therefore, we have many patients that present to our urgent cares with high acuity internal medicine conditions: more complex medical cases such as chest pain, pulmonary embolism, kidney disease, head injuries and fractures—illnesses that are more complex than cough and colds and require testing and complex medical decision making.



What are the most common reasons someone seeks urgent care?

They are sick; they have injured themselves mountain biking, skiing, playing a sport, or at school; or they have a skin injury that needs repair.

When is urgent care the best choice for someone needing medical treatment?

If you do not have a life-threatening condition, then urgent care can take care of you. Going to the emergency room for an orthopedic injury, the flu or stitches will cause you to pay over \$3,000 for a visit that would only cost you \$300 in urgent care. Not to mention, you can end up in the ER for hours depending upon the time of day.

After three years, what are the biggest challenges you are facing in your business?

The biggest challenge I face is getting the word out about Family Choice.

People still go to the larger healthcare institutions in town because they are familiar and more advertised.

Family Choice is the lowest cost urgent care in town and is open the longest. When people find themselves sick in the early hours of the morning, or injured at the end of the day, most likely we are open and can take care of them faster than anyone else in town.

How do you see medical care evolving in our region, as the population continues to grow?

As Central Oregon grows, I believe there will be even more demand for an urgent care that is open longer and later. People don't want to go to the emergency room and with today's high deductible insurance plans, it will cost them a fortune if they do. In addition, going to an orthopedic surgeon for most everyday injuries is very

expensive and unnecessary.

Those of us in urgent care need to continue to offer care that is convenient and affordable. In larger cities, urgent cares can be open until 10 or 11 p.m. at night. Central Oregon needs this too. The people of Central Oregon deserve it.

Has anything surprised you during your time as an urgent care provider in Central Oregon?

There is support among the community specialists to help patients avoid the ER. Some specialists such as the vascular surgeons, general surgeons and nephrologists go out of their way to help us manage our patients and take care of them outside of the emergency room. This makes Bend special and different than other medical communities. ■

BY THE NUMBERS

Source: 2019 Central Oregon Regional Health Assessment

4

Trauma designated hospitals in Central Oregon (Bend, Redmond, Madras, Prineville)

6

Number per 1,000 hospitalizations that could have been prevented with timely/effective preventative care (Bend residents)

7

Urgent care centers in Bend (including Mount Bachelor's seasonal location)

50,000 ER visits annually
(average) to the St. Charles Hospital Emergency Department

478 FTE Physicians total in Deschutes County



165 FTE primary care physicians in Deschutes County



7% of the adults who visit the emergency department do so more than four times per year.

16% of adult emergency room visits are for abdominal pain.

30% of the adults who visit the emergency room do so more than once per year



Carly Carmichael
Summit Bank Vice President



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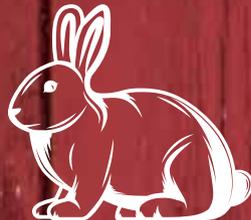


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The



BUNNY
BRIGADE

RAISING RABBITS FOR 4-H COMPETITION KEEPS THESE
TEENS HOPPING ALL YEAR

WRITTEN BY SUZANNE JOHNSON

PHOTOS BY CAROL STERNKOPF







In a hot summer afternoon just weeks before the Deschutes County Fair, Carey Silbough's front yard in Bend was hopping—literally—with a dozen rabbits of various colors and sizes, along with the young women who raised them. It's the June meeting of the Bunny Brigade, a 4-H club devoted to raising rabbits.

Like many teenage girls, they giggle and tease each other as they chat. But their conversation is far from typical. The discussion ranges from the differences between breeds like a Holland Lop and a Netherland Dwarf, to signs that a rabbit is sick. One of the older teens examines the eyes and ears of a friend's rabbit, who seems sluggish. "Add a little Gatorade to his water," she advises, "and feed him some pinecones." In a world where many teens focus on social media and digital lives, animal husbandry is an unusual interest. But for the young women of the Bunny Brigade, raising rabbits is serious business.

The Bunny Brigade is one of several 4-H clubs working with rabbits in Central Oregon. The group has about a dozen members, aged 13 to 19. At monthly meetings with their team leader Silbough, they dive deep into rabbit care, anatomy, breeding and health. They also learn the business side of raising animals, and prepare to show their best rabbits in competitions. Along the way, they gain confidence, resilience and problem-solving skills, and create a community of mentors and friends grounded in a real, unplugged world.

HEAD, HEART, HANDS AND HEALTH: 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Over 870 kids and teens are involved in 4-H groups across Deschutes County, according to Candi Bothum, 4-H Educator. "It's not just about animals—we have clubs for every interest imaginable," Bothum said. Whether it's hiking, photography or animals, the clubs share a few core elements: developing knowledge in one key area, keeping a record book of goals and achievements, and participating in competitions like the county fair. All 4-H activities are open to girls and boys ages 9 to 19; younger kids can join the Clover Buds groups, which don't include competitive events.

Most kids stay involved in their group for several years, explained Bothum, and 4-H becomes a strong influence in their lives. "College professors tell me they can recognize the 4-H kids in the class by their sense of responsibility and their time management," she said.

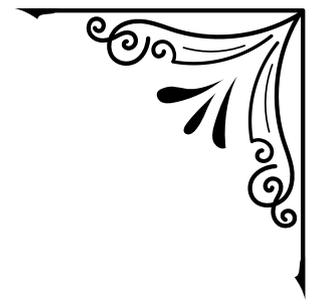
The clubs are part of the Oregon State University Extension Service. Land-grant universities like OSU share the mission of providing community education throughout their states, with gardening and nutrition classes for adults and a wide range of 4-H activities for youth. Since its inception over 100 years ago, 4-H has grown into the largest youth development program outside of public schools.

For kids interested in animals, rabbits have an advantage over larger animals. Sheep, goats and cows require a barn and pasture, but bunnies don't need a lot of space. As Silbough explained, rabbits offer a way for any kid to participate. "You don't have to live on a ranch to do this. One of our kids keeps her rabbit in her bedroom," she said.









RAISING RABBITS, BUILDING RESILIENCE

Destiny Beamer joined 4-H at age 7. Now 19, she's moved on from 4-H but continues to breed and show her rabbits at a professional level, in addition to studying at Cascade Culinary Institute. Last summer, she participated in her twelfth and final county fair, and reminisced about the influence the 4-H rabbit groups had in her life.

"There were a few years in high school that were pretty difficult. My mom had a car crash, I got really sick and I had to change schools a lot. The one stable constant in my life was working with the rabbits and other 4-H projects," Beamer said. "The friends I've met in this community are like an extended family to me," she added, "and they inspired me to help teach the kids just starting out."

Because of an undiagnosed learning disability, Beamer had trouble reading during elementary school. Her desire to gain expertise drove her to keep working through rabbit books, and she taught herself to read years before she learned she is dyslexic. "I learned to speak clearly too, by watching the older kids when they presented to the judges. I did what they did—calm down, slow down and speak up," she said. Most of all, she explained, she learned to problem-solve when answers weren't obvious, and figure out how to make things work—a skill that applies to all parts of her life.

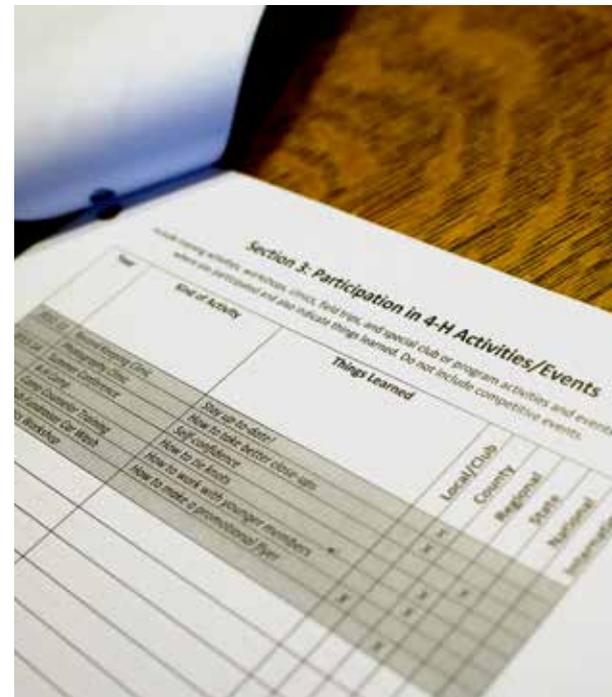
4-H alumna, Destiny Beamer



BUNNY BUSINESS THROUGH THE SEASONS

The winter months allow time for the Bunny Brigade to take stock of their successes at the previous August's fair and start planning for the next year. Each member updates their record books, where they list community service events, budget expenses and income from their rabbits, and lay out their goals for the next season. The record books document years of work and achievement, and track the cashflow for each project to the penny.

By spring, team members evaluate their rabbits with an eye toward the county fair competition. They must decide which to show, which to breed and which to take to market. Selling rabbits at the county fair auction is an important source of income—the rabbits





“We have fun with the competition,
but **WE ALL HELP EACH OTHER**—
that’s what it’s all about.”





Carey Silbough with granddaughter, Cheyenne



often sell for \$130 per pound. Natali Gerdes, 17, clarifies that raising rabbits is not the same as having cuddly pets. “You look at it differently when you breed them as market rabbits. We look for specific qualities, and choose the rabbits to breed for that purpose,” she said. At the 2019 Deschutes County Fair, Gerdes received scholarship funds to grow her business with more rabbits, and was recognized with the Small Animal Sportsmanship Award for helping newer club members.

By early summer, the Bunny Brigade meetings focus on preparing for the county fair, where the girls will show their rabbits in hopes of a ribbon or a sale. They line up behind a table, settling their rabbits on carpet squares as Silbough plays the role of judge, quizzing them on rabbit anatomy and health. They demonstrate how to check the hocks (the heel of the paw pad, which can easily become infected), check for mites (blow gently on the fur to expose the skin) and check for malocclusion (pull back the lips to verify the teeth line up).

Once the fair begins, Silbough has high expectations for the Bunny Brigade. But she’s watching for teamwork and effort, not wins or losses. The Bunny Brigade policy is to be the last to leave the barn each day, staying to help and clean until all teams have finished. “I don’t care what color ribbon any of us take home. The fair is a chance for our whole team to shine,” Silbough said.

Her granddaughter, Cheyenne Silbough, echoes that viewpoint. As a Bunny Brigade member for several years, she’s won dozens of ribbons, yet is more eager to show her record book as a way to share her successes. As she explained, “The fair is a competition, and getting a ribbon is a reward for your work, but really we are more like a big family. We have fun with the competition, but we all help each other—that’s what it’s all about.” **B**

JUMP IN

Know a kid eager to join a 4-H club, or an adult interested in volunteering? Getting involved is just a phone call away, according to Candi Bothum, Deschutes County 4-H Educator.

While the OSU Extension website (Extension.Oregonstate.edu/4H) provides an overview of 4-H in each county, the best way to learn about specific clubs and activities is to call the Deschutes 4-H at 541-548-6088.

The Deschutes County OSU Extension office, based in Redmond, organizes local programs that range from specific clubs to school enrichment activities to leadership retreats. 4-H is open to all youth, from kindergarten through high school.





PHOTO PETE ALPORT
SKIER SAGE CATTABRICA ALOSA



SPRING ON THE SLOPES

Fair-weather skiers rejoice the return of Oregon's ideal conditions

WRITTEN BY BRONTE DOD

For some, spring skiing is the reward for suffering through the worst of winter skiing conditions. So long to whiteout days and rime iced goggles. Hello to powder mornings, bluebird skies and loosening up your ski boots while you sip a bloody mary on the lodge deck at the end of a long day on the mountain. Oregon has some of the best spring skiing conditions in the Pacific Northwest. Between Bachelor's expansive terrain, Timberline's elevation and Anthony Lakes' powder, there is no shortage of options to choose from wherever you are in the state. It's time to lose a few layers and get to the mountain.



MOUNT BACHELOR

With more than 210 inches of snowfall and counting, Mt. Bachelor Ski Resort headed into February boasting the highest level of snowfall for the 2019-2020 season in the state, though it's still a bummer for those who took advantage of the 600-plus-inch winter just a few years ago. But as they say, it's quality that matters over quantity, and what Bachelor may miss in inches this year it certainly makes up for in light, fluffy powder, clear skies and more terrain available than you can ski in a day. Spring hosts prime conditions at Bachelor for the diehard fans who camp out for first chair as well as for first timers. There's plenty of space to explore on Bachelor, and spring is the time to do it.



OPEN

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily through April 26
(Nordic Center opens at 8:30 a.m.)
8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. daily from April 27
through May 24 (West Village Lodge only)

LIFT TICKETS & PASSES

Adult \$92-\$109
Teen/Senior \$74-\$98
Youth/Senior+ \$64-\$72
Multi-day Tickets \$104-\$404

TUBING TICKETS

Adult \$25-\$45
Youth \$20-\$35

SPRING EVENTS

SKIBIKE FEST

Hoodoo Ski Area
March 6-8

Hoodoo's Skibike Fest highlights one of the alternative sports that's gaining in popularity in Central Oregon. The ski area allows full-mountain access to skibiking, and this event is for those who want to learn and for those who want to test their skills.

SNOW BLAST

Anthony Lakes Mountain Resort
March 7

The annual spring event at Anthony Lakes brings out the crowds for live music and more at the lodge. Hang out during the day and stay for the fireworks show that night.

10 BARREL LOCALS ONLY

Mt. Bachelor
March 14

Head to Skyliner lift for beer, live music and demos all day.



ANTHONY LAKES MOUNTAIN RESORT



PHOTO FACING PAGE JILL ROSELL,
THIS PAGE ALYSSA HENRY

If you know, you know. The base of Anthony Lakes Mountain Resort sits at 7,100 feet—and the conditions just get better from there. It's the highest base in Oregon, and the resort has some of the lightest powder you'll find in the state. A five-hour drive from Bend, Anthony Lakes is worth turning into a multi-day ski trip to make the most of the weather, terrain and great prices. Don't let the one-chair stat fool you—Anthony Lakes may be a hometown ski hill, but there are a handful of black diamond trails that can challenge seasoned riders. Overall, the diversity of trails makes this resort suited for all levels, and the local vibe will have you feeling at home on the slopes. If you have kids, check out Anthony Lakes' Spring Break Camp. It includes five days of lift tickets, rentals and lessons for \$150. It's an incredible deal, and a great way to introduce kids to the sport.

OPEN

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursdays to Sundays

TICKETS & PASSES

Adult \$29-\$40

Student \$20-\$29

Child \$17-\$21

6 & under and 70 & older Free

Bonus: Half price lift tickets every Thursday

APRÈS SKI BASH: HAWTHORNE ROOTS

The Commons, downtown Bend

March 20

After a day on the mountain, head to downtown Bend for a free concert from Hawthorne Roots. All ages are welcome, and passholders get \$1 drink discounts.

SPRING BREW FEST

Mt. Hood Meadows

March 21

Get your fill of craft beer at Mt. Hood Meadows' Spring Brew Fest. Held on the deck of the Meadows lodge, the event also has live music and raffles.

FRIDAY NIGHT MUSIC SERIES

Hoodoo Ski Area

Through March 27

From 5 to 8 p.m. each Friday this season, Hoodoo offers its fantastic Friday Night Music Series. Take advantage of the night skiing, then stick around for the after party with live music.



HOODOO SKI AREA

Carved into a hillside outside of Sisters, Hoodoo Ski Area is much more than a local's ski hill. With five lifts and dozens of trails to explore, the ski area boasts some top-notch skiing. Head to Hoodoo this spring if you're looking for a skiing experience for your whole family. Plus, Hoodoo offers the only night skiing option in Central Oregon. For those that don't want to ski but still want to enjoy the snow and good weather in the spring, Hoodoo also offers tubing.

OPEN

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily
Night Skiing 3:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday to Saturday

LIFT TICKETS & PASSES

Adult \$29-\$61
Junior/Senior+ \$18-\$38
Kids 7 and under Free
Easy Rider Lift Ticket \$25
Hoodoo Anycard: 5 single-day lift tickets for \$249

SPRING EVENTS

MAZOT FEST

Mt. Hood Meadows
April 4

This fundraiser is held at The Mazot, a mid-mountain hut and a perfect spot to grab something to eat and drink while you take a break from the slopes. There will be a short slalom course that anyone can race as many times as they want to raise money for the Meadows Avy Dogs.

SISTERS IN ACTION SPORTS SNOW DAY

Timberline Lodge & Ski Area
April 4

Women are invited to join the annual Sisters in Actions Sports Snow Day at Timberline. It's a community-building event for skiers and snowboarders of all ages and abilities. There are discounted tickets, rentals and lessons, as well as vendors and demos, group rides and awesome prizes.

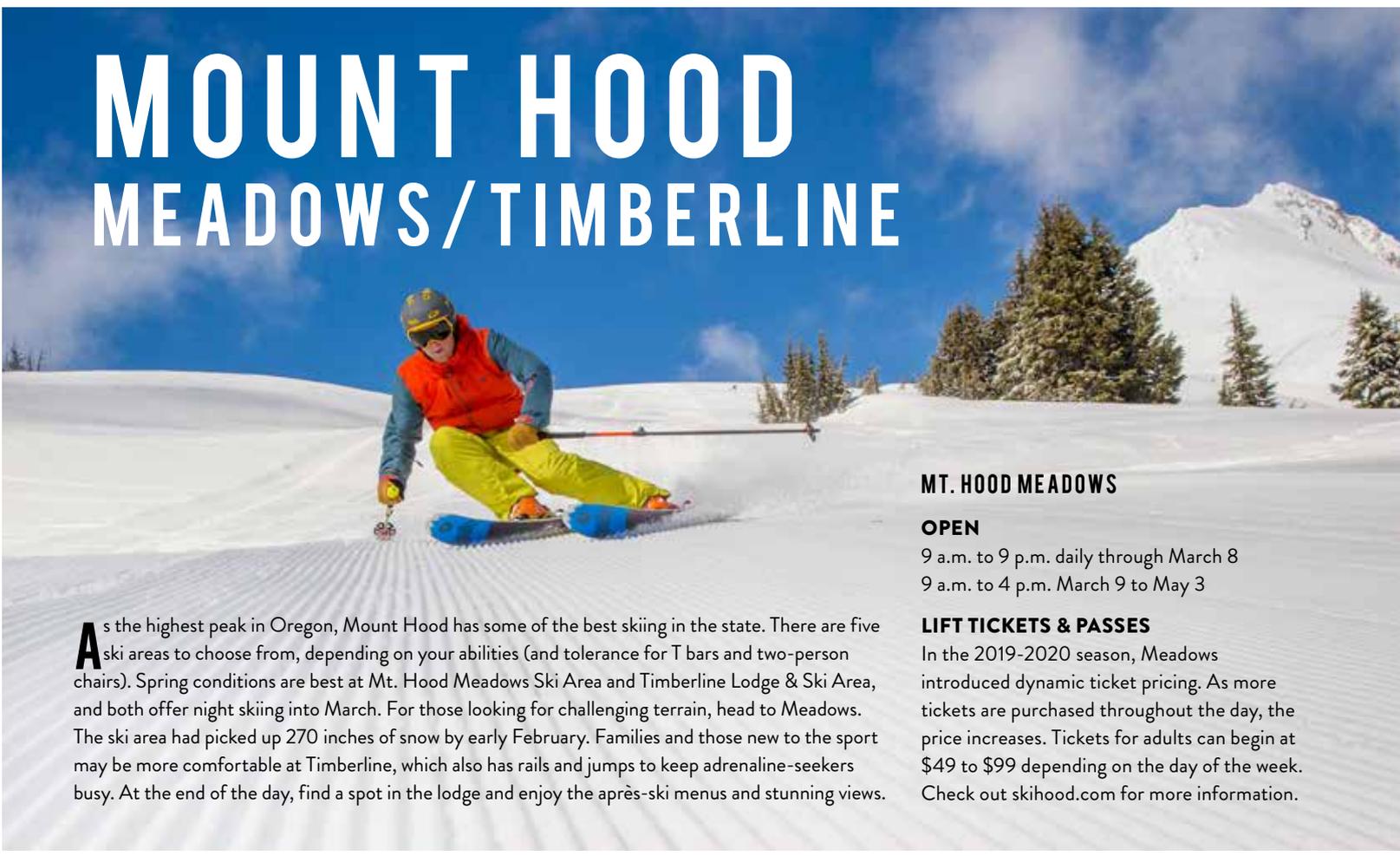
APRÈS SKI BASH: JOYTRIBE

The Commons, downtown Bend
April 10

Funk band Joytribe will close out Bachelor's Après Ski Bash series. Get downtown for this outdoor concert and party that's open to all ages.

MOUNT HOOD MEADOWS/TIMBERLINE

PHOTO FACING PAGE TYLER ROEMER, THIS PAGE TOP RICHARD HALLMAN, MIDDLE COURTESY TIMBERLINE LODGE, BOTTOM JOE KLINE



As the highest peak in Oregon, Mount Hood has some of the best skiing in the state. There are five ski areas to choose from, depending on your abilities (and tolerance for T bars and two-person chairs). Spring conditions are best at Mt. Hood Meadows Ski Area and Timberline Lodge & Ski Area, and both offer night skiing into March. For those looking for challenging terrain, head to Meadows. The ski area had picked up 270 inches of snow by early February. Families and those new to the sport may be more comfortable at Timberline, which also has rails and jumps to keep adrenaline-seekers busy. At the end of the day, find a spot in the lodge and enjoy the après-ski menus and stunning views.

MT. HOOD MEADOWS

OPEN

9 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily through March 8
9 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 9 to May 3

LIFT TICKETS & PASSES

In the 2019-2020 season, Meadows introduced dynamic ticket pricing. As more tickets are purchased throughout the day, the price increases. Tickets for adults can begin at \$49 to \$99 depending on the day of the week. Check out skihood.com for more information.



TIMBERLINE

OPEN

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily
Night skiing open Friday and Saturday
nights until March 7

LIFT TICKETS & PASSES

Adult \$33-\$75
Teens \$33-\$65
Junior/Senior \$33-\$49
Bruno's Chair \$39-\$41

SUITS AND BOOTS

Mt. Hood Meadows
April 11

Meadows' biggest party of the year takes place in April. Suits and Boots takes place all day at the ski resort. Those who arrive in a swimsuit can get \$10 lift tickets.

FINALE WEEKEND

Mt. Bachelor

DATE TBD (usually Memorial Day Weekend)

Send off a great ski season at Mt. Bachelor's Finale Weekend. Enjoy the warm weather and spring skiing conditions at this all-weekend bash, complete with drinks, barbecues, music and prizes. The season is usually capped off with the annual Pond Skim, which is always worth the drive up to the mountain to at least watch.



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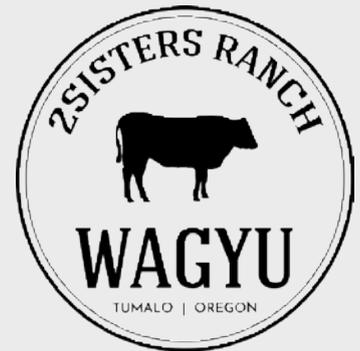
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PIZZA

PALATE

SLICE, SLICE

Baby

Finding your next favorite pizza in Central Oregon is easy as pie

WRITTEN BY NANCY PATTERSON

In Central Oregon, pizza might be said to be a melting pot. Bend may not be known for any particular style of pizza, but locals and transplants have brought a variety of techniques from their travels across the U.S. and beyond. Do you prefer your pizza 'party cut' (round pizza cut into squares) or served in an 'isosceles' (the perfect slice from a perfectly round pizza)? Maybe you seek a slice with the ideal 'cheese pull' (the tantalizing stretch of cheese when pulling two slices apart), or a piece that won't 'avalanche' (when all of the toppings fall off as you pick up the slice). After scouring peaks and buttes, we think we've found some seriously noteworthy pies.





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BOONE DOG

Sisters

FOR THE MOTHER OF ALL PRESTIGIOUSLY decorated pizza pies, head north to Sisters. Boone Dog Pizza, a food cart on Hood Avenue, has created the Quattro Formaggi, a garlic-and-cream-based pizza loaded up with every kind of specialty cheese you could imagine. Cascadia Creamery's finest are showcased, including their Sleeping Beauty, Glacier Blue, the milder Sawtooth or a Bellweather Farms ricotta.

Apprehensive about the distinctive blue cheese aroma? Fret not. Cascadia Creamery describes their Glacier Blue as the "gateway blue." Buttery Sleeping Beauty is a fantastic complement to its cream-based sauce, while the ricotta offers a balance to toppings of sliced red onions, Castel Vetrano olives and fresh thyme. Balsamic reduction drizzle completes the acidity slice of the pie, curating umami with each savory bite. Flock to their cart early in the day, as they tend to sell out before 6 p.m.



PISANO'S

Tumalo

WHEN YOU WANT A PIZZA that can pass for a salad, go for the Prosciutto e Pomodorini. This pie starts out as a classico wood-fired pizza; hand-tossed dough is covered in crushed San Marzano tomatoes and topped with fresh mozzarella slices. After this beauty is pulled from the oven, it's loaded with prosciutto slices, heaps of arugula, cherry tomatoes and hearty shavings of parmesan cheese. We're fairly certain this counts as your serving of greens for the day.

Pisano's, located in the heart of Tumalo, is stacked full of cut lumber for fueling their stone oven. Aside from a multitude of fifteen-inch blanco and rosso pies, the roadside pizzeria offers Italian favorites such as Zeppoli (fried pizza dough tossed in cinnamon and sugar), "insanely good" cheesecake, as well as clever beer and wine idioms scribbled in chalkboard pen.



OLDE TOWNE PIZZA COMPANY *Bend*



REMEMBER THOSE HOMETOWN PIZZERIAS with red and white checkered tablecloths, neon signs, a fresh salad bar and a jukebox? They were our go-to Friday nights and when Mom didn't want to cook. For twenty years, Olde Towne Pizza Company has been serving family favorites at their Greenwood location.

The Stromboli is arguably the best pie on their menu, loaded with classic pepperoni, thinly sliced white onion, green bell peppers and Italian sausage. A robust crust, made with hand-thrown dough, holds up the weight of each slice, packed with traditional marinara and hot, gooey cheese. Terry Parker, owner, operator and full-time pizza maker, believes in consistent quality and service for his dedicated customer base. Crust lovers, choose from Original, Chicago, New York (thin), or New York City (extra thin) when ordering your pie.

GRACE & HAMMER *Redmond*



THE PIZZAIOLI (AKA PIZZA MAKERS) of Grace & Hammer elevate the white pizza sauce game with their bechamel-based pie, Propriety. French butter sauce delivers a slightly more sophisticated spin on the classic Alfredo sauce, most often used for blanco pies. Propriety starts with a housemade bechamel, topped with fresh mozzarella and goat's milk feta cheese. Chefs Pio Valensin and Adam Valentine chose button mushrooms to grace this pie atop the cheese and sourdough crust. After the pie emerges from their monstrous steel oven, it's dressed with extra virgin olive oil, salt and pepper. For a pop of color and peppery bite, it's finished with a handful of fresh arugula. For a match made in non-denominational heaven, pair this pie with signature cocktail Three Finger Jack—Maker's Mark whiskey, local smoked honey, orange bitters and Oregon cherry.

JACKSON'S CORNER *Bend*



WHAT STARTED AS A WEEKLY SPECIAL has become a permanent fixture—the Honey Pie. Jackson's Corner uses locally-sourced ingredients and naturally leavened dough for their pizza. For over twenty-four hours, the sourdough is left to rise using a generation starter created over five years ago, allowing the dough to rise without commercial yeast additives and accounting for its remarkable flavor.

This sweet-meets-savory pie is made using Home Farm Foods pork sausage, mascarpone cheese, sliced jalapeños, wildflower honey from Bend and house-made marinara. The omission of mozzarella for creamy mascarpone allows the house-seasoned sausage to bring a briny, salty element. The sweetness from local honey, drizzled over each slice, harmoniously balances out the heat from fresh jalapeños. **|B|**

PHOTO ALEX JORDAN

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LOCAL
FLAVOR



DINING

Craving Carnaval

Downtown Redmond gets more festive with new Mexican grill

WRITTEN BY TERESA RISTOW | PHOTOS BY TAMBILANE

Opening Carnaval Mexican Grill in downtown Redmond in November has been a series of pleasant surprises for owner Yadira Medina, who runs the restaurant along with her husband and head chef, Emmanuel. “It’s been amazing,” she said. “We’ve been blessed.”

Both Yadira and Emmanuel were born in Mexico—she in Mexico City and he in Jalisco—but moved to the United States when they were young and met in the food service industry in Redmond more than fourteen years ago. While Emmanuel always dreamed of running his own restaurant, it was only recently the couple found themselves wanting to take charge of their future and open Carnaval.

The restaurant draws from the couple’s roots but sets itself apart from other Mexican restaurants with a unique menu, a modern dining room with touches of history and a smoky selection of Mezcal-based drinks.

Since Carnaval’s soft opening in mid-November, Medina said she’s been impressed with how vibrant Redmond’s downtown is becoming. Carnaval is located at 343 SW Sixth Street, next door to the reimagined Odem Theater Pub and a quick walk from the newly reopened Redmond Hotel. “I was surprised to see how busy downtown is,” Medina said.

The Medinas and nephew Angel Buenrostro together developed the menu, adding favorite recipes, like the crispy fried pork chicharones and the carnitas de puerco, slow cooked pork that falls apart on your fork, paired with the usual sides and served with hand pressed tortillas. “As a little girl, my dad always made the carnitas with the chicharones,” Medina said. The restaurant works its way through twenty pounds of masa for tortillas each day, serving up salsa with tortillas, rather than chips, when guests arrive.

Among the unique menu offerings are grilled octopus—a menu addition from Buenrostro—and the ensalada de nopales, a cactus salad with cherry tomatoes, pickled onions, cucumber pepitas and crispy tortillas. Medina also recommends the torta ahogada. A dish native to Jalisco, it’s a big bun smothered in tomato sauce with beans, carnitas, and pickled onions and radishes.

A longtime bartender comfortable in the front of the house, Medina is proud of the restaurant’s drink menu, with several options using mezcal, a Mexican liquor sometimes referred to as tequila’s smoky cousin. Chili is sprinkled on the rim of the pink blood orange mezcal margarita, a cocktail with fresh orange juice that is not too sweet and pairs well with the carnitas.

The biggest surprise for Medina is the reception from the



*“People said they like the
vibe here. That it’s warm
and comforting.”*

community. On a snowy Monday night in January, a steady trickle of new and repeat customers arrived at the restaurant through dinner time. “People said they like the vibe here. That it’s warm and comforting,” Medina said.

Part of that vibe comes from the design of the dining room, with clean, bright walls and wood shelves reclaimed from a historic hospital building on Deschutes Avenue in Redmond. “We’ll salvage older buildings and try to reuse the same material and bring it back to life,” said Vladimir Aslamov, who runs contractor-design company NGrained, LLC with his wife, Kaci. Aslamov said the Carnaval space had plain white walls and gray floors before the husband-wife team was hired to transform it. “It was a really great project,” he said.

A couple of months after opening, Medina is already looking toward the future at Carnaval, and has modest plans for the restaurant to give back by contributing a portion of its proceeds to charitable organizations, both in Central Oregon and back home in Mexico. The restaurant is setting aside profits from the first customer each day, and will donate them monthly. The first recipient was a group helping underprivileged children in Mexico that had reached out to Medina. “These children were so excited,” Medina said. **B**



Carnaval Mexican Grill

343 SW 6th St., Redmond
11am-10pm weekdays, 9am-10pm, with
breakfast, weekends
541-316-6960

Bottle Service

CRATER LAKE SPIRITS' ROCK & RYE MIXES IT UP

Bendistillery, owner and creator of Crater Lake Spirits, has released its signature Rock & Rye, a ready-to-serve cocktail made with rye whiskey, Crater Lake's original bitters recipe and hints of blood orange and dark cherry. Traditional Rock & Rye dates back to the early 1900s as a shot of rye whiskey poured over rock candy. The concoction declined in popularity for nearly 100 years until it made a comeback in the late 2010s. Complexity and balance from its citrus-forward characteristics, followed by a hint of cinnamon spice, allow for a smooth sipping experience anywhere from camping to dinner parties.

Served over ice will suffice, but its flavor profiles can jazz up your evening nightcap. The resurrection of this pre-prohibition era libation brings a sophistication amongst the Millennial crowd whose collective gusto for infused whiskey has included the likes of Fireball and other cinnamon-laden dark liquors. Rock & Rye is currently available in liquor stores throughout the Pacific Northwest or at either of their two tasting rooms in Bend. For the ultimate sip-and-chill experience, try the signature cocktail co-curated by yours truly.

– Nancy Patterson, @eatdrinkbend

RYE OH MY

In a tall glass over ice

2 oz Rock & Rye

4 oz Ablis CBD sparkling lemon water (or substitute with a non-CBD alternative)

Fresh grapefruit juice

Squeeze and garnish with fresh lemon



EAT EXPLORE CENTRAL OREGON



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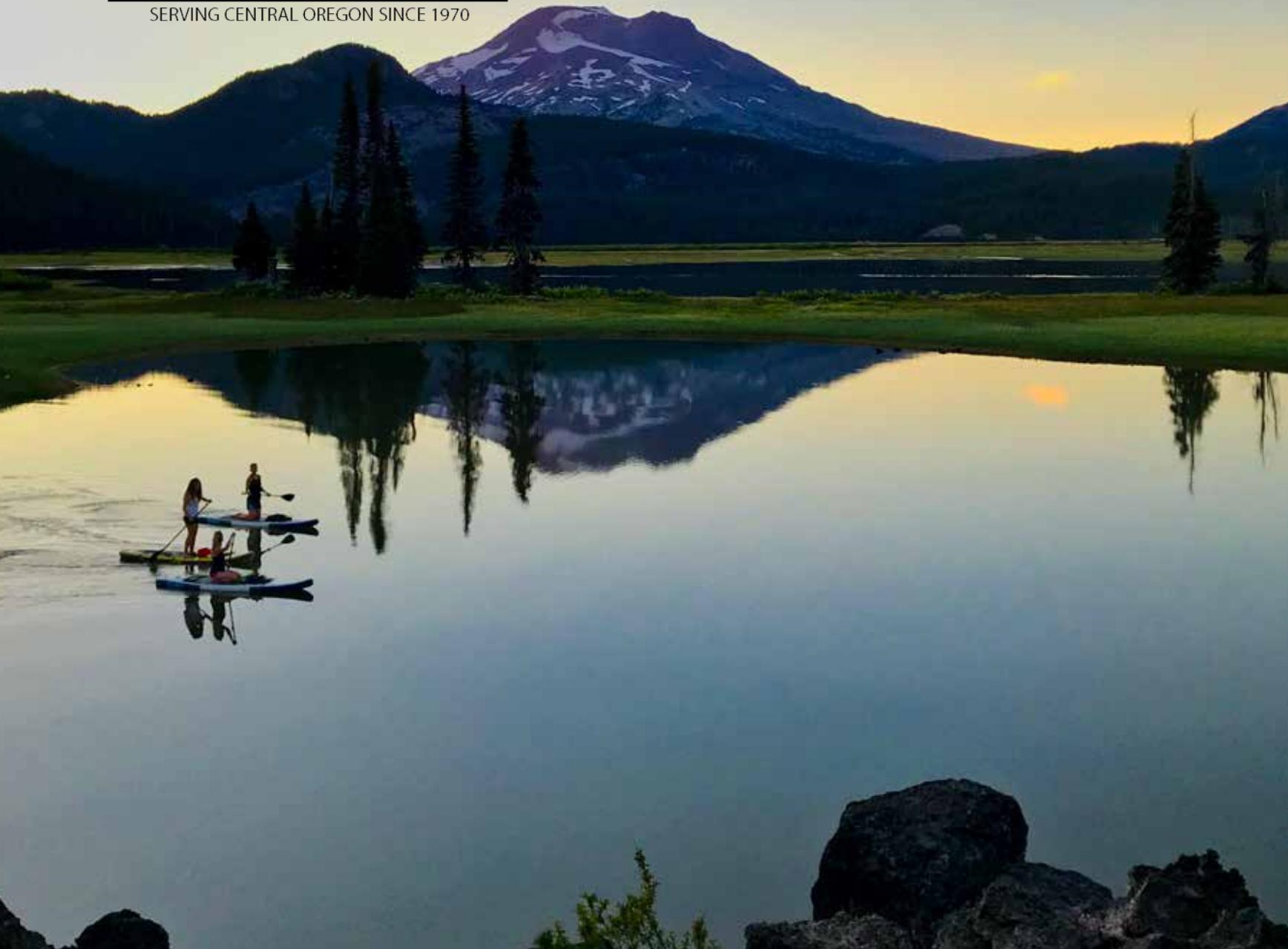


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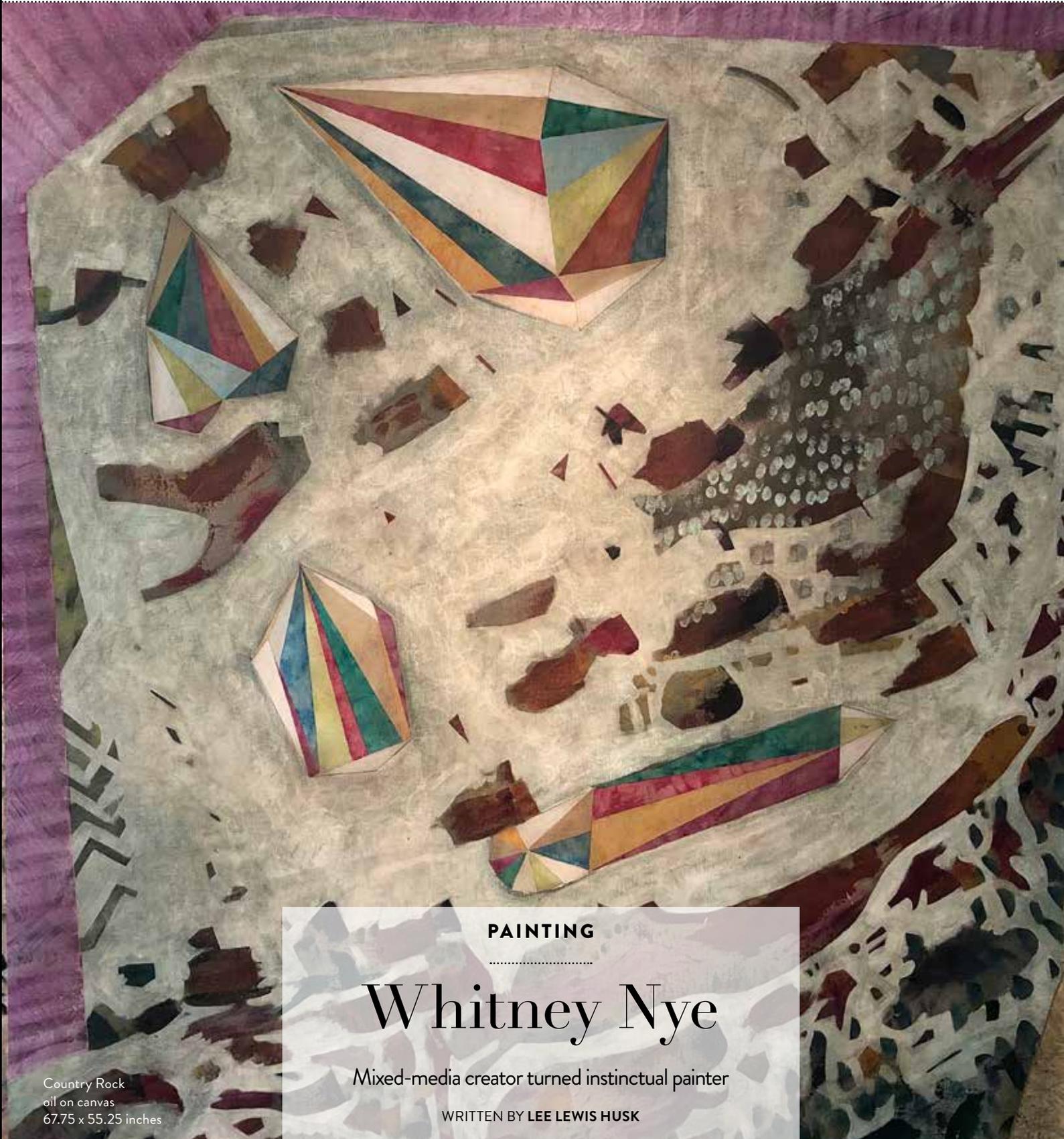


PHOTO AARON JOHANSON

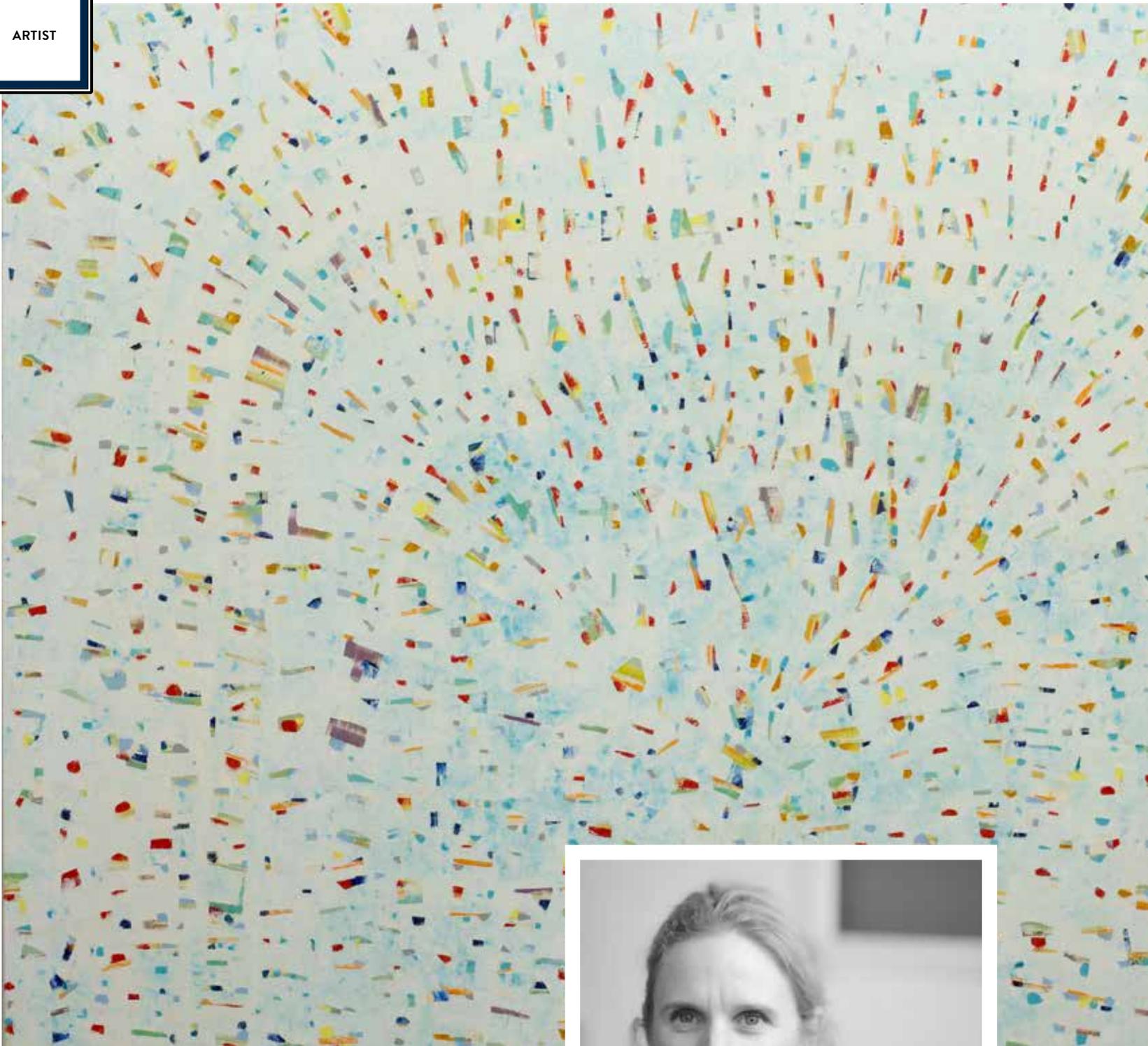
Country Rock
oil on canvas
67.75 x 55.25 inches

PAINTING

Whitney Nye

Mixed-media creator turned instinctual painter

WRITTEN BY LEE LEWIS HUSK



When Whitney Nye begins a painting, she never knows where her muse will take her. “I don’t start out with an idea,” she said. Instead, she follows the creative impulse wherever it leads her.

This instinctual style of painting has resulted in a large body of abstract and sometimes rhythmic paintings exhibited in galleries and museums across the United States. Her work is also found in many private and public collections, including the Jordan Schnitzer Museum, Eugene; Vanderbilt Medical Center, Nashville; Swedish Hospital, Seattle; and Oregon Health & Science University, Portland.



PHOTO INSET SHERRI DITTMAN KAVEN,
TOP AND FACING PAGE AARON JOHANSON



Lodestar
oil on canvas
52.75 x 74 inches



Draw Lots
oil on canvas
69 x 62 inches

“When I’m working, I’m in the piece and lose track of time. It’s a reactionary experience.”

Nye’s mother and maternal grandmother were early DIY adopters, teaching her resourcefulness and fostering the idea that “if you need something, you can make it,” she said. Both women sewed their own and their children’s clothes. Textiles and fabric design was baked into the young Nye’s genes. When she headed to college at the University of Oregon in the 1980s, she “couldn’t stay out of the department’s textile weaving and dying areas,” she recalled.

A textile teacher at UO surprised her with a summer scholarship at Penland School in North Carolina, an international hub for craft education and creativity. After graduation from UO, Nye returned to the Penland School for a two-year fellowship where she could work in any medium. While there, she built a kiln, learned metalworking and woodworking and said she “dabbled in it all.” The experience was formative and she built

relationships with other artists, as well as giving her familiarity with numerous materials she’d one day apply to her art.

In 1993, the Oregon College of Art and Craft in Portland offered her a residency, and she was soon working out of studio space in the Pearl District where artists were flocking. Some of her early work included large-scale installation art, sculptures and mixed media pieces incorporating her grandmother’s buttons, sewing patterns and ephemera. But her mother, Juanita Nye, an artist who studied with Portland sculptor Mel Katz, encouraged her daughter to try painting, a medium she had yet to explore.

Martha Lee, owner of Portland’s Russo Lee Gallery which has represented Nye since the early 2000s said, “Whitney has done sculpture and mixed-media-based work but has primarily been painting for the past several years, always with a level of abstraction using pattern and repetition.”

“She’s got an amazing sense of color,” Lee added. “A lot of people respond to her color, and although her work is abstract, there are many references to the natural world. Many of our clients are seasoned gallery goers, and Whitney’s work has something they can grab onto and recognize and put their own experience to.”

She’s currently participating in a group show, “A New State of Matter,” at the Grand Rapids Art Museum, featuring artists who incorporate glass in their work. She has an upcoming exhibit in August and September at the Newport Visual Arts Center at Nye Beach. She’s curious about whether she’s related to the “Nye” of Nye Beach and will work with the local historical society to find out.

After many years of living and creating art in Portland, Nye returned to Bend in 2018 where she’d spent much of her youth. She has a small studio but her approach to painting almost demands a large space where she can staple as many as five unstretched canvases to the wall or spread them on the floor. “I like to be physical, close up and far away from a piece, using a variety of tools to add or take away textures and layers,” she said.

“When I’m working, I’m in the piece and lose track of time. It’s a reactionary experience. I make a mark and another mark and can get obsessive in the process, and I have to know when to get off the train,” she said, adding that she stays true to what’s interesting to her. “If a painting isn’t authentic, I’ll abandon it.” ■

Whitney Nye’s work will be on display at Bend Magazine’s offices in March and April, and featured each month in conjunction with downtown’s First Friday Art Walk.

To see more of her work, go to WHITNEYNYE.COM, [Instagram @WHITNEYNYE](https://www.instagram.com/whitneynye) or RUSSOLEEGALLERY.COM

POLITICS

Stories For Our Time

A captivating and important memoir and political nonfiction book from a first-time author

WRITTEN BY BRONTE DOD

I read *No Option But North*, a new memoir and political nonfiction book from first-time Bend author Kelsey Freeman, days after finishing the controversial new novel *American Dirt*. Both books tackle the perilous migration journey from Mexico and Central America to the United States, but only one has stuck with me.

Fiction can have its own truth, but the gut-punch of Freeman's research and interviews, conducted during her time as a Fulbright scholar in Central Mexico in 2016, is impossible to ignore. These stories don't have the same ribbon-tied ending as fiction, and interwoven between are important cultural and political context as well as Freeman's own history and complicated feelings about her privilege. The result is a book that makes the reader feel present for these stories.

Freeman is a captivating writer, and some of her observations—describing one migrant she interviewed as “tired enough to seem boneless”—show the depth of her raw talent and how acutely and compassionately she saw the migrants she interviewed for her book.

She wrote that she purposely avoids “the sort of immersion journalism that pretends that observing the migration phenomenon doesn't affect it,” and carefully dissects the culture and politics that surrounds the narratives. It all belies her age; Freeman is just 26 and graduated from Bowdoin College in 2016. She had previously studied abroad in Mexico and worked on a research project in the Yucatan Peninsula.

Her research and writing is also influenced by her grandmother, who she dedicates the book to. Her grandmother was a German Jew who migrated to Italy and then America in the 20th century. She would tell Freeman

stories from her experiences often, and Freeman found similarities in her research and interviews in Mexico. “It connects in ways that I feel intimately,” Freeman said in an interview over the phone.

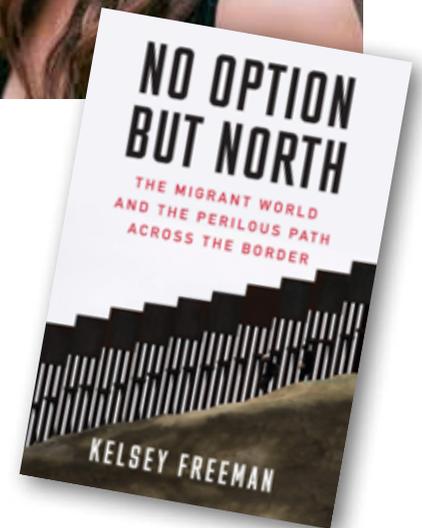
Freeman confronts her own privilege head-on throughout the book. Within the first few pages, she parses through why she would be allowed a visa to study indigenous rights while the people she was talking to weren't allowed visas to visit their families in the United States. “This privilege was a bitter, viscous taste in my mouth,” she writes at the end of her book.

“The essential goal and premise of my book was not to ignore the power dynamics at play, but to name them,” Freeman told me. “I think we do nothing by pretending those dynamics aren't there.”

The reader can feel Freeman's anger simmering beneath the surface of her writing. This blend of activism and journalism is vital to this story and makes it powerful. “I don't aim to keep my own views out,” Freeman said. “What I'm trying to do with the book is connect structural inadequacies and injustices with lived realities and stories. When you're talking about all that, it's impossible not to be political.”

The book also contains black and white images of migrants who were passing through the migration center in Central Oregon. Taken by photojournalist (and Freeman's sister) Tess Freeman, the images are powerful additions to the book, but Freeman's writing and observations could stand on their own and be effective without them.

Today, Freeman works in the Office of Diversity and Inclusion at Central Oregon Community College in Bend. She plans to keep



“The essential goal and premise of my book was not to ignore the power dynamics at play; but to name them.”

writing about migration and other social and political issues while she continues working in Central Oregon.

No Option But North: The migrant world and the perilous path across the border will release April 14 from IG Publishing. Find it at independent bookstores like Roundabout Books in Bend and online at IndieBound and Amazon. Freeman will be at Roundabout Books for an author event Friday, May 15. **IB**

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■ makers

Shop Local at Artisan Co-op in Madras

NEW DOWNTOWN SPACE FEATURES HANDCRAFTED PRODUCTS

A new artisan co-op is open in downtown Madras, allowing more than thirty-five local artisans to display their handcrafted products, including Madras souvenirs, for sale. The volunteer-run shop doubles as an office for the Madras Downtown Association and was opened with support from the Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council, as part of the organization's efforts in economic development. The products are great for locals and travelers alike and include soaps and bath soaks, jewelry, candles, locally roasted coffee and blended tea, nuts, honey, leather and bead work and books by local authors.

"We really wanted to promote shopping local, shopping locally made and showcase items that boost community pride," said Holli Paposodora, board member with the Madras Downtown Association. The 5th Street Co-Op, located at 191 SW 5th St., is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays.



■ education

Artists-in-Residence

NATIONAL ART INSTRUCTION PROGRAM EXPANDING IN CENTRAL OREGON

More artists could be visiting Bend-La Pine Schools this year as part of a growing program that aims to connect students with working artists. Young Audiences of Oregon and Southwest Washington launched its Central Oregon program during the 2018-19 school year with three artists. Future Filmworks of Bend worked with fourth-graders at Bear Creek Elementary to create a short film which was later shown at BendFilm Festival, ninth graders from Madras High School crafted spoken word poems with Bend's MOsley WOtta and artist Rachel Lee Carman taught elementary students in La Pine and Redmond about self-expression through illustration.

In December, ten additional artists completed training with Young Audiences to prepare for classroom visits in 2020. The program helps bolster arts education by offering instruction for schools without full-time art teachers or offering a new expertise to schools with art teachers. The residencies are paid for by the schools, though sometimes are supported by grants and fundraising. Interested in getting involved? Learn how at YA-OR.ORG

■ books

Nonfiction Finalists

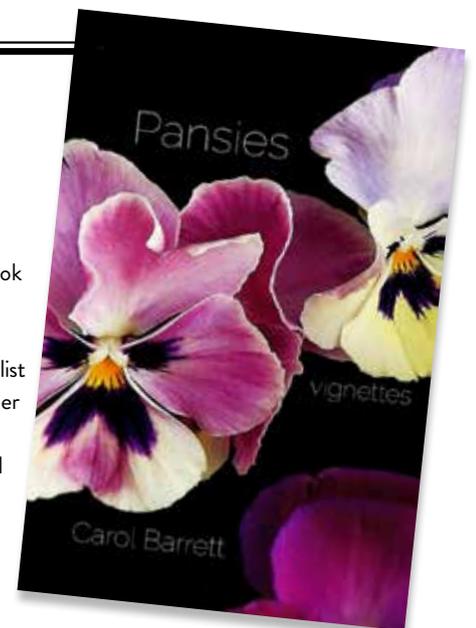
TWO BEND AUTHORS NOMINATED FOR OREGON BOOK AWARDS

Cross your fingers for two Bend writers who are among a few dozen authors nominated for this year's Oregon Book Awards, an annual contest recognizing writers of poetry, fiction, graphic literature, drama, literature for young readers, and literary nonfiction.

Poet Carol Barrett, who occasionally teaches a creative writing class at Central Oregon Community College, is a finalist in the general nonfiction category for her book, *Pansies*. The book's thirty vignettes illustrate the story of Barrett and her daughter, and the relationship they formed with an Apostolic Lutheran babysitter, Abigail.

In the creative nonfiction category, Bend's Beth Alvarado is nominated for *Anxious Attachments*, her book of personal essays about her life over the last forty years, exploring personal struggles like quitting heroin, caring for preemies and losing her husband to cancer. Alvarado moved to Bend permanently in 2016 and is part of the faculty at OSU-Cascades Low Residency MFA Program.

Winners will be announced in late April in Portland. Learn more about the awards at LITERARY-ARTS.ORG



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MARCH

4

BEND

AUTHOR! AUTHOR! MICHAEL POLLAN

Michael Pollan is the author of multiple books that have become cultural phenomena, including *The Omnivore's Dilemma* and most recently *How to Change Your Mind*. Get your tickets now to see him speak this month as part of the Deschutes Public Library Foundation's Author! Author! Series.

5-8

BEND

MUSE CONFERENCE

The eighth annual Muse Conference takes place this month, and for four days Bend will be filled with a diverse group of activists, academics, athletes, authors, entrepreneurs and leaders to celebrate women and discuss important topics. Hear from the speakers and join the conversations with peers around the region.

14

LA PINE CRAB FEED

Dig in at the annual Crab Feed in La Pine. The all-day event takes place at the La Pine Community Center. It's a fundraiser for La Pine Frontier Days, a favorite Fourth of July event in the region. A \$40 ticket gets you all-you-can-eat crab and more. Tickets sell out and won't be sold at the door.



6-8

HOODOO SKI AREA HOODOO BACKCOUNTRY FESTIVAL & SKIBIKE FESTIVAL

There are more ways than ever to enjoy the snow. Hoodoo celebrates all of it, from free-heel skiing to snow scoots, at the annual Backcountry and Skibike festivals. Demo new gear and take part in workshops from experts—you might just find your new favorite snow sport. There's also craft beer, a costume contest and more.



12-15

REDMOND

CENTRAL OREGON SPORTSMEN'S SHOW

Whether you live to hunt, fish, camp or boat, the Central Oregon Sportsmen's Show has the vendors and presentations for whatever sport you choose. Check out the outdoor retailers and outfitters to get inspired to get outside. There are food and drink vendors on site as well as chances to win some big prizes.

13-14

BEND

JAZZ AT THE OXFORD: PATRICK LAMB

Patrick Lamb is a saxophonist and one of the youngest members inducted into the Oregon Hall of Fame. The jazz legend has a burgeoning solo career and can be found in Bend performing for the Jazz at the Oxford series this month. Catch him on Friday or Saturday night at the downtown Bend hotel.

13-15

MT. BACHELOR

CASCADE CREST

Nordic skiing athletes can test their skills and speed at the annual Cascade Crest Nordic Ski Marathon and Relay. There's a course suitable for every level of skier. Grab your friends and build a team for the relay or try it out solo. The event will have vendors and a post-race party in downtown Bend.

14

BEND

CENTRAL OREGON GOLF SHOW

Swing into the spring golf season at the Central Oregon Golf Show. Held at Riverhouse on the Deschutes, the event will showcase the region's award-winning courses as well as the industry being built in Central Oregon around the sport. Meet pros, test out the latest gear, enter to win big raffle prizes and find deals on new equipment.

27-28

REDMOND

HIGH DESERT STAMPEDE

Get tickets to the annual the High Desert Stampede and see why it was named one of the best medium-sized rodeos last year. The rodeo performance has barrel racing, steer wrestling, bareback riding and more. On Friday night, stay for the after party next door, featuring live music from Kristi Kinsey & the Whiskey Bandits.

28

CULVER

EAGLE WATCH

This annual free event is a huge draw for birders and for families. There are more than a dozen outdoor activities to do this year in between watching for the eagles that nest at Round Butte Overlook Park this time of year and fly overhead. Meet a great horned owl, build a bird house or bird feeder, dance with the Quartz Creek Drummers and more.



APRIL

3-5

MT. BACHELOR

SUBARU WINTERFEST

Spring skiing hits its peak in April at Mt. Bachelor. After a bluebird day on the slopes, stick around for the après-ski bash, Subaru Winterfest. There's gear demos all day along with s'more and coffee. At night, the live music lineup includes the Infamous Stringdusters, Railroad Earth and Horseshoes & Hand Grenades.

5

BEND

HORSE BUTTE 10 MILER

This early season race takes runners around a singletrack trail at Horse Butte. Runners can enjoy great views in this area east of Bend, as well as the Western-themed finish line party. There's even a new denim category to add some fun to this annual event.

19

BEND

BEND MARATHON AND HALF

One of the most popular events of the year, the Bend Marathon and Half draws thousands of people to Central Oregon. The race winds through Bend's west side and acres of forested areas. If you aren't participating, you can also check out the spectating guide to cheer on the runners.



5

BEND

SALMON RUN

Join the crowd of runners that take part in the annual Salmon Run. Choose among the half-marathon, 10k or 5k races along the Deschutes River. Kids of all ages can even test their speed in the Little Fry run. The race is a benefit for the Environmental Center of Bend.

11

BEND

"COSMIC MICROSAPES" EXHIBIT OPENING

The High Desert Museum opens, "Cosmic Microscapes: Seeing Into Rocks from Oregon & Space." Photographer Neil H Buckland and scientist Dr. Tony Irving married art and science to reveal the inner beauty of rocks from around the solar system. Pieces of the Moon, Mars and asteroids were sliced paper-thin and photographed to produce these prints on display.

13

MALHEUR WILDLIFE REFUGE

HARNEY COUNTY MIGRATORY BIRD FESTIVAL

Birding enthusiasts from around the world flock to the Malheur Wildlife Refuge each year for the Migratory Bird Festival. More than 300 species of birds pass through the refuge during their spring migration on the Pacific Flyway. Over the weekend join guided tours, watch workshops and meet fellow birders.

17

BEND

TRIVIA NIGHT AT THE TOWER

The annual fundraiser for Bend-La Pine Schools is back for its fifteenth year. Form a team and compete at Trivia Night at the Tower. Winners will receive the championship trophy. All of the proceeds support the Education Foundation.



25

BEND

EARTH DAY FAIR & PARADE

Spend a day celebrating and protecting the natural world at the annual Earth Day Fair & Parade. Organized by the Environmental Center of Bend, the day kicks off with a parade of animals and art through downtown Bend and ends with a family-friendly fair in front of the Environmental Center.

22

MT. BACHELOR

RENDEZ VAN

Join the #vanlife community at Mt. Bachelor for the annual Rendez Van. It's a five-day event that welcomes RVs, campers and trailers. Enjoy the snow at Mt. Bachelor, then spend the evenings around bonfires and the community of travelers. The big party takes place on April 25 with live music, drinks, food, local vendors and lawn games.

27

BEND

NEW HIKES IN EASTERN OREGON

The last installment of this season's High Desert Speaker Season from ONDA features inspiration for hitting the hiking trails this year. Hiker and writer Bill Sullivan will talk about the trails he found for his latest book *100 Hikes/Travel Guide: Eastern Oregon*. Held at the Tower, the event is for anyone who wants the expert advice for day hikes and overnight trips in the region.

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1. Dan McGarigle and Renee Bouma at the *Bend Magazine* Readers' Choice Celebration 2. Todd & Shanda McGee at the *Bend Magazine* Readers' Choice Celebration 3. Michelle Torres, Kelsey Hauser and Amanda Alderman at the *Bend Magazine* Readers' Choice Celebration 4. Dustin Cockerman, Heidi Hagemeyer and Laura Furguson at the opening of Infinite Moment: Burning Man on the Horizon at the High Desert Museum 5. Linda Evans, Chloe Tibert and Emily Agan at the opening of Infinite Moment: Burning Man on the Horizon at the High Desert Museum 6. Erin Olson and Crosby Grindle at the opening of Infinite Moment: Burning Man on the Horizon at the High Desert Museum 7. Gail Hodge and Kristi Wilson at the opening of Infinite Moment: Burning Man on the Horizon at the High Desert Museum

BEND MAGAZINE PHOTOS: CAITLIN EDDOLLS
HIGH DESERT MUSEUM PHOTOS: JILL ROSELL



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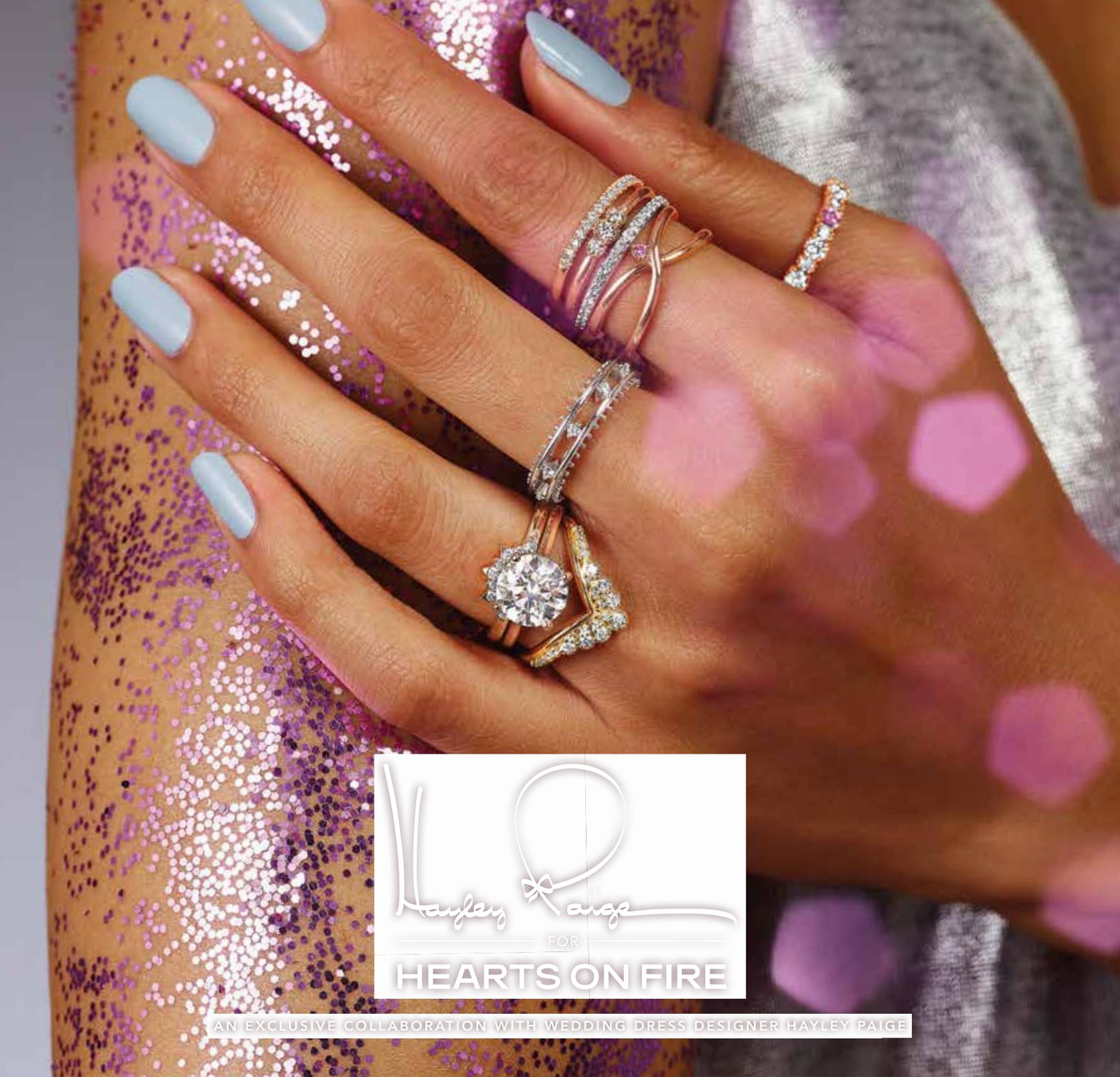
Contact Femke Van Velzen, Director of Sales & Marketing | femkev@arrowooddev.com
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