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07-12 TREVOR NOAH
07-18 JERRY SEINFELD
07-23 DROPKICK MURPHYS AND BAD RELIGION
// THE MAINLINERS
07-24 MAOLI // TJ FEVELLA
07-26 THE RED CLAY STRAYS // MICHAEL MARCAGI
07-30 OLD DOMINION // REDFERRIN
07-31 DISPATCH // JOHN BUTLER W/ BAND, G. LOVE & SPECIAL SAUCE,
DONAVON FRANKENREITER

AUGUST

- 08-02 CAAMP // FUTUREBIRDS
08-03 JOE BONAMASSA
08-05 MY MORNING JACKET // MELT
08-07 WHISKEY MYERS + TEDESCHI TRUCKS BAND
08-08 TEDESCHI TRUCKS BAND + WHISKEY MYERS
08-09 LCD SOUNDSYSTEM // TV ON THE RADIO
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08-12 RÜFÜS DU SOL // GLASS BEAMS
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08-14 THE LUMINEERS // TOM ODELL
08-15 TRAMPLED BY TURTLES & SHAKEY GRAVES
08-16 GLASS ANIMALS // ORLA GARTLAND
08-17 ALABAMA SHAKES // SHANNON AND THE CLAMS
08-19 COUNTING CROWS // THE GASLIGHT ANTHEM
08-21 LAINEY WILSON // ERNEST, KAITLIN BUTTS
08-22 MT. JOY
08-23 MATT RIFE // 18+ ONLY SHOW
08-29 GOO GOO DOLLS // DASHBOARD CONFSSIONAL
08-30 JAPANESE BREAKFAST // GINGER ROOT
08-31 AN EVENING WITH CHICAGO

SEPTEMBER

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DIGITAL EXTRAS

Ready to enjoy the area's culinary best? Search our dining guide to learn more about the top spots at bendmagazine.com/dining-guide.

Find out what's happening in Central Oregon or upload your upcoming events at bendmagazine.com/calendar.

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PHOTO LEFT COURTESY OF GREEN ROCK RETREAT | TOP RIGHT BY CODY RHEAULT | BOTTOM RIGHT BY TAMBI LANE



MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR CENTRAL OREGON

For more than a quarter century, the Oregon Lottery has helped parks both big and small all across Oregon. In total, more than one billion dollars have been spent on maintenance, accessibility projects and other improvements that help keep our parks accessible to all.

But what sort of things specifically are made possible by your lottery play? Here in Central Oregon, our iconic state parks receive funding that helps with some of the less than glamorous but very important work that helps keep the lights on – sometimes literally!

IN SURPRISING WAYS

But you might not have guessed that the Lottery's support for "parks" is far ranging. Would you be surprised to learn that the High Desert Museum has received Oregon Lottery funds to help stand up exhibitions? Or that Sisters was awarded money to replace a play structure at Village Green Park? Or that Redmond's Wetland Complex received grants to help expand its trail system?

There's no better feeling than winning the lottery, but even when you don't, your lottery play is helping support important, real-world projects right here in Bend and Central Oregon.



LEARN MORE oregonlottery.org/state-parks 



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THE LANGUAGE OF DOGS

Wouldn't life be easier if we spoke the same language as our dog? Meet four people who know how to listen, understand and communicate via action and interaction—helping Bend remain one of the best dog towns in the U.S.A. *Written by Suzanne Johnson.*

78

COME SAIL AWAY

Elk Lake Yacht Club is 100-plus years old and is a spirit more than a place. Legacy members and new generations are lured by the promise of wind and camaraderie. *Written by Cheryl Parton.*

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BEND MAGAZINE AT 10 YEARS

Time flies when we're sharing stories about the community. Amplifying voices and stories about Central Oregon is at the heart of Oregon Media and in the soul of every issue of *Bend Magazine*.



ON THE COVER

Oregon Media celebrates the 10th Anniversary of *Bend Magazine*.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SUNDBERG



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WORDS *and* PICTURES



JON ABERNATHY
WRITER

Author of *Bend Beer: A History of Brewing in Central Oregon*, Jon Abernathy has been blogging about craft beer for more than two decades, and drinking and homebrewing it for far longer. In 2004, Abernathy launched “The Brew Site,” a blog dedicated to all things beer and brewing. The blog has gone on to become the longest-running American beer blog, documenting the change and rapid growth that has characterized the Central Oregon brewing scene. For this issue, Abernathy tapped into the region’s microbrews to curate a summer round-up perfect for hot high desert days. Join him in a toast to Central Oregon’s breweries (page 91).



DAMIAN FAGAN
WRITER

Based in Bend, Damian Fagan enjoys sharing stories of people and places in Central Oregon. He studied botany at the University of Washington before embarking on a career in the outdoors. Fagan worked as a natural history and outdoor recreation instructor and has published two wildflower field guides. He spends his time exploring the wilds of the West with his wife, Raven. In this issue, Fagan hit the trail to write about the wonders of Newberry National Volcanic Monument, including the local summertime favorite of the Paulina Plunge. Find trails and tips for exploring this one-of-a-kind geological playground (page 43).



TAMBI LANE
PHOTOGRAPHER

A food and product photographer with 20-plus years of experience, Tambi Lane is known for her ability to transform the ordinary into the extraordinary, capturing everything from beautiful food to products and the people behind them. Lane thrives on collaboration and is especially drawn to uncovering the stories that await in each of her subjects. She finds magic in taking things slowly and embracing simplicity while working with chefs, cookbook authors, makers and food brands across the country. Here, she stepped into the textured world of encaustic art to capture the creative spirit of Bend artist Allison Shadday (page 109).



TINA PAYMASTER
PHOTOGRAPHER

Photographing food, beverages, restaurants and products are all in a day’s work for Tina Paymaster. From spending hours in the dark room in high school to studying photography in college, Paymaster loves how the world can transform into something magical through the lens and editing processes. Her journey has led her to careers in graphic design, health, nutrition coaching and commercial photography. Paymaster loves to create imagery that tells a story and leaves the observer hungry for more. This summer, Paymaster focused her lens on Central Oregon’s seasonal beers (page 91) and the new Japanese pub Yokocho (page 97).



MARTIN SUNDBERG
PHOTOGRAPHER

With a passion for crafting authentic visual stories, Martin Sundberg draws inspiration from natural and urban landscapes to capture real human moments in photography, motion and generative media. His portfolio reflects more than two decades of experience and a deep commitment to narrative integrity, emotional resonance and technical excellence. From editorial features to experimental media, Sundberg strives to tell honest stories that move people. Celebrating Central Oregon’s dog-loving spirit, Sundberg went behind the lens to photograph local dog whisperers and their loyal companions (page 72).

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REPRESENTING

Kevin Courter



"Alpine Glow" 16 x 20 oil



"Desert Quilt" 10 x 12 oil

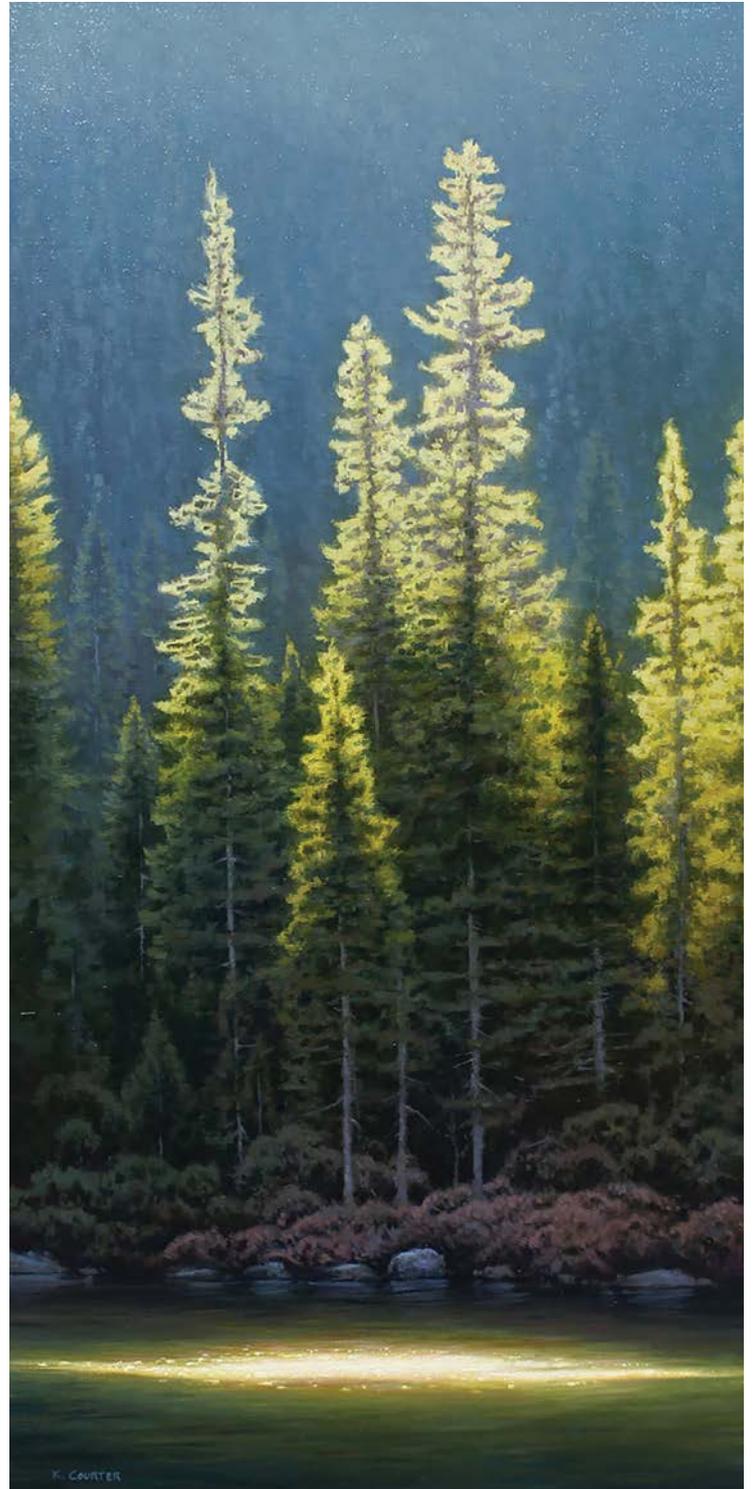


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"Harvest Moon" 15 x 30 oil



"Down from the Heavens" 36 x 18 oil

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JULY-SEPTEMBER | Hours vary depending on vendor; check website for more details



COBA Tour of Homes

Discovery West is proud to feature several homes in this year's Tour of Homes. Explore beautifully-crafted homes showcasing cutting-edge design, thoughtful details, and the latest trends in homebuilding. Need a break during your tour? Swing by Harcourts The Garner Group at Discovery Corner each Saturday afternoon for complimentary Cuppa Yo—while supplies last!

JULY 11-13 & JULY 18-20 | FRIDAYS: 12-6PM, SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS: 10AM-5PM



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SEPTEMBER 13 | 3-9PM

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OUR PAGES REFLECT
BEND'S PAST, THE CURRENT
MOMENT AND A FUTURE WE
WILL BUILD TOGETHER. EACH
MONTH, IT'S A PRIVILEGE TO
SHARE YOUR STORIES."

Editor's LETTER

As newlyweds, my parents put together a boat in their garage. At the time—more than 60 years ago—it may not have crossed their minds, but building that blond mahogany Snipe was the start of building a marriage and staying afloat through life's challenges.

Oregon Media has built something special, too. In 2025, *Bend Magazine* celebrates 10 years of being at the heart of our community. One of the many things we've learned along the way is that geometry doesn't apply to publishing.

While Euclid's first postulate says the shortest distance between two points is a straight line, applications to real life don't account for shifting winds while sailing nor toggling tastes, recessions, a pandemic, tariffs—or AI—in business.

But ever since its inception, *Bend Magazine* has adapted to change and remained true to its mission to capture the soul of Central Oregon. Our pages reflect Bend's past, the current moment and a future we will build together. Each month, it's a privilege to share your stories.

For this issue, writer and historian Tor Hanson spent hours at the Deschutes Historical Society searching for a copy of *The Bulletin* from 1964 depicting Bill Baer—one of the more colorful characters to have lived in Bend. Baer built our downtown office (true), and during his research, Hanson explored the rumor that Baer dated Klondike Kate (false). See the photo he found of Baer with his Great Danes named Gus and Schnopps on page 48. Read about four more "dog people"—whisperers and listeners—on page 72. The accompanying photo shoot with Martin Sundberg started at 5:45 a.m., included 15 dogs, and was a wet and wonderful experience. On the subject of getting wet, come along for a sail atop Elk Lake on page 78.

Some of my favorite memories are of riding the wind with my family. At *Bend Magazine*, our best moments involve creating stories about you, our readers. Thank you for continuing to support us as we celebrate the community into the next decade. Enjoy the words and images that unfold in these pages—may you find a reflection of yourself or learn something new.

Cheers to whatever floats your boat!

Cheryl Parton, *Editor in Chief*





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A mountain biker wearing a white helmet and dark clothing is riding a blue mountain bike on a dirt trail. The scene is set during sunset or sunrise, with a warm, golden light illuminating the landscape. In the background, there are rolling hills, a valley with some buildings, and distant mountains under a hazy sky. The terrain is rugged with some rocky outcrops and sparse vegetation.

Cheat Sheet

Find expanded content about the places and events in the community we love

Leap from the printed page to digital content for inspiration and information—whether adventuring or amplifying your life. Think of it as a Cheat Sheet, or a shortcut to keep your favorite things—such as suggested trails—at your fingertips. See where *bendmagazine.com* takes you by searching: “A Complete Guide To Mountain Biking in Bend, Oregon,” “The Thrills of Downhill Mountain Biking In and Around Bend” and “Phil Meglasson and the Story of Phil’s Trail” on our site.

Ride a summer trail
at Smith Rock

ON *the* WEB



1



2



3

1. FOOD & DRINK: Find expanded coverage beyond what you read in the pages of *Bend* and *Savor* magazines, and discover Central Oregon's top dining spots including how to eat healthy at home with Kitchen Heartbeats delivery meal service (shown above). **2. THINGS TO DO:** See what's happening next around Central Oregon, including live music at Hayden Homes Amphitheater. **3. YOUR NEXT ADVENTURE STARTS HERE:** Have *Bend Magazine* delivered by mail all year for \$5 by using code SUMMER4 at bendmagazine.com/subscribe.

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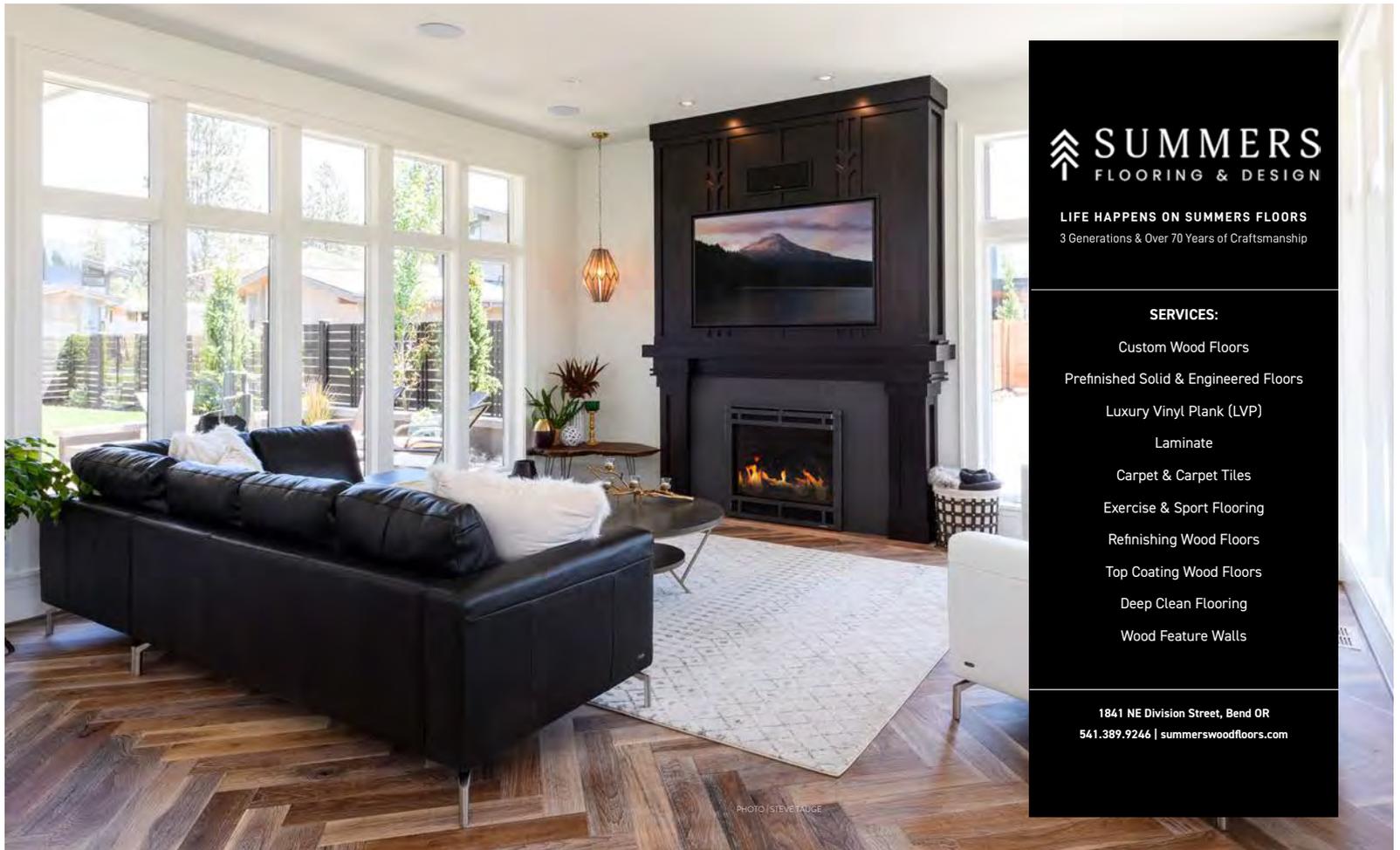


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Local Blooms

A collective of regional farmers brings a weekly flower market to Bend

On Saturdays this summer, a historic cottage in Bend becomes a hub for local blooms. Now in its fourth year, the region's first flower market is hosted by Central Oregon Flower Collective at Pomegranate Home and Garden's pioneer-homestead location. Each week, find bouquets, arrangements and stems grown at 20 women-operated flower farms.

Founded by Lisa Shaddox, the collective is made up of small-scale farmers who work against the odds of Central Oregon's short, unpredictable growing season. "It's really challenging to grow flowers here, and that makes them all the more special," said Shaddox.

With about 60 frost-free days a year, the region has growers in the collective rely on careful planning and persistence to offer locally grown zinnias, cosmos, yarrow, sunflowers, rudbeckia and dahlias. Central Oregon Flower Collective's market offers an opportunity to meet the people behind the flowers. See coflowercollective.com.

News Shorts



CENTRAL OREGON PEDIATRICS CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF CARE

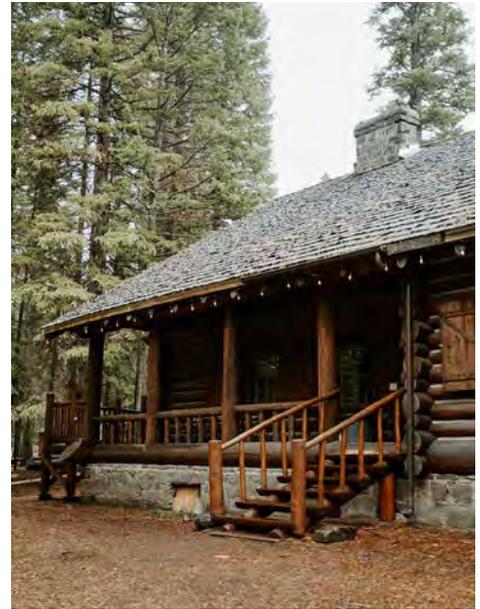
Central Oregon Pediatric Associates, known as COPA Kids, celebrates its 50th anniversary on July 26 with a free community event at Alpenglow Park in Bend. Founded in 1975 by Drs. Mary Brown and John Chunn, the practice began as a three-room clinic with a goal to keep children healthy and close to home, during a time when the sickest kids were sent to Portland. Today, COPA Kids has a staff of 35 pediatricians, physician assistants, nurses and clinicians to serve thousands of families across four locations. It offers urgent care, a 24/7 nurse advice line and comprehensive pediatric services. See copakids.com.

GRANTS FUND CENTRAL OREGON FARMS

The High Desert Food & Farm Alliance (HDFFA) awarded nine On-Farm Efficiency Grants totaling \$25,550. Funded projects have goals to extend the growing season, reduce labor costs and improve farm efficiency. In an effort to strengthen Central Oregon's food system, HDFFA's grant program empowers small, local farmers to overcome obstacles through innovation, and it benefits the community by supporting greater food diversity and a resilient agricultural economy. See hdffa.org.

MT. BACHELOR WINS INCLUSION AWARD

The National Ski Areas Association honored Mt. Bachelor with its "Mountains are for Everyone" award at the 2025 National Convention in Marco Island, Florida. The award recognizes exceptional efforts in prioritizing inclusion through programming and storytelling in the ski industry. Mt. Bachelor's Play Forever initiative stood out for its work to increase access to the outdoors through scholarships, free lessons, inclusive events and community partnerships. The resort's efforts have focused on reducing barriers and creating a welcoming environment for historically underrepresented and marginalized groups. See mtbachelor.com.



HISTORIC SKYLINERS LODGE GETS A REPRIEVE

The 88-year old Skyliners Lodge reopened with new management on July 1, 2025, after being threatened with closure earlier this year. The nonprofit NatureConnect Central Oregon will keep the historic site open for school field trips, community gatherings, weddings and other events, replacing High Desert Education Service District. Revenue from community and private events will support the legacy of outdoor learning programs for local students. See natureconnectco.org.



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The Soul of Central Oregon

JULIE AND BARRY HOLMAN NONPROFIT LEADERS + TRIATHLETES

Through their Bend-based nonprofit Athletes Without Limits (AWL), cofounders Julie and Barry Holman support athletes with intellectual and developmental disabilities worldwide. This summer, AWL celebrates its 20th national team since 2009 to compete on the international stage as it brings swimmers to Thailand for the Virtus World Swimming Championships. Inspired by the tenacity of world class Special Olympic gold medal cyclist Syd Lea, Julie and Barry's efforts to champion inclusion are now felt on a global, national and local scale. Athletes Without Limits partners with MBSEF's Stevenson Youth Program to coach local Nordic skiers and mountain bikers with disabilities. Initially drawn to the region as a triathlete, Julie explained, "Central Oregon is filled with sport enthusiasts known for their kindness. It is an ideal place for a sports organization with a heart." See athleteswithoutlimits.org.



ILLUSTRATIONS BY DAVI AUGUSTO

TAYLOR GOODRICH YOUTH PILOT + CAPTAIN

Earning the Amelia Earhart Award for her dedication and skills, 16-year old Cadet Captain Taylor Goodrich of the High Desert Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) joins the top 3% of cadets nationwide. Taylor was drawn to CAP by her passion for aviation, but said the program has given her more: "It has cultivated in me a deep sense of respect and professionalism, equipped me with a wide range of skills and given me the confidence and determination to take on any challenge in life." A student at the Oregon Family School and Central Oregon Community College, Taylor plans to earn a pilot's license, attend a military service academy after high school and, in her words, "fly for the rest of my life."



ANDER RHOADS CITIZEN SCIENTIST + WOLF TRACKER

Fourteen-year-old Ander Rhoads tracks wolves in the Metolius River Basin, contributing data to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's Annual Oregon Wolf Conservation and Management Reports released each spring. His many hours of research earned him the opportunity to study alongside acclaimed wolf biologist Rick McIntyre in Yellowstone National Park. "My dedication to learning about local wolves has shown me how different ideas about wolves can divide people," the Sisters High School freshman explained. Rhoads is coproducing a movie on the relationship between wolves and humans in the region to promote community science over assumptions. He added, "I'm hopeful that the return of wolves to Central Oregon can bring people together."





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Glamp Here

There's no need to escape when
Central Oregon is right outside

WRITTEN BY MIRA HANSEN

In search of a summer holiday, we sometimes feel that pull to escape, to chase something entirely different from our everyday routine. But what if the reset you're craving isn't hundreds of miles away? What if it's right here, tucked into the folds of Central Oregon's high desert? Before you pack for a road trip or a weekend at the Oregon coast, try retreating closer to home.

**QUIET REPRIEVE:
GREEN ROCK RETREAT ►**

Just 30 miles north of Bend, near Smith Rock State Park, lies Green Rock Retreat. This alcohol-free, off-grid sanctuary is designed as an overnight stay for those seeking stillness, reflection and a reprieve from modern life. Some come alone while others find their way to Green Rock via facilitated events, such as the Oasis wellness retreat hosted by Where the Wilds Are (July 25), a men's health intensive (August 27) or the Soulwise gathering during the fall equinox (September 10). Luxury tents dot the 50-acre property, each with organic linen bedding, a private outdoor shower and a deck with expansive nature views. Many retreats at Green Rock observe "noble silence" through breakfast—prepared by a private, on-site chef—and days are often filled with hiking, yoga, art therapy, guided meditation, dips in a sacred splash pool, or visits to the labyrinth and prayer trees found onsite. "There's a vortex here, I swear. You can feel it," said Nicole-Amanda, the steward of Green Rock Retreat. See greenrockretreat.com.



**FEELS A WORLD AWAY:
LAKE SIMTUSTUS RESORT ►**

An hour's drive from Bend, Lake Simtustus Resort is a sun-drenched high desert retreat untrammled by the buzz and chaos of daily life. Once a humble fishing camp, the resort has evolved since 2018 into a boutique lakeside escape with not just RV rentals and hookups, but 15 upscale contemporary tiny homes, each with a private hot tub and deck overlooking the water.

The lake itself is a reservoir with 540 surface acres and plenty of water to enjoy the resort's paddleboards, kayaks and pontoon boats. After playing on the water, guests can pop into the sauna or head to pickleball courts, a putting green or the resort's tipi event space. Watersport rentals at Docksider are open to the public, too, so a day trip to Lake Simtustus can feel like traveling a world away with no plane ticket required. See lakesimtustusresort.com.



STAY LOCAL: CAMPFIRE HOTEL

Campfire Hotel and Pool Club has what it takes to “camp” in comfort right in the center of Bend. The hotel, mere blocks from downtown, merges vintage Pacific Northwest style with rock ‘n’ roll soul for a lively, music-filled stay. Inspired by ‘60s and ‘70s motor lodges, cofounder Tod Breslau infused childhood road-trip nostalgia into this retro-modern, community-driven spot—and it shows. Instruments such as guitars and mandolins hang in all 100 rooms, while the property’s firepit and heated saltwater

pool serve as central hubs for live music, DJ pool parties and karaoke throughout the summer.

There’s no need for an overnight booking to enjoy Campfire’s amenities. Enjoy a Scouting vibe, complete with fishing poles and themed cocktails at its Canteen Bar. Splash into the heated pool or relax in the hot tub with a \$20-per-day pass for the Campfire Pool Club. The 10-foot-wide firepit is a setting for local music events with plenty of room for gathering, s’mores and singing along. See campfirehotel.com.

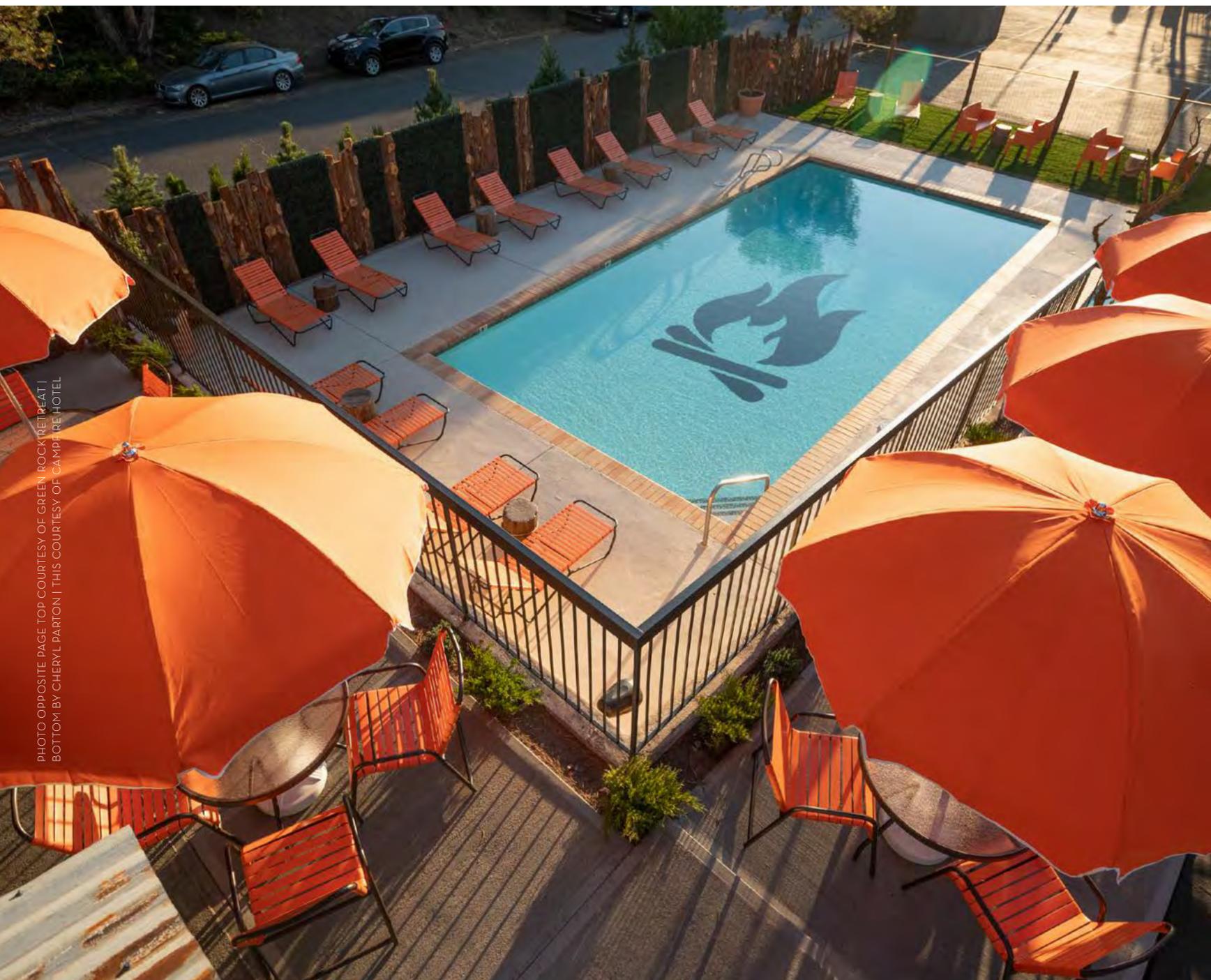


PHOTO OPPOSITE PAGE TOP COURTESY OF GREEN ROCK RETREAT | BOTTOM BY CHERYL PARTON | THIS COURTESY OF CAMPFIRE HOTEL

TOW AND GO: BIVVI AND 360SIERRA

Why choose one destination when you can wheel comfy accommodations with you? The mobile A-frame cabin developed by Sisters company Bivvi offers a modern take on a tiny home. The name Bivvi comes from the word bivouac—a small shelter that can be packed and deployed in the wilderness. Find a favorite summer space (or expand accommodations in your own backyard), park and stay awhile.

Another Central Oregon company, 360Sierra, designed a fleet of ultra-light trailers to tow behind most cars—from Subarus to Sprinter vans. Hook up and have the combined experience of tent camping with the mobility of RVing. Maneuver it to park just about anywhere and glamp under the stars. See bivvicamp.com and 360sierra.com. **IB**



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play for life

Big Into Bouldering

Watch out, this climbing sport is addictive

WRITTEN BY JEFF SMOOT



PHOTO BY ADAM MCKIBBEN

They're out on the river trail or in the woods outside of town—people hiking with what look like mattresses strapped to their backs or clinging to tiny holds on trailside boulders. "What are they doing?" you might wonder, or maybe you're a savvy outdoors person who already knows: They're bouldering.



People call bouldering trendy, but climbing on boulders for sport has been “trending” since the late 1800s. In his essay “Games Climbers Play” (*Ascent*, May 1967), Lito Tejada-Flores called bouldering the most-complex of the climbing games, because it had the most rules—no ropes, equipment or partners allowed. But bouldering is really the simplest of the climbing games because of its, well, simplicity—no gear, just you climbing up a boulder or short cliff, not far off the ground, for no particular reason other than it’s a fun bit of invigorating outdoor exercise.

What’s the attraction? Bouldering is both mentally and physically engaging, using mind and body to solve a problem on the rock. It’s a workout that’s also meditative, allowing you to be present in the moment as you crank or finesse up the rock. It’s therapeutic, a way to clear your mind after a tough day at work or school. If you need space, you can boulder alone and enjoy the solitude; if you’re social, you can meet up with friends.

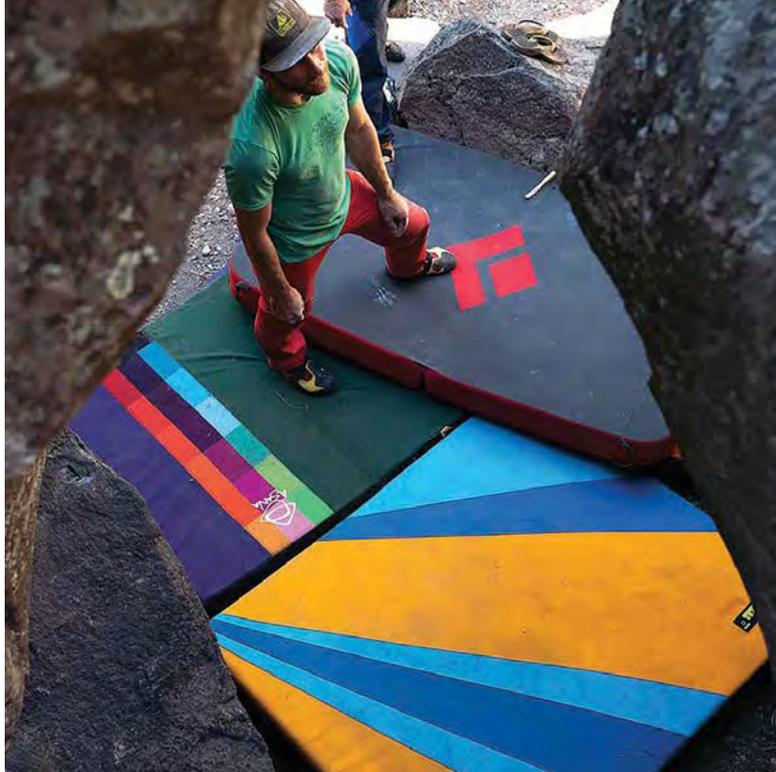
“It’s a way to constantly chase movement, to repeat and refine movement on rock,” is how Bend-resident



IT’S A WAY TO CONSTANTLY CHASE
MOVEMENT, TO REPEAT AND REFINE
MOVEMENT ON ROCK.”

Mike Rougeux described bouldering’s appeal. “It’s a snappy, powerful style of climbing that suits me.”

Rougeux, the executive director of Bend Endurance Academy, a kid-focused nonprofit with a mission of championing healthy living and lifelong passion for sports, started climbing in the Gunks in New York (short for Shawangunk Mountains, one of the premier climbing destinations in the United States). He saw people bouldering and thought, “There’s *real* climbing here; why are they bouldering?”



Now he admits he spends more time bouldering than “real climbing.” While he appreciates the camaraderie of group climbing—especially the support and celebrations of the almost moments when people nearly reach the top—Rougeux prefers to climb alone. “It’s a way to get some time on rock without feeling like I’m neglecting my parenting or work responsibilities,” he said. “I can be on the boulders in just a few minutes. It’s very accessible and convenient.”

Despite bouldering’s increasing popularity, most local areas aren’t crowded. “There are a lot of bouldering areas that aren’t in a guidebook,” Rougeux confided. “You can still explore and get away from the crowds.”

It’s also a great activity for kids, who seem to flock to big rocks. Rougeux took his son, Kieran, age 6, bouldering with him as he was growing up. “At first it was just adventure in the woods, throwing pine cones and exploring, but eventually he developed his own circuit on these little boulders. He got very into it.”

Bouldering is fairly safe as climbing goes, because it’s close to the ground, although some boulders are more than 20 feet high, and they don’t all have nice, flat landings. That’s where the pads come in, helping to cushion your landing in case you fall from high up, although you may still find stubborn old-school climbers out cranking highballs with just rock shoes and a chalk bag—no pads in sight.

Most people try indoor bouldering first to get the hang of it before venturing outdoors. Bend Rock Gym and The Circuit Bouldering Gym both have bouldering areas with hundreds of problems (see glossary) in a wide range of difficulties, and Bend Endurance Academy has its own dedicated bouldering wall. There’s also Alpenglow Community Park, which has several precast and custom-built artificial boulders—a good place to try bouldering for the first time, especially for kids. Careful, though. Bouldering is addictive. Before you know it, they’ll be crushing highballs. **13**



Bendites are lucky to have several popular bouldering spots right in town or a few miles out, including:

The Depot: A basalt cliff band on the east bank of the Deschutes River, this spot is about a 15-minute hike up the Deschutes River Trail. There are several easier problems on the 10- to 25-foot high boulders and some hard ones as well. The Big Easy (V1) is a popular warm-up; The Goblin (V11) is one of the area’s hardest.

Mount Bachelor Village: Directly across the river from The Depot, the Classic Corner area has several good boulders including Classic Traverse (V2) and Walk in the Park (V0) on Juniper Slab, a stellar problem that’s V-Fun.

Meadow Camp: A few miles farther up the river at the Meadow Creek Day Use Area, near Widgi Creek Golf Club, find a couple dozen boulders scattered along a welded tuff cliff line above the river. A day pass or NW Forest Pass is required.

Widgi Creek: At the end of a gravel road across Cascade Lakes Highway from Widgi Creek Golf Club, find 30 or so boulders hidden in the forest.

Mile Marker 5: Five miles up Skyliners Road, there are an assortment of shaded boulders with flat landings.

Smith Rock State Park: The park has hundreds of boulder problems scattered throughout. Although the it has a reputation of being crowded, you can find easy and moderate boulders away from the crowds.

To find out more, check out *Central Oregon Bouldering* by Jason Chinchen. Published in 2017, it has 300 pages detailing all of the best bouldering in the Bend area.

Bouldering Terminology

Problem: A bouldering route or variation.

Highball: A problem that is high off the ground.

Traverse: A horizontal problem close to the ground.

V-Scale: The rating system for bouldering where V0 is “easy” and V17 is currently the most challenging.

V-Fun: A boulder problem that is super easy but a lot of fun to climb.



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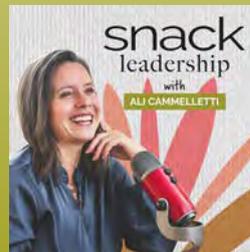
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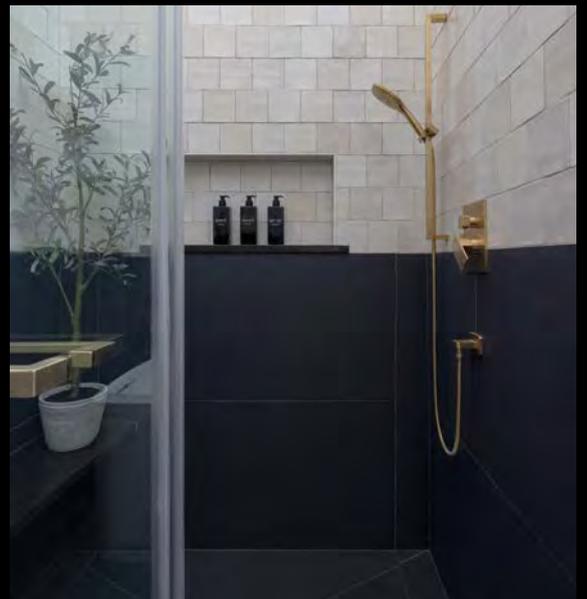


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Take the Plunge

Find all things “Paulina” at
Newberry National Volcanic Monument

WRITTEN BY **DAMIAN FAGAN**

A man and a woman are hiking on a rocky trail. The man is on the left, wearing a blue jacket, a cap, and a yellow backpack. The woman is on the right, wearing a light-colored jacket, dark leggings, and a green backpack. They are standing on a large, dark rock formation. In the background, a waterfall cascades over a rocky cliff face, surrounded by a dense forest of tall evergreen trees. The scene is bright and sunny, suggesting a clear day.

The Paulina Plunge is a mix of waterfalls and slippery slopes along Paulina Creek in Newberry National Volcanic Monument that offers hikers and bikers a refreshing dip on a hot summer day. It's one of Central Oregon's best kept secrets and was thousands of years in the making.

A VOLCANIC EMERGENCE

Best known as “Newberry,” this Forest Service-managed monument stretches from Benham Falls along the Deschutes River to Paulina Peak in Newberry National Volcanic Monument. Many features in the monument bear the Paulina name, which honors a Northern Paiute chief called Paulina or Pahninee who fought to protect his homeland against settlers and the army in the 1860s.



The heart of the monument is Newberry Volcano, named for John Strong Newberry, an American physician and geologist who served on an 1855 western railroad expedition. It's a massive shield-shaped volcano which extends across 1,200 square miles in Central Oregon. Active for more than 500,000 years, this volcano had an eruption event that emptied an underground magma chamber and resulted in a collapse of the overarching strata some 75,000 years ago, thus creating the high-walled Newberry Caldera.

The nearly 20-square mile caldera once held a single lake, but around 6,200 years ago an eruption and lava flow within the caldera divided that lake into two: Paulina Lake and East Lake, which are fed by rain and snowmelt.

EXPERIENCE THE FLOW

Paulina Creek twists and turns down the western flank of Newberry Volcano and plunges over resilient layers of basalt and past obsidian boulders to its confluence with the Little Deschutes River. The creek's descent is interrupted by various waterfalls, most notably Paulina Falls, with an 80-foot vertical drop, and several other water slides which, collectively, have become known as the Paulina Plunge.

BY BIKE

Cyclists can either tackle a 12-mile loop from McKay Crossing Campground up to Paulina Lake (1,650-foot elevation gain) or ride the shuttle up to the Paulina Falls Day Use Area or Paulina Lake Lodge, then jump on single track mountain bike trails for a 6-mile downhill ride back to McKay Crossing Campground. Both sides of the creek offer short, unmarked

side trails down to the creek to access the waterfalls and water slides.

- ▮ **In the know:** Mountain bike traffic along Paulina Creek is uphill on the north side and downhill on the south side.
- ▮ Watch for Paulina Plunge Mountain Bike Waterfall Tours, a family-run business, booking tours in 2026.

ON FOOT

Hikers take the Peter Skene Ogden Trail number 50 uphill from the McKay Crossing Campground to a plunge pool about 1.5 to 2 miles along the trail. This slippery slope forms a perfect water slide into a refreshing pool. Beyond this destination, hikers reach Twin Falls and a fenced viewpoint of Paulina Falls before reaching the Paulina Lake Lodge.

Find warm waters on the 7.5-mile loop trail around Paulina Lake, accessible from multiple trailheads, that pass by a set of hot springs located along the north shoreline. These shallow pools vary in size but are a testament to the geothermal activity still brewing below the caldera. Soak in a pool while gazing across the placid waters of Paulina Lake and up to the rocky prow of Paulina Peak. Look over to the younger—at 1,300 years old—Big Obsidian Flow to enjoy all things Paulina in Newberry National Volcanic Monument.

- ▮ **In the know:**
- ▮ The waterslides have natural bumps, and it's ride as you are (no tubes, please). Paulina Hot Springs are a bit more like warm springs and are rustic with no adjacent services. A National Parks Pass or Northwest Forest Pass is required to park at the trailheads. **18**

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Larger Than Life

The first resident of a recognizable Bend home

WRITTEN BY TOR HANSON | ART BY DONALD YATOMI

Across from Drake Park, overlooking Mirror Pond, sits a familiar sight, even if it's a less familiar architectural style for downtown Bend. It's a stucco home with a red-tiled roof. Over the years many people have called the property home, but its most famous resident was William "Bill" Baer. In small-town Bend during the '40s, gossip had a way of swirling around the town's biggest personalities. Bill Baer was no exception. Legend has it, he ran a bordello on the second floor of The Waldorf, the bar-café he owned on Bond Street (false); that he had an affair with well-known Bend resident and former vaudeville star "Klondike Kate" Rockwell (false—they were good friends); and that he used to walk in the middle of Bond Street with his two Great Danes named Gus and Schnopp,



LEFT: In 1964 *The Bulletin* chronicled the city's new law which prohibited dogs from roaming "at-large."

BOTTOM: Rendering of the house, now *Bend Magazine* headquarters.



plus three barking Pomeranians, blocking traffic while he sauntered down the road toward The Waldorf (true).

It's also true that Baer was a force to reckon with from the end of World War I until the mid-1970s. He was active in politics and local service organizations. Among friends and acquaintances, he was an outspoken, larger-than-life character that never backed down from an argument.

BAER IN A BEAR SKIN COAT

Born to German immigrants in 1895, Baer grew up in Frazee, Minnesota. At the age of 21, he joined the U.S. Army and served in France during World War I.

Baer came to Bend after the war and worked as a timekeeper for Shevlin-Hixon Lumber Company's portable logging camp, Shevlin, as it moved from place to place. "Bill was responsible for the employee payroll of the Shevlin woods operations," said author and historian Jim Crowell. "He was considered the unofficial mayor of Shevlin."

The Baer family settled down in Bend in 1936 after a successful \$1,200 bid for the Riverside Boulevard lot where they built a home in what Michael Houser, former Deschutes County Preservation Planner, referred to as a style "reflective of what we call 'Period Revival'—in this case Spanish Revival." Baer's home is still there, its exterior virtually unchanged. Eventually it was purchased by attorney Bruce J. Brothers who made it the offices of his law firm. Today it is home of Oregon Media, publishers of *Bend Magazine*.

Baer married Alice Gebo in August 1929. The family grew to include five children—Gottlieb, Bill Jr., Bruno, Barbara and Janice. With the Baer children attending Bend High School in what is today the Bend-La Pine Schools' administrative

offices on Wall Street. The Baer house was only three blocks away. "It became a gathering spot for their classmates," according to Crowell.

"Mrs. Baer was a patient and kind mother," said Crowell. "One day, Mrs. Baer posted a note to one of the groups of teenagers who frequented the house." The written note read, "You boys, please stop treating our house like it was your clubhouse." A few days later, one of the boys countered, "Mrs. Baer, please quit treating our clubhouse like it was your home."

Peter Baer lived in the house as a young boy while his father, Bill Jr., was building their own home. He remembers his grandfather as an outgoing person. "He could be charming and funny, and he liked attention," said Baer. Paul Reynolds, mayor of Bend from 1964 to 1965 would agree: "Bill Jr. and I played on the same football team in high school, the Lava Bears. Bill Sr. would come to the games with a big, heavy bear coat on and walk up and down the sidelines hollering and cheering us on."

Baer was county commissioner in the late '30s and early '40s and later became city commissioner. "Baer liked his community and wanted to be involved. He never accepted the status quo and was not afraid of speaking out," Reynolds said. "Opinionated would be a good word to describe him."

Baer passed away on June 17, 1976. An editorial in *The Bulletin* noted, "Bill Baer was the closest thing to a 'town character' Bend has had in the past 30 years or so. The town has lost him, and his place will be hard to fill." Baer may be part of past history, but his small Spanish Revival style house remains a constant in downtown Bend. ■

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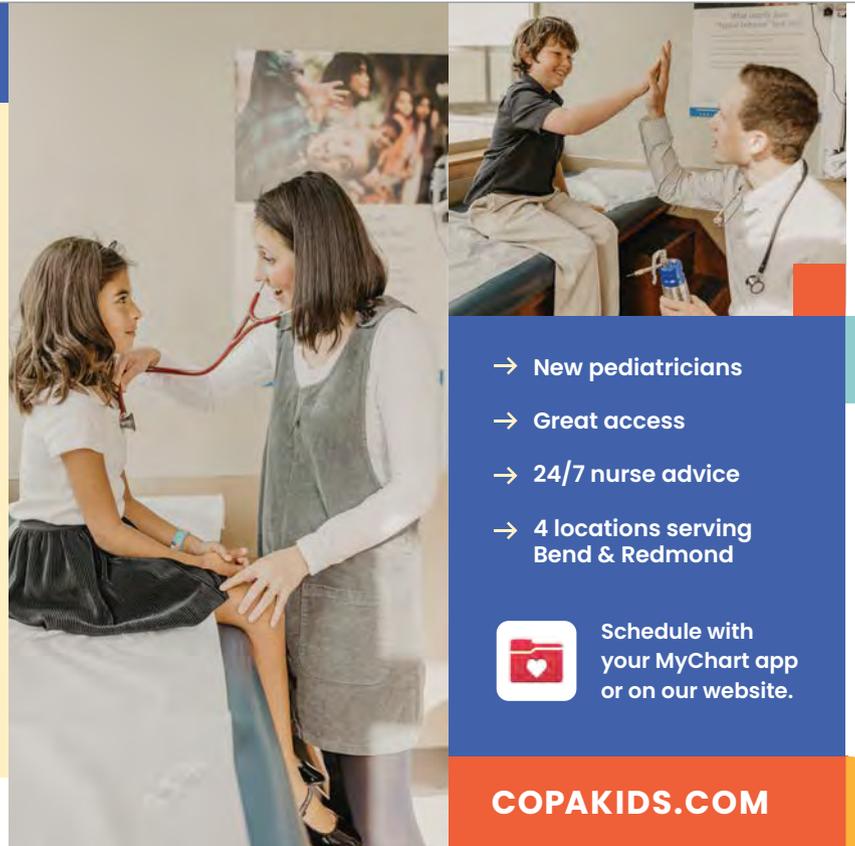
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Treasure hunters beneath the flowing river

WRITTEN BY **ROSEANN DENNERY** | PHOTOGRAPHY BY **CODY RHEAULT**

On a summer day in Bend, between the chaos of tubers navigating the rushing rapids and swirling eddies, a series of bobbing snorkels emerge from the river's surface. These likely belong to some of Bend's Good Samaritan treasure hunters, better known as the group, Loot the Deschutes (LTD).

About eight years ago, Lled Smith and his friends started diving to clean up a growing amount of trash near the Bend Whitewater Park where they surfed. Smith began finding items that river

goers had lost and created a Loot the Deschutes group Instagram page to reunite the goods with their owners.

LTD is more "organic than organized," said Smith, and today the group is made up of about 12 volunteers who are motivated by a similar mission: to leave the river better than they found it. Two of these volunteers, Radley "Rad" Clothier and Lutra Wong, are regular divers who join Smith in what they describe as the thrill of river scavenging. This pull of the unknown—the uncovering of forgotten relics and the

hunt for sentimental possessions—calls to them. To this crew, it's more than just a pastime; it's a unifying connection that showcases the inherent good of people who love Bend and call it home.

"It certainly has an addictive nature," Clothier described. "It's the rush of finding something that you can tell has a story behind it, and then figuring out that story." Their finds capture snapshots of tragedy and awe, sentiment and utility, and sometimes even comedy. "We find so many socks," shared Clothier. "I mean, who is wearing



Lutra Wong, Radley "Rad" Clothier and Lled Smith

socks at the river?" he exclaimed incredulously. "And the left shoe. Always just the left shoe," Wong chimed in. The divers have inside jokes about the excitement of finding a marble, their growing collection of mismatched Crocs, and occasionally items from decades past, such as vintage tools, Model T tires and antique glass jars.

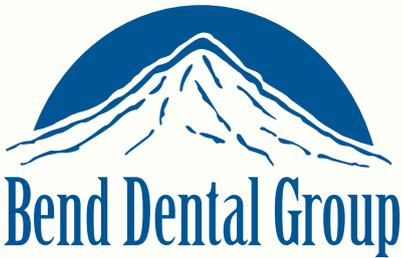
Wong, a purist who has been free diving without a wetsuit for 14 years, dives almost every summer day while her husband floats on a paddleboard next to her, gathering the items she recovers. She shared a story about one dive that led to a literal treasure chest, found about 25 feet below the Mirror Pond bridge. Inside was a grandmother's collection of costume jewelry that had been missing for seven years.

Most days, it is fins, clothing and items accidentally dropped overboard. Scavenging has spun off to create an unexpected hobby for Clothier, as he uses his sewing skills to make loot bags out of the discarded netting from inner tube bottoms, which the divers have affectionately named "Rad bags." These come in handy especially on holiday weekends, when they will pick up around 50 aluminum cans an hour, along with countless numbers of sunglasses, phones, Bluetooth speakers, a few Apple watches and a discouraging recent uptick of discarded vapes.

Although there has been a noticeable reduction of trash in the riverbed since they started, the growing popularity of Bend's water activities keep LTD's volunteers busy. Due to the volume of loot, Smith has a dedicated pick-up box at his house for those who reach out to him in search of a specific lost item. Two of the original divers, Miranda and Kea Eubank, have created a Loot the Deschutes museum at their residence showcasing the most unusual river finds—a mosaic of loss and wonder.

Lled Smith added, "There is always something to be uncovered."

See [@lootthedeschutes](#). **B**



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Home as Canvas

An A-frame abode is an expression of design and artistry

WRITTEN BY **KATIE HENRY** | PHOTOGRAPHY BY **ELSE KERKMANN**

When Else Kerkmann and her husband bought their modest cabin in Sisters, they knew it was going to be a project. From the original wood ceilings and brick fireplace to the shag carpet and poorly remodeled bathrooms, their investment needed a light and heavy touch. As luck would have it, Kerkmann—a content creator in the design and DIY field—is a master at these kinds of projects, from home renovations to redesigns, and she leaned heavily on her innate artistry to bring bursts of color to the home’s blank slate. While the home was absolutely livable, the dark brown palette left over from the 1970s, when the home was originally built, made for a dark and dreary space. Wood-paneled ceilings ran throughout the home, and the walls maintained a dark and textured appearance.



The guest bathroom had the most recent remodel, but it was uninspired in tones of brown, brown and more brown. In addition, the remodel was hastily done, and water leaked into the basement below. "We hate throwing usable things away, but this [bathroom] was really ugly," said Kerkmann. "We just worked with the bones a bit." The first step to livening up the dreary space was to add pops of bright turquoise tile to the open shower.

Kerkmann realized how fun it could be to add more color and be a bit more playful in her design. She then painted stripes on the wall and it snowballed from there. "I always had a fun side to my designs, but I finally had more freedom to explore and play with it," said Kerkmann. "My style evolved from here, and I got a little braver with what I wanted to create."

That bravery extended to the primary bathroom. The original powder room had low, scratched and abused counters and an offset sink, touches that felt less thought out and more of an inconvenience to such a well-trafficked space. In the spirit of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Kerkmann pulled together items she had leftover from other projects: a floating cabinet for the vanity, a marble-style sink, a gold





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I DECIDED TO
EMBRACE THE BONES
OF THE HOUSE,
AND THEN USE ART
AND COLOR TO
TRANSFORM IT.”



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swan faucet—all items that reflect her personality and design goals. Paint came to the rescue once again on the bathroom floors, where Kerkmann painted over the existing vinyl flooring. “I knew what was under the top layer of vinyl flooring, and it was a lot of other layers which are such a pain to pull up,” said Kerkmann. “I thought, why not just paint over it.”

When looking at the rest of the home, Kerkmann loved many of the '70s elements, but wanted to bring the design into modern day in simple and whimsical ways. “I decided to embrace the bones of the house and then use art and color to transform it,” Kerkmann said. This is seen in the massive gallery wall displaying her husband’s skateboard collection—with a backdrop of a handpainted mural—the surrounds of the bay window in the dining room painted peach with pops of oranges, and the multicolor entryway to the downstairs living quarters.

The playful additions don’t stop at using paint, however. Kerkmann knows the value of adding bold print to an unexpected place, and the white spaces of the home’s many nooks and crannies allowed her to experiment with wallpaper and patterns in a surprising way. A hallway leads from the main living space to the first-level bedrooms, and the area always felt tight and restricting. Kerkmann added a bold and daring touch: black wallpaper designed with large pink flamingoes, an unsuspecting counter to the narrow thoroughfare.

The A-frame continues to be a work in progress, and with each new corner of the home that is lovingly tended to, Kerkmann’s vision comes more and more into focus: to build a home reflective of her colorful spirit and love of creating, to fashion something new with items that might have been discarded or tossed aside, and to showcase her art through creative design. **IB**



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Catalyst for Success

Bend Outdoor Worx supports entrepreneurs and the outdoor industry

WRITTEN BY KATIE SOX

What happens when an entrepreneurial seed is planted in a prime environment and nurtured by the wisdom of experienced leaders in an emerging industry? The result can be exponential economic impact and sustainable success. The outdoor industry in Bend is blooming as proof that one person's idea can grow into a successful business that contributes to a thriving community and creates career opportunities for many. Bend Outdoor Worx is a catalyst for this particular breed of success—the outdoor sector accounts for \$8.4 billion of Oregon's economy annually.

Celebrating its 10th cohort this year, Bend Outdoor Worx (BOW) began as the first business accelerator in the nation dedicated solely to the outdoor industry. With an initial mission to help entrepreneurs, develop the economy and create jobs in the outdoor industry locally, BOW now reaches far beyond Bend, serving some of the most exciting brands across the industry.

"When we launched BOW, it came from a place of genuine passion. We weren't looking to create a typical business incubator—we wanted to build something authentic that gave

outdoor start-ups tools to be sustainable, successful and scalable," said Gary Bracelin, BOW founder and mentor.

A 32-year resident of Bend, Bracelin got started in the outdoor business sector when he helped a friend launch Epic, a skateboard and surf brand. When snowboarding exploded onto the scene, he became one of the first sales representatives in the business, eventually building a sales agency that represented more than 30 brands. Bracelin moved into leadership positions with larger outdoor brands, managing sales teams and

international relationships. Shifting into consulting and mentoring was a natural extension of everything he had learned. "Nothing beats working directly with entrepreneurs—helping them avoid common pitfalls, navigate the loneliness of building something from scratch and ultimately watching them succeed," Bracelin said. "Their energy and passion are contagious. It feeds my soul to be part of their journey."



THEIR ENERGY AND PASSION ARE CONTAGIOUS. IT FEEDS MY SOUL TO BE PART OF THEIR JOURNEY."

— GARY BRACELIN



PHOTO BY ELY ROBERTS

Mentoring companies like Picky Bars and Cairn that went from idea seeds planted to full grown trees that made gainful exits, BOW has an 89% success rate with 31 of the 35 accelerator program businesses still operating.

An example of BOW's effectiveness, Robert Axle Project is a bicycle industry start-up that manufactures thru axles for all types of bikes. The business has maintained sustainable growth since its participation in the cohort program in 2015, even acquiring a second company, Old Man Mountain, which produces bikepacking gear including racks, bags and accessories. Robert Axle Project was born in co-founders

Katy Bryce and Chris Kratsch's garage in Bend as a solution to an issue the bike industry had overlooked. The business evolved from an idea to an employer of 14 people in the commercial building Bryce and Kratsch now own. "Bend Outdoor Worx was a huge help to us. Neither of us came from a business background, so we had to learn margins, sales channels, trademarks, finance, all of it," said Bryce, CEO and co-owner of the companies. "We got connected to key resources like lawyers, CPAs and insurance resources in addition to our mentors. We were also the first company to win BOW Pitch Night. That \$10,000 helped a ton."

LEFT TO RIGHT: Meg Chun, *Kialoa Paddles (mentor)* | Will Blount, *Ruffwear (mentor)* | Adam Short & Dan Gummel, *StoryBooth Experience* | Melanie Jenkinson, *Howl at the Spoon* | Sherrise Erlandson, *Giddyup Glove* | Miki Keller, *Bend Outdoor Worx* | Gary Bracelin, *Founder, Bend Outdoor Worx* | Kate Raber & Kai Nevers, *Wanderhut Vehicle Equipment* | Tim Karpinski, *Spiral Wax* | Tiffany Huey, *Snowshoe Labs* | Cindy Hayes, *Oregon Outdoor Alliance (mentor)* | Jak & Sanjay Green, *Eyeonize* | Susan Strible, *Oregon Outdoor Alliance (mentor)* | Scott Allan, *Hydro Flask (mentor)* | Drew Hornbeck, *Snunny* | Matt Szundy, *Mindful Mitigations Corp. (mentor)*



BEND OUTDOOR WORX 2025 COHORT

While Bend Outdoor Worx has worked with businesses from as far away as Alaska, New York, Tennessee and Texas, the 2025 cohort is the largest in BOW's history, and all nine companies hail from Oregon—eight are from Central Oregon.



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SNOPLANKS: An independent Northwest snowboard brand now operated by students at Oregon State University-Cascades. snoplanks.com



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Scott Allan and Gary Bracelin

Oregon's total gross domestic product—the value of goods produced and services provided during a year—was \$262 billion in 2023, with the outdoor industry making up 2.6% of that revenue and providing 72,925 jobs, according to the Bureau of Economic Analysis. "We need diverse businesses that provide jobs for people living here. Product companies provide a unique situation in that they can employ people of various education, training and skill levels," Bryce said. Ryan Price of Broke Supply Co., a member of the 2023 BOW cohort, shared that "BOW pushed us to look at the entirety of our business, not just the exciting and creative aspects. The process helped us to explore weaknesses and develop them into strengths." While the outdoor industry faces challenges, Bracelin believes that the next five years will deliver another wave of growth. "Tariffs are a top concern across the industry, and logistics are always a challenge. Production financing is another hurdle that many early-stage brands face. But the outdoor industry is inherently scrappy and resilient. At BOW, we help entrepreneurs find creative, sustainable ways to overcome those barriers and keep moving forward," Bracelin said. "Bend has truly become a hub for outdoor innovation, and that was always our vision."

With the 2025 BOW cohort being the largest to date, the future looks promising for the outdoor industry. Bracelin remarked, "Oregon has been a pioneer in outdoor products and apparel. That innovation continues today, and it's deeply tied to our lifestyle, economy and state identity. Through hands-on mentorship and real-world guidance, BOW plays a vital role in helping these companies thrive, supporting a sector that's increasingly recognized as an economic engine for Oregon." **18**



Summit Bank Assistant Vice President and Portfolio Manager David Axberg with John Frey from Project Bike

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The Business of Listening

Storytelling is the start of a new career

Adam Short moved to Bend in 1998 to pursue his dream of professional snowboarding. After several knee surgeries, he shifted paths, moved to Portland, and completed medical training in orthopedics at OHSU. In 2009, Short returned to Bend, where he practices as a physician assistant with a focus on sports medicine.

As a natural connector and listener, he started a community-focused podcast in 2021 to share the stories of local residents. Later he partnered with *Bend Magazine* to host “The Circling Podcast” where he continues to spotlight the voices and experiences that make up the soul of Central Oregon.

It was while learning the craft of podcasting that he and friend Dan Gummel founded StoryBooth, an event podcast-production company. StoryBooth offers an audio storytelling experience using an on-site podcast recording studio. Their proprietary process creates a custom podcast series built from the stories shared during weddings, family reunions, corporate events and legacy celebrations.

Recently, StoryBooth partnered with the Finnish brand Blocko to provide a sleek, modern structure for its pop-up podcasting space and an immersive experience that celebrates human connection.

So where did StoryBooth come from, given your background in medicine and professional sports?

Honestly, I’m not convinced StoryBooth was an idea I came up with as much as one that was waiting for someone to bring it to life. A few years ago, I read *The Creative Act* by Rick Rubin, and his belief that creative ideas are “in the air” really stuck with me—that they come to those who are open and paying attention. During COVID, when my practice slowed, I finally had time to explore something new. I’d always loved podcasts, so I ordered some basic recording gear. Just as we were leaving for a family wedding, the UPS truck delivered the equipment. I tossed it in the car on a whim.

At the reception, I set up some mics on a table, thinking it might be fun to record a few messages for the couple—and learn how to use the software in the process. Within minutes, a line had formed. Fifteen people were waiting to share stories, toasts and memories. That night, I saw how naturally people are drawn to preserving a moment in time through voice. That spark became StoryBooth.

How has the response been since launching?

The response has been overwhelmingly positive, especially in the wedding and legacy-celebration spaces. People immediately recognize the value and appreciate how fun and meaningful the experience is. We often hear, “I wish this existed at my wedding,” or “I’ve never seen anything like this.”

At weddings, StoryBooth captures something photography can’t: the voice of your loved ones. A grandfather’s insight, a sibling’s inside joke, a best friend’s story—all preserved in a warm, conversational format. It feels less like a product and more like a family heirloom in the making.

Our legacy-celebration offering has struck an especially deep chord. It’s not about memorializing someone after they’re gone: it’s about celebrating and preserving the essence of a life while it’s still being lived. There’s growing awareness that audio captures emotional truth in a way no other medium can.

There’s significant opportunity for growth in both of these spaces, and I feel more prepared for that challenge after recently completing the Bend Outdoor Worx 10th annual business development program. It was like getting a crash course MBA in brand development, sales, marketing, operations and finance.



As a podcast host, what have you learned from the experience?

Hosting *The Circling Podcast* has made me a better listener and a better learner. It’s taught me the importance of showing up prepared, doing the research, and being fully present. Podcasting isn’t about performing; it’s about creating space for someone to be heard.

What I love most is seeing people open up—laugh, reflect, and share something real. There’s no camera, no pressure—just voice, story, and connection. Every time someone steps into StoryBooth or I sit down for an interview, I’m reminded how powerful it is simply to be heard. That never gets old.

Lately, it seems like everyone has a podcast. Why do you think the format has exploded?

Podcasting has taken off because it fits into people’s lives so naturally. You can listen while you drive, cook, hike or exercise. It meets us where we are—multitasking, craving real connection and tired of overly curated content.

More importantly, people are hungry for authentic stories, ones that aren’t overly edited or filtered. Podcasting democratized storytelling. You don’t need a Hollywood studio. If you have a mic and a point of view, you can contribute.

What we’re doing at StoryBooth is taking that accessibility and transforming it into a premium experience. We’re making podcasting tangible, immersive and tied to life’s biggest moments. And I think that’s exactly where the medium is headed—more personal, more interactive, more meaningful.

See storyboothexperience.com. **IB**



Stay tuned for release of the “Birth of the Brands” podcast series this fall. *Bend Magazine*’s “The Circling Podcast” with Adam Short can be found on all major podcast platforms.

WHAT THE *Dogs Say*

MEET THE PEOPLE WHO SEEM TO SPEAK
CANINE AND KNOW HOW TO LISTEN

WRITTEN BY SUZANNE JOHNSON
PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARTIN SUNDBERG

They're our true companions and four-legged adventure buddies. They also chew our shoes, escape their leashes and dig up the garden. We love them anyway. But life with a dog would be much easier if only we could speak the same language.

In dog-friendly towns like Bend, canines and humans mix and mingle everywhere, making clear communication essential for the safety of all. What if we could "speak dog" to avoid the frustration of messages lost in translation? Meet four dog whisperers who know how to listen, understand and communicate in the language of interaction to help Bend remain one of the best dog towns in the U.S.A.





LEADER OF THE PACK: CHARLOTTE ROY

“No dog left inside.”

For Charlotte Roy, fluency in dog language includes understanding pack behavior. Long before dogs connected with humans, they thrived in packs for survival. Roy taps into that social structure with every group of dogs she takes out for a Dogs Gone Wild adventure hike.

In 2012, Roy founded her dog exercise business with the motto “No dog left inside, because a tired dog is a happy dog.” Her outings provide the pack experiences that modern dogs crave.

“Walks on a leash are insufficient for many dogs. A pack adventure gives them mental and physical exercise and the socialization they need,” said Roy.

Roy evaluates each of her canine clients to group them into packs that work well together. Each morning, she loads her van with that day’s dogs, then drives to a remote forest destination to run trails, summit buttes and navigate rock structures.

As pack leader, she considers body language as the dogs interact. Are they circling in a friendly way or following too closely? Panting, licking and showing teeth all have meaning. Energetic pups get extra challenges while gentler dogs pace themselves; by the end of the two-hour outing, every dog is tucked out.

“Dogs want to please, not misbehave. We can help them thrive with opportunities for structured play, sniffing and problem-solving. The result is a well-balanced, good canine citizen,” said Roy. See dogsgonewildbend.com.



LIFE SAVER: DOG, NESTLE WITH STRYDER DOESCHER

“Sensing medical need.”

When Stryder Doescher started kindergarten in Bend, his dog Keebler came along. Keebler was trained as a medical service dog, able to detect changes in Doescher’s body that might signal a seizure. Keebler stayed at Doescher’s side through most of his school years, a constant companion that allowed him to stay healthy in the classroom.

This year, Doescher graduated from Mountain View High School. He’s training a new service dog named Nestle, who senses when Doescher’s blood pressure or oxygen level drops. Nestle alerts Doescher by licking his hand, well before Doescher feels it himself.

“When we got Nestle, Keebler was still with us and taught her how to alert me. Nestle learns super quickly. We train every day,” said Doescher.

Getting a service dog is a complicated, expensive process, and few dogs can do the job. Training a service dog requires an intense connection between the dog and person. Nestle must stay close to Doescher, alert him to problems and ignore everything else. She can be an energetic, silly pup at home, but Nestle shifts into work mode when her service vest goes on, whether at the grocery store, school or doctor’s office.

Nestle’s ability to communicate lets Doescher live with less worry about his medical challenges.

“Nestle is always with me. She sleeps with me, drives with me and lets me know if there’s a problem. She’s really my best friend.” See strydersstory.com.





HEROIC LISTENER: MARIANNE COX

“Dogs tell you loud and clear when they feel at home.”

Some animal lovers know the language of dogs, and Marianne Cox knows how to listen. While traveling in Mexico she heard the plight of street dogs in particular. Malnourished, unsheltered and fearful, these dogs spoke to her heart. In March of 2017, Cox founded the nonprofit organization Street Dog Hero. Since then, the organization has rescued more than 4,000 dogs.

“Imagine a dog who’s never been given a simple act of kindness. When we bring treats, open hearts and gentle hands, the dogs jump joyfully and seek affection. They are starving for human connection,” said Cox.

Cox’s team also rescues dogs from overcrowded shelters around the United States and from Asian markets. The dogs live with foster families, where they adjust to a life free of trauma. When they are adopted into a permanent home, Cox listens once again.

“Dogs tell you loud and clear when they feel at home,” she said. “They smile, they sleep soundly, their true self shines through. Despite their tough lives, street dogs are surprisingly trusting. They show immense gratitude for small comforts and form strong bonds.”

Yet rescuing dogs is not enough. Street Dog Hero aims to reduce the number of street dogs. They’ve performed more than 11,000 spay and neuter surgeries in Bend and with partner organizations around the world. They also use art and community engagement to teach how to care for and love neglected pups. Because, as Cox believes, the true goal is no dogs wandering the streets. See streetdoghero.org.

DOG WHISPERER: JUSTIN GRANT

“Every dog needs a purpose.”

Known as the Dog Whisperer of Bend, Justin Grant trains the most challenging dogs: aggressive barkers, jumpers, nippers or destructive chewers. Before addressing the dog’s unwanted behaviors, Grant teaches the owners to become leaders.

“Every dog needs a purpose. If their leader doesn’t give them a job, they’ll create their own. They’ll follow their instincts to guard, herd or chase, and that causes problems,” said Grant.

Earning respect is the key. “From day one, dogs read your tone of voice and posture. They recognize pushovers. A leader is kind but firm.” The relationship thrives when the dog has a structured routine, knows its job and trusts its person to lead.

Grant demonstrates this leadership with his own dog, a 4-year-old Doberman Pinscher named Oprah. Off leash, she stays relaxed and alert; alongside a bike she runs by his side. In stores, she’ll carry a bag as requested, and Grant continually challenges her with new games and commands.

“Oprah is a good match for me, but not for everyone,” he said. Grant advises potential dog owners to study breed temperaments and to evaluate their own lifestyles. Matching activity levels and personalities is the first step to a positive relationship.

Reinforcing good behavior with rewards is another method of communication. Grant suggests choosing a reward to reflect behavior goals. “I don’t reward Oprah with treats because she’s not food-motivated. We play ball as a reward, which satisfies her desire to chase. But love and affection is always the best reward,” said Grant. See [@justinthedogwhisperer](#). **IB**





COME *Sail* AWAY

WINDY TRADITIONS AND FUTURE GENERATIONS AT ELK LAKE

WRITTEN BY CHERYL PARTON

A row of sailboats is docked on a lake, with a dense forest of tall evergreen trees in the background. The boats are white with blue and yellow accents. The water is dark blue with some white foam from the boats. The forest is lush and green, with some taller, thinner trees in the distance.

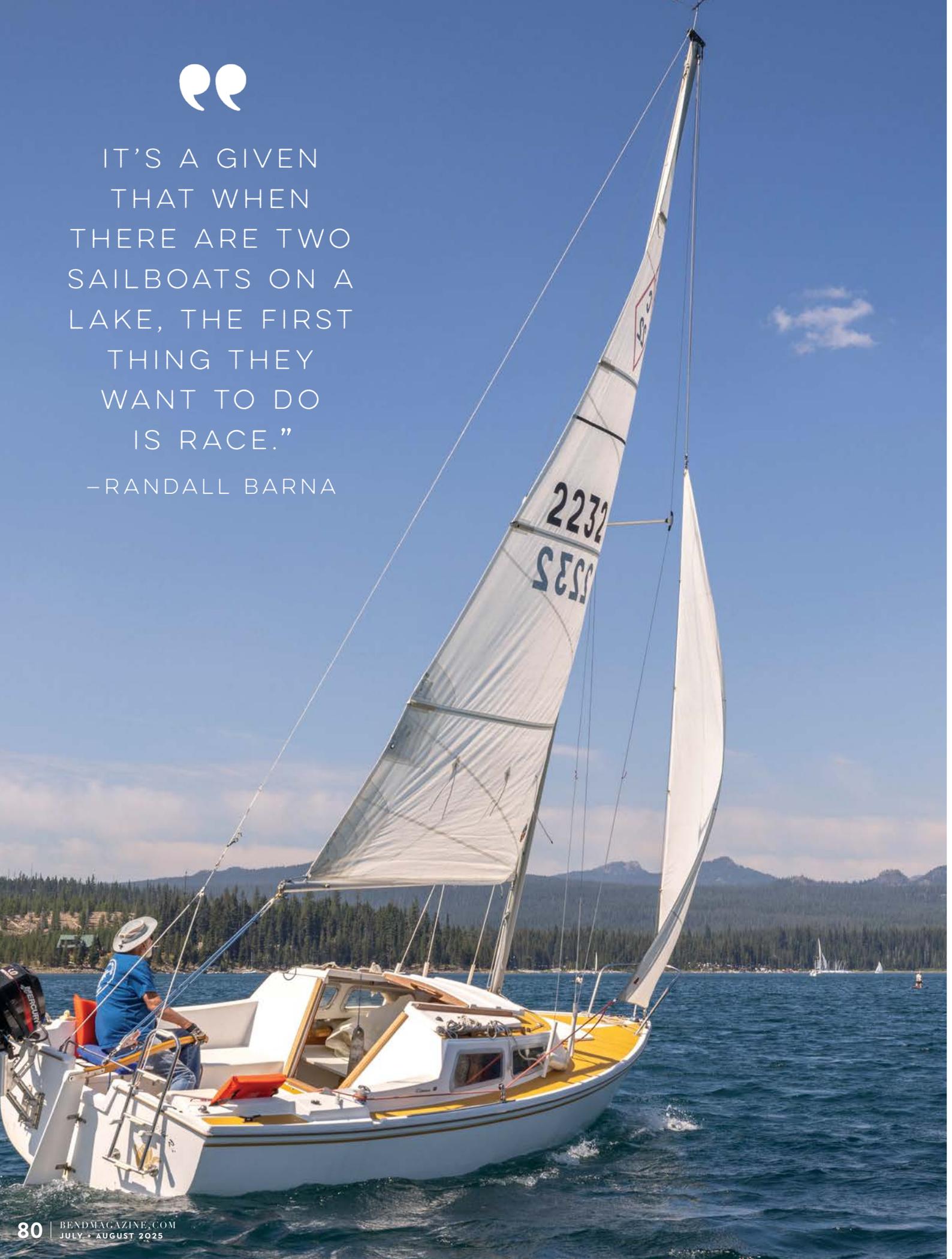
When the winds kick up each afternoon, hop aboard a boat to experienced the beauty of Elk Lake.
PHOTO BY ARIAN STEVENS

A 2 p.m. race approaches, and primal jockeying for position intensifies. Boats tack toward the starting buoy. Eyes are on telltale signs of winds in the clouds and on rippling, then choppy water, and on the other vessels of all shapes and sizes as they avoid ramming into each other. It's "Knot a Regatta" Sunday at Elk Lake, and while this isn't a sanctioned sailing event, bragging rights are on the line, tied to tradition and linking past and future generations. For anyone who has set out for a late afternoon SUP on a glassy alpine lake, they've been schooled on thermodynamics. In summer, interior land heats up and pushes wind up the mountains. Thermals pick up speed as they are sucked toward cold lake waters. With gusty afternoons—and set against a backdrop of Mount Bachelor and Broken Top—Elk Lake is one of the most peaceful and scenic places to sail in the Pacific Northwest.



IT'S A GIVEN
THAT WHEN
THERE ARE TWO
SAILBOATS ON A
LAKE, THE FIRST
THING THEY
WANT TO DO
IS RACE.”

—RANDALL BARNA





Randall Barna

Ray Peoples figured that out. Considered the “dean” of sailing as a sport at Elk Lake, he came from Minnesota and built the lake’s first sailboat in 1929 in his garage on Riverside Boulevard in Bend. He brought that 18-footer named *Typhoon* to his cabin on what is now the E Tract on the northwest side of the lake. There, he hoisted sails and became a figure of encouragement and enthusiasm; the Peoples cabin became a “spirit outpost” of the Elk Lake Yacht Club tradition, along with Elk Lake Resort’s marina next door.

Today, especially on a sailing Sunday, you’ll find Lasers, Snipes and Sunfish. There are Thistles, Lidos, Hobie catamarans, a Capri Cyclone, a Flying Scot sloop and an inland scow called *Punkin Seed* that’s sailed on the lake since 1946. Stories are told about *High Hope*, a boat designed by Peoples so fast it left a rooster tail in its wake. Look for boats named *Crackerjack*, *Lucky Puff* and *Kevin*. Catch-22, a 22-foot Catalina Capri, sits moored off the northwestern shore to create a postcard-like vignette. But if there’s a boat synonymous with Elk Lake, it’s the Geary 18.

IT’S GOTTA BE A GEARY

With a flat bottom and lean profile, the Geary 18 is fast and responsive to quick-changing winds on a lake, making it the ideal boat for a small mountain lake like Elk. “Sometimes in a race, we’d have to make 30 tacks,” said Ron Estes, who has

sailed on Elk Lake for more than 70 years. Simple and tactical, the “flatties” on the lake were the ultimate local craft: Gearys named *Drake I, II, III, IV, V* and *VI* were made in the ‘50s of wood from Brooks-Scanlon’s mill. In 1980, at the peak of their popularity, the fastest boats in the country converged at Elk Lake for the Geary U.S. Nationals. During that era, cabin-owner Chuck Cleveland, in his own engineered and hand-built boat, was the one to beat. On most weekends today though, the vibe is distinctly less competitive or about points of sail and more focused on community, as Bend wind veteran Randall Barna put it, “welcoming just about anything that can sail.” But he added, “It’s a given that when there are two sailboats on a lake, the first thing they want to do is race.”

WHERE’S THE CLUB?

The Elk Lake Yacht Club, while more than a century old, won’t come up on a location search (you’ll be sent to Eugene’s Yacht Club 99 miles away or to the food ‘n’ beer hub of Midtown Yacht Club off NE 4th Street). But it’s for real. The marina at Elk Lake Resort rents 32 (of 42) slips, and the “club” is open with no roll-taking roster. “The Yacht Club is for everyone,” said Dock Manager Todd Wells. Boats may be found at the marina, at the docks of private cabin owners, on a smattering of anchors or hauled up by day-use “trailer sailors.” But the

spirit of sailing and community is still based at Ray Peoples' original cabin and led by the enthusiasm of Greg Welch.

Many credit Welch with reinvigorating the sailing community in 2018 when he gathered OG families to celebrate the 100th birthday of the Elk Lake Yacht Club. Welch started coming to Elk Lake two decades ago to enjoy open-water swimming, plus camping and paddle boarding with his wife Manuela and their three young children. Over time, he became a partial owner of the Peoples cabin along with Peoples' kids, and that "sailing family" extended to the recruitment of friends and their children who wanted to learn the sport. "We taught our kids how to sail and how to get around the lake," said Welch. The 100th-Anniversary reunion drew a crowd, and many of those new sailors kicked off the next wave of sailing.

A GUST FROM THE NEXT GENERATION

Young people, such as 22-year-old aviation mechanic Max Bentley from Bend, spent lots of time at Elk Lake with the Peoples' dock as a basecamp. From a family of sailors and pilots, he is now at the helm of a Geary 18, saved from a field on the east side of the lake that took two years to restore. The *Lone Haranguer* is recognizable with its black Kevlar sail in stark contrast to the traditional white sails seen on the lake for the past 100-plus years. What's the allure for Bentley? "When you get going, it can be a pretty physical sport, and you're always thinking about where the wind is coming from. You can even hear it in the boat," he said. "It's a team sport when you have two people running their sails correctly." Plus, he added, "everyone puts their phones down."

Barna, who operated a windsurfing school at Elk Lake and who has spent most of his life chasing wind, emphasized how meaningful it is to share sailing in common with others. "As Bend grows, we need these microcommunities more and more," he said. "It's really meaningful that someone was there to witness the summer you see your child at the helm of their own boat."

CHANGE IN THE AIR FOR ELK LAKE RESORT

There's a next iteration for Elk Lake Resort, too. In May 2025, new owners—a group of local families led by Ken Natoli and Michael Weeks as general



Todd Wells rigs up to set sail.



managers—began upgrades to the resort, marina and septic systems to “sequence it up for the 21st century,” said Natoli. Turnover of boat slips has traditionally been slow; Chris Gardner has the longest-running slip lease at 34 years, and the waitlist is long, but change will bring new life. These include the possibility of sailing lessons, three-day sailing camps, an Elk Lake fleet or a monthly event for Elk Lake Yacht Club “members” to meet, extending the community beyond privately owned docks. Natoli and Weeks—who has had a hand in renovating many of the log cabins on the lake—are planning for the future. An Eagle Scout with a sailing badge, Natoli looks forward to teaching his own 6- and 9-year-old children to sail.

But the lake is still the ultimate teacher. “‘Prevailing winds’ is a misnomer at the lake,” said Estes, now 81 and still racing. “These winds can fool you. There are swirling winds, pockets of wind and no wind. But if you’re a competitive racer at Elk Lake, you can race anywhere.”

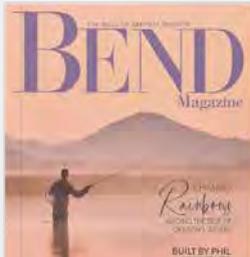
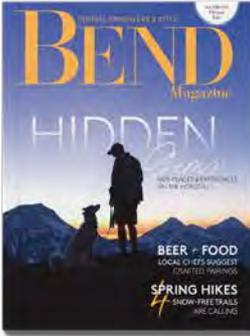
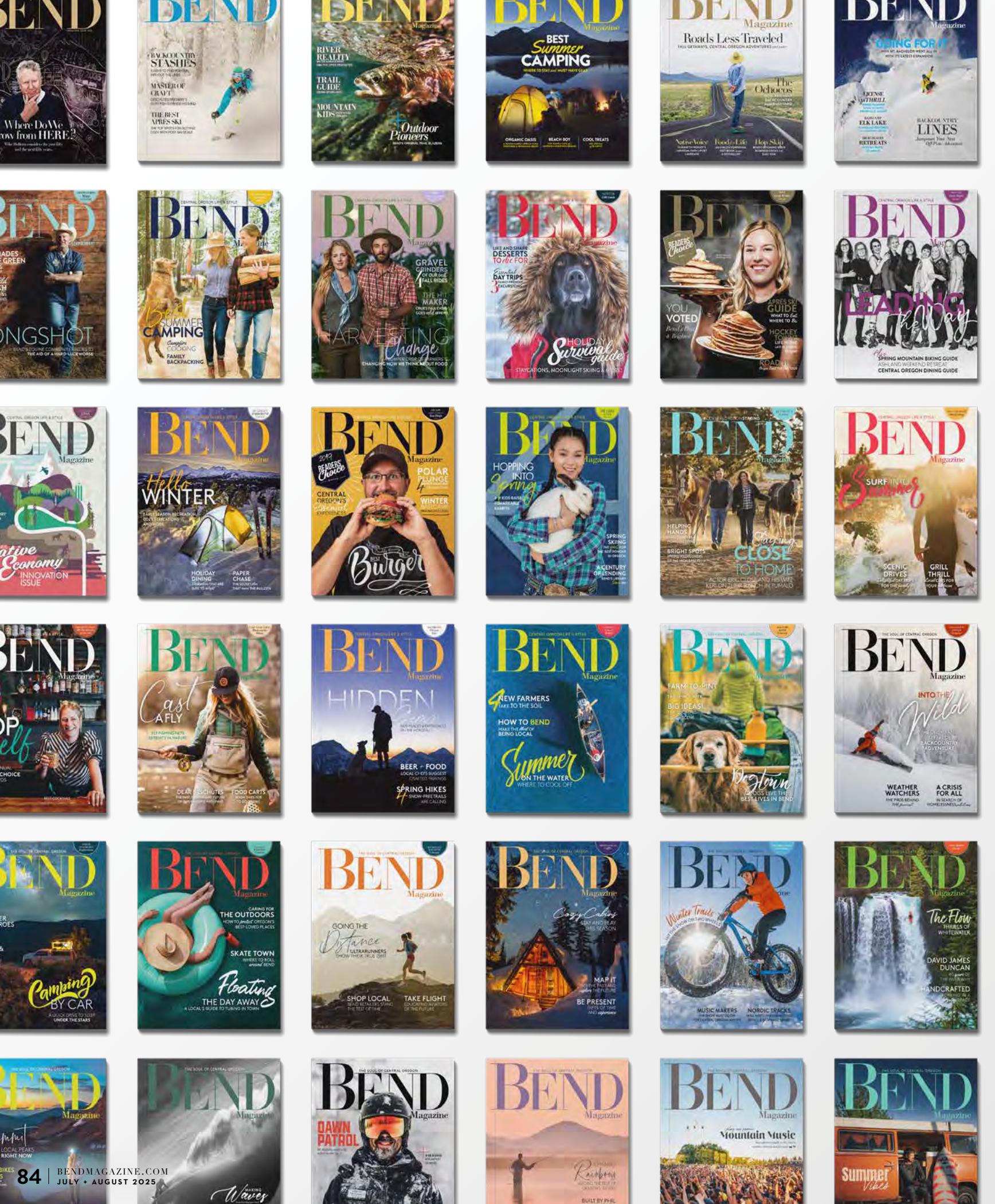
CROSSING THE FINISH LINE

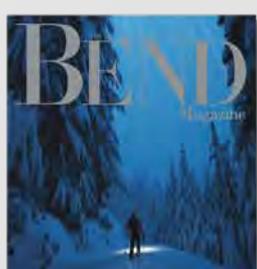
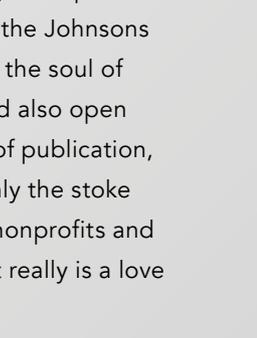
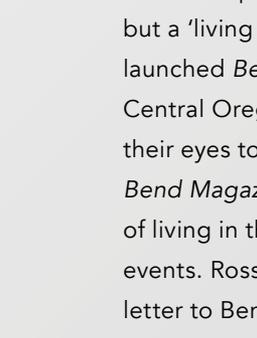
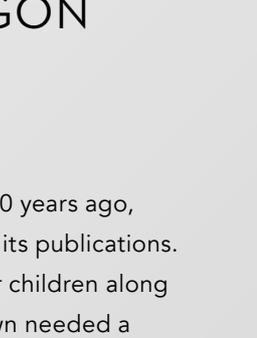
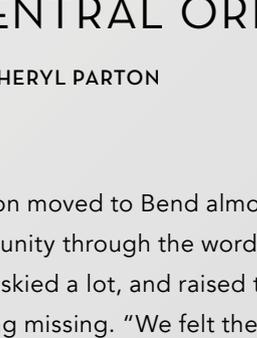
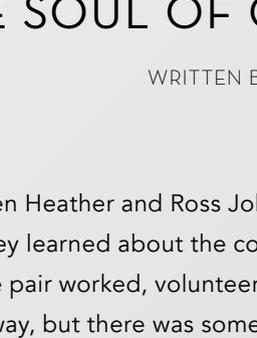
Meanwhile, along the course, the “Knot a Regatta” nears its conclusion. Barna and Estes are far in the lead, having chosen a line and puff of wind they think can take them across the finish line. That is, until, like lake winds do, the gust disappears. For them, doldrums emasculate their sails, and Rob Kerr (who learned the ropes from Barna and Estes) in his zippy Laser called *Hummingbird* seizes an opportunity. With a quick tack and a bit of luck, he crosses the finish line 10 meters ahead of his mentors to claim the 2024 title and storytelling rights for years to come. Sure, it’s about the sailing, but the traditional end-of-year BBQ includes all comers, whether they’ve participated in the race or not. Welch serves up “Rainbow Specials,” a whiskey concoction some say “tastes a bit like lake water.” Another season is on the books before boats are hauled out for winter.

“Sailing is about concentric circles,” said Leslie Skelton, granddaughter of Paul Hosmer—the namesake of Hosmer Lake. Leslie and her husband Steve have likely seen the most days on Elk Lake of anyone from their cabin residence on its western shore. “From the center of the boat to the relationship of captain to skipper, then to Yacht Club and outward, sailing is about the community it creates.” **B**



PHOTO TOP BY ARIAN STEVENS | OPPOSITE PAGE BY TONI TORENO





10 Years

CELEBRATING A DECADE OF THE SOUL OF CENTRAL OREGON

WRITTEN BY CHERYL PARTON

When Heather and Ross Johnson moved to Bend almost 30 years ago, they learned about the community through the words of its publications. The pair worked, volunteered, skied a lot, and raised their children along the way, but there was something missing. “We felt the town needed a space where we could all feel at home—not necessarily a physical space but a ‘living room’ of sorts, made up of pages,” said Heather. In 2015, the Johnsons launched *Bend Magazine* as a connecting place to share stories about the soul of Central Oregon. It’s a place for readers to see parts of themselves, and also open their eyes to new discoveries within the community. During a decade of publication, *Bend Magazine* has given back to the community by amplifying not only the stoke of living in the best city on the planet, but supporting its businesses, nonprofits and events. Ross added, “*Bend Magazine* has told thousands of stories—it really is a love letter to Bend.”



1

2

1. THE LAUNCH

Looking to the Future with Optimism

PREMIER ISSUE 2015: Bend visionary Mike Hollern was an easy cover choice for the inaugural issue. As chairman of Brooks Resources, he helped usher Central Oregon from its post-lumber-mill era to a new incarnation as a vital and growing city. Chalkboard art by Katey Dutton suited the ever-changing landscape and a close look shows the forecast sketch on track: Bend's population was 86,345 in 2015 and the cover crystal ball predicted it to reach 132,209 by in 2035. *Photographer: Joni Kabana*

2. HARVEST TIME

Growing with the Community

SEPTEMBER + OCTOBER 2018: Print journalism has a history rooted in tradition. Published independently by Oregon Media, Bend Magazine is proud of that heritage. Pages are assigned based on what readers want (and need) to know, and storytelling pairs words with powerful images of real people in the field. Chris Casad and Cate Havstad-Casad spent the day on their ranch with photographers Adam Cleary and Adam McKibben of Mighty Creature Co. to create a colorful twist on the painting "American Gothic."



3

3. LOCAL LOVE

Supporting Small Businesses

JANUARY + FEBRUARY 2020: Readers' Choice Awards for Best of Bend pitted long-standing favorites against newcomers in a category—sometimes winners garnered more than a thousand votes. These days, *Bend Magazine* stays away from polls in favor of sharing love for a broad range of local businesses. This cover paired Executive Chef Chad Berg of Deschutes Brewery Public House with its winning Pub Burger. "It was as close as his mouth had ever gotten to a burger," Ross said. "Berg was a vegan." *Photographer: Steve Tague*



4

4. GETTING OUTSIDE

Appealing to Readers

MARCH + APRIL 2021: Each issue of *Bend Magazine* is created in-house by a team of writers, editors and designers. Starting with a series of blank pages, the process is not too different from fishing: It consists of angling for stories, casting a wide net and hoping to reel readers in with valuable—and beautiful—content. The photo of Megan Brown, taken by Trevor Lyden, was a case of catching the moment in a golden hour and releasing it to subscribers and newsstands.



5

5. FLOAT ON

Flowing with the Currents of Change

JULY + AUGUST 2022: It's hard to believe, but in the '70s it was illegal to swim in the Deschutes River within Bend's city limits. Oh, how far we've come. Today, floating through town is a symbol of summer. Kevin Prieto, a creative director and photographer, set up the shot of this afternoon idyll that belied the current and wind that spun tube, model and Hydro Flask every which way. The hot shot was taken on a cool 50-degree day.



6

6. PRAY FOR SNOW

Behind the Scenes at Mt. Bachelor

JANUARY + FEBRUARY 2024: To understand the work it takes to open Mt. Bachelor Resort each morning, writer Tim Neville and photographer Cody Rheault had to walk in its employees' snow boots. Rheault was up at 3 a.m. on multiple mornings to (moon)shadow lift operators, mechanics and ski patrollers as he tried to keep his camera warm and dry. Some photographers hope for clear weather, but to get the cover shot of Brandon Smith, Rheault prayed for snow.



7

7. ON THE JOURNEY

Inspired by our Neighbors

MAY + JUNE 2025: It's important to know each issue's destination to plan a creative path. The yellow van parked a few blocks from the *Bend Magazine* office caught our editorial eye and inspired a photo shoot on the Cascade Lakes Highway. With his dog, Skye, as a copilot, Michael McLandress drove up and down the road—and under a drone—a dozen times to document this classic road trip. *Photographer: Cody Rheault*

MORE TO COME

The best moments and memories during the past 10 years have been glimpses behind the scenes of our readers' lives. To tell even more stories, Oregon Media expanded its publication family to include *Savor*, a guide to Central Oregon dining, *Bend Home + Design* and *High Desert Weddings*. But *Bend Magazine* is at the heart of what we do. It exists to share the soul of Central Oregon and we're grateful to the people in the community who have supported us during the past 10 years: Thank you! 📖



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Hit Refresh

A summer day calls for a beer—or three

WRITTEN BY MAISIE SMITH | JON ABERNATHY

PHOTOGRAPHY BY TINA PAYMASTER

End summers have a way of unfolding like an oddly specific playlist that Spotify got exactly right—river currents humming in the background, grills sizzling on patios and the satisfying *pffft* of cold cans cracking open in unison. Beer shows up like an old friend, slightly sweaty and ready to roll. It's the unassuming ringleader of summer life, turning loose plans into real hangs and open space into someplace. Lawns become living rooms. Mid-hike is the new happy hour. And somehow, dusty camp chairs feel like a front row seat to everything that matters.

This is how Central Oregon gathers—casually, instinctively, and with something cold in hand. It's a subtle kind of magic that's equal parts sunshine and good timing. And beer is the common denominator of these beautiful, ordinary moments—the kind that come from being in the right place, with the right people, tapping cans while the sun takes its sweet time saying goodnight.

BEER KNOWS HOW TO HANG

It's peak beer thirty, and local breweries have stocked the high desert with brews ready for their moment in the sun: drink-me-now pilsners with personality, hazy IPAs that lean lush and citrusy or Kölsch with a snap that lands crisp and balanced. Radlers and hard seltzers slide into the cooler like the fun cousins everyone can't help but love. The mood is bright and the flavors follow suit—citrus peel, stone fruit, melon—with the odd botanical cameo just to keep things interesting.

This is what summer gets right. The ease. The light. The people who show up. And beer, just hanging around like it has nothing to prove.

From lighter lagers to flavorful hoppy ales and fun alternatives, here are some suggestions from Jon Abernathy, founder of The Brew Site (since 2004) for the best and brightest brews to drink this summer:

DESCHUTES BREWERY: BOGGS LAGER

4.2% ABV, 18 IBUs

Longtime pub brewer Robin Johnson created this light American lager in honor of his fly-fishing friend, Niall Boggs. The recipe starts with clean, crisp pilsner malt and adds flaked corn for a touch of sweet character and smooth mouthfeel. Saaz hops, grown in the United States, round out the flavor with a mildly spicy, herbal note with a citrus flourish for a mellow and flavorful easy drinker.

SUNRIVER BREWING: ROLLER XPA

5% ABV, 38 IBUs

XPA stands for "Extra Pale Ale" and represents a hop-forward style from Australia that's been growing in popularity in recent years. The style is well represented in this latest release in Sunriver's quarterly Rotator series. Roller XPA is a light-bodied ale featuring a blend of American and New Zealand hops which give it notes of pineapple, tangerine, white wine and exotic berries. Think summer fruit salad!

GOODLIFE BREWING: BLACKBERRY LIME HARD SELTZER: 5% ABV

This year, GoodLife entered the hard seltzer market with Strawberry, Blackberry Lime, Tropical and White Peach Lemonade versions. While the brewery is best known for its crushable, award-winning Sweet As! Pacific Ale, these seltzers offer a crisp, easy-drinking alternative to the usual blast of malt and hops. Blackberry Lime is light and refreshing, with a subtle sweet berry note and pop of lime that's great for a day at the lake.



**CRUX FERMENTATION PROJECT:
NØ MØ RIVER REFRESHER IPA**
<0.5% ABV, 40 IBUs

When it comes to nonalcoholic beer, Crux is one of the breweries at the forefront with its NØ MØ series of NA IPAs, all with less than 0.5% alcohol by volume. River Refresher is a summertime quencher with tropical and citrus flavors that will leave you feeling fresh, clear-headed and ready for adventure.

**CASCADE LAKES BREWING: MUY
CHIDO MEXICAN-STYLE LAGER**
5.1% ABV, 19 IBUs

When it comes to hot weather beer styles, Mexican-style lagers first come to mind, and they fall into two camps: lighter versions brewed with corn (think Corona and Pacifico) and versions inspired by darker Vienna lager (Dos Equis, Negra Modelo). Muy Chido embraces the darker tradition with an amber-brown hue and rich, nutty flavors that will have you reaching for another.

**UPP LIQUIDS:
300 DAYS OF SUNSHINE**
4.5% ABV

On the lighter side, it's hard to beat the influence of Baja, where we get the tradition of adding lime and salt to

lagers, and newcomer UPP brewed this specialty with this in mind. 300 Days of Sunshine starts with a crisp and dry rice lager and layers in calamansi lime and pink sea salt to elevate it to a perfectly crushable summer quaffer.

**BEVEL CRAFT BREWING:
FIRST RUN IPA**
6.8% ABV

This favorite was the first batch brewed at Bevel and has been a mainstay ever since. This is a solid, dialed-in IPA featuring Simcoe hops which bring pine, citrus and a bit of dank diesel to the aroma, and a firm bitterness featuring tree bark, citrus pith and zest, and dandelion greens to the flavor party. It's clean and crisp, and while it may be the first run, it won't be the last.





VAN HENION BREWING: KÖLSCH

5% ABV, 22 IBUs

Van Henion excels in brewing two types of beers in particular, IPAs and German-style lagers, with a lineup full of palate pleasers. Its German Kölsch-style ale, while technically not a lager, is brewed to tradition while being a crisp and flavorful modern interpretation—not to mention it has garnered multiple accolades from the North American Beer Awards, Best of Craft Beer and Oregon Beer Awards as a refreshing ale perfect for summer.

TERRANAUT BEER: GOAT BEER

4.7% ABV, 30 IBUs

A relative newcomer, Terranaut has made a splash in the industry in its first year, thanks in part to beers like its cocktail-inspired Goat Beer, brewed in collaboration with San Simón, the bohemian bar tucked into Tin Pan Alley. Racking up awards from Best of Craft Beer and *Sip Magazine*, this sour-adjacent ale brewed with lime and bitters is sure to keep you refreshed all season long.

WILD RIDE BREWING: TARTY TO THE PARTY MARIONBERRY SOUR ALE

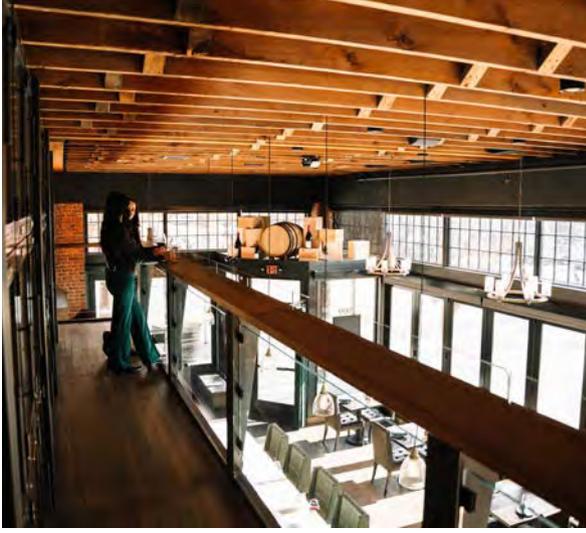
5.6% ABV, 10 IBUs

How could you not like a beer with a name like this? Wild Ride repeatedly wins awards for this rotating, fruited sour beer series, most recently with a silver medal at this year's Oregon Beer Awards for Marionberry Sour Ale. The award is for good reason: It strikes a balance between acidity, the fruit and a light, sweet creaminess, which you'll enjoy, as the brewery says, "from tart to finish."

◀ BEND BREWING: 30TH ANNIVERSARY IPA

7% ABV, 60 IBUs

Thirty years ago, Bend Brewing Company opened its doors in downtown Bend to become the city's second brewery. To celebrate three decades, BBC released 30th Anniversary IPA, a milestone beer redolent with notes of candied citrus, mango, grilled pineapple and a summertime evergreen forest. The flavor hits just right with piney, fruity hops leading the way buoyed by a light, creamy malt body. It might just be the perfect IPA for summer. **IB**



INTRODUCING

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Amatterra Kitchen + Social Club is more than a restaurant and tasting room—it's an invitation to enjoy the bold, honest flavors of the Pacific Northwest in the heart of downtown Bend.

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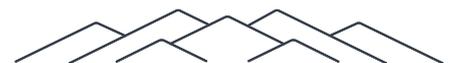
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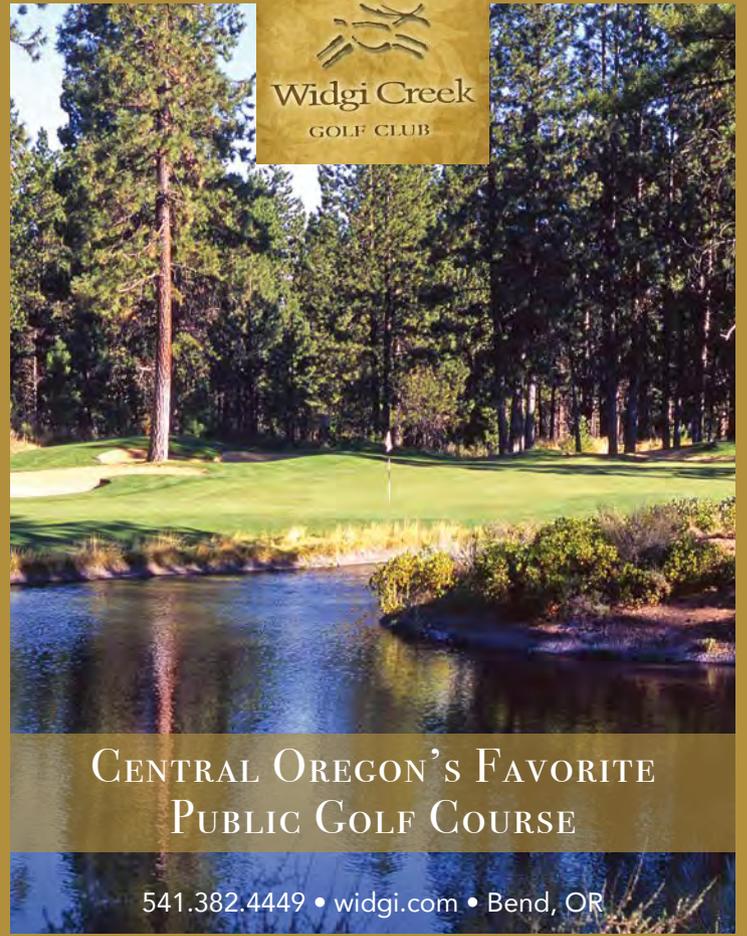
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STEP INTO A PLANT PARADISE...

Sake Style

Find Tokyo-inspired street food
at Yokocho Izakaya

WRITTEN BY DONNA BRITT
PHOTOGRAPHY BY TINA PAYMASTER





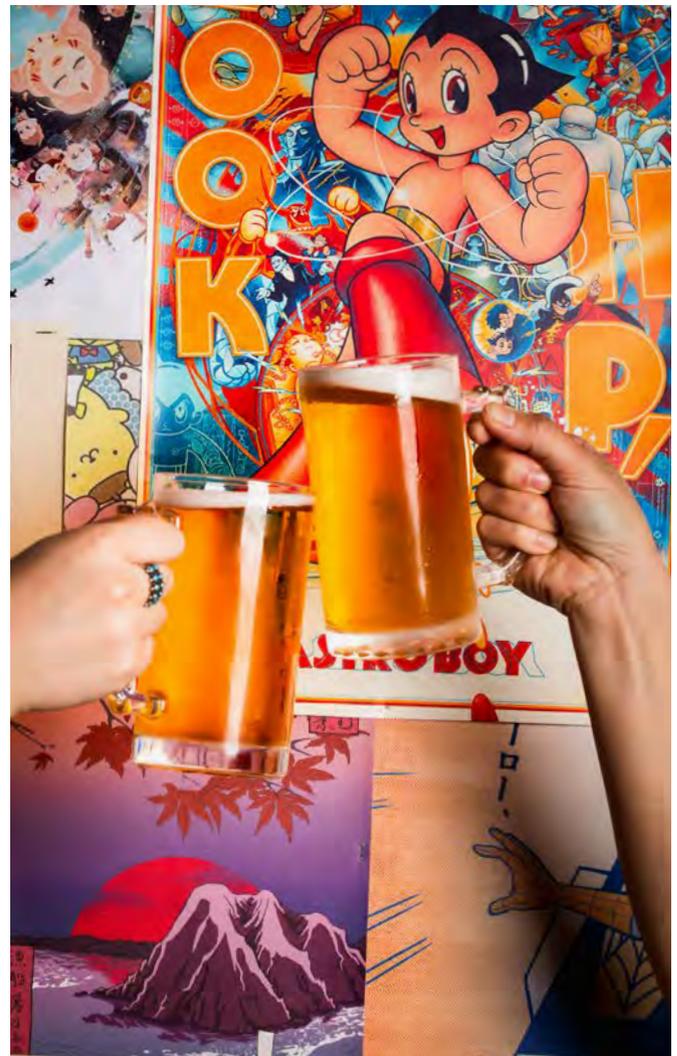
Yokocho Izakaya is a different kind of pub. Colorful, packed with personality and buzzing with energy, its Japanese food pays homage to the spirited street food alleys of Tokyo—known as *yokocho*—where locals gather to unwind after a long day. With bold and playful decor (a Pac-Man arcade machine, anime projected on a screen and papier-mâché lanterns) and creative dishes, Yokocho Izakaya is an experience and immersion into another scene.

Founded by Thai-born chefs Kwanchanok Singhakahm (Chef Kwan) and Phanapat Namsr (Chef Nong), Yokocho Izakaya is more than a restaurant. “It wasn’t just about opening a business to make money,” said Kwan. “It’s our passion.”

Having started cooking for his family at a young age, Kwan developed a deep love for food. Moving to New York City with big dreams but little means, the aspiring chef started as a dishwasher because culinary school was out of reach financially. After a move to Portland, Kwan and Nong met and discovered a shared dream: To create a space that offered something different, both in food and in feel.

That vision came to life in Bend with the opening of a space much like the lively *izakayas* of Japan. The word *izakaya* combines three words in kanji of stay, drink and place. At the Bend restaurant, people can gather, relax and enjoy robust flavors in a cozy, come-as-you-are atmosphere. Kick back on an upcycled milk crate stool, sip a sake, cold beer or craft cocktail and enjoy the ways Yokocho Izakaya adds a twist to elevate Japanese street food.

Chef Kwan’s menu is a blend of traditional Asian flavors with inventive flourishes and a focus on seasonality. Start with a Yakitori skewer, such as the Chicken with Scallion, served with a house-made gluten-free sweet sauce. For a twist on comfort food, crispy Dirty Fries are covered in a house sauce and topped with *tobiko* (flying fish eggs) and shredded seaweed, adding





LEFT PAGE: The colorful Agedashi Tofu.
THIS PAGE (CLOCKWISE): Seating on crates is casual and adds to a street-style ambiance. Enjoy a cocktail made by Sunadda “Jeep” Rimrang or the Tonkatsu Curry chicken.





TOP: The Chrysanthemum Martini cocktail.

BOTTOM: Options include small plates to fried chicken.



light crunch and texture. Kwan describes the fries as “a little creamy, sour and sweet.”

On the lighter side, the Salmon Sashimi Salad is a standout not only as the sole raw dish on the menu. It features delicately cured salmon sashimi and a crown of avocado topped with ikura (salmon roe also known as red caviar). For heartier appetites, Tonkatsu is Chef Kwan’s personal favorite: juicy marinated pork loin, breaded in crispy Panko and deep-fried, paired with honey soy sauce and pickled ginger.

Fans of fried chicken will rejoice over *karaage*, Yokocho’s take on Japanese-style deep-fried chicken. Enjoy it two ways: in the comforting Karaage Don with scrambled egg, honey soy sauce and pickled ginger, or in the soul-warming Karaage Curry featuring Japanese curry.

The Tofu Five Spice, simmered in a deeply aromatic five spice broth, is both vegan and gluten-free, and Chef Kwan promises more plant-based options are on the way. Chef Nong’s personal favorite? Kim’s Fried Rice, a bold, flavorful mix of kimchi, *chashu* pork, pork belly, egg, fried garlic and scallions.

Another showstopper is the Grilled Salmon Miso, wild salmon marinated in miso, sake and soy sauce, served with miso soup. And when it comes to dessert, the Shibuya Toast steals the spotlight with its thick slices of Sparrow Bakery brioche soaked in honey, topped with Eberhart’s vanilla ice cream, strawberries, almonds, brown sugar syrup and whipped cream cheese.

Behind the bar, creative cocktails such as the Chrysanthemum Martini and the Magic of Yokocho (mezcal, yuzu syrup, coconut cream and rosemary) add to the fun along with a selection of Japanese and local beers and an impressive list of rotating sakes and nonalcoholic offerings. Together, Kwan and Nong, plus their team, are building more than a restaurant, they’re cultivating a colorful new corner in Bend’s food scene. **IB**

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Summer in a Waffle Cone

Birdsong's fruity, creamy, insanely delicious dessert

WRITTEN BY **SIENA DORMAN**
PHOTOGRAPHY BY **TAMBI LANE**

Call it real-fruit ice cream, New Zealand-style ice cream, or even New Zealand-style real-fruit ice cream if you have the breath—Birdsong's all-organic, creamy dessert has the community flocking to The Podski.

Cassandra Price and Taylor Samuelsen fell for the treat during visits to British Columbia, where they first encountered the irresistible simplicity of combining ripe frozen berries and a scooped ice cream base. A cold dessert after mountain biking with no sugar crash? They were hooked. Within months of deciding to bring this discovery to Bend, Price and Samuelsen tracked down a machine from New Zealand specifically crafted for this kind of ice cream, refurbished a vintage cart (Price has years of construction experience) and landed a coveted spot at The Podski.

Every organic ice cream is made to order using fresh frozen fruit from Oregon and Washington and an ice cream base from Alden's, a Eugene creamery, or a lush, dairy-free coconut-based ice cream made in Bend. "Because it's scooped ice cream, the water content is not as high. It comes out a lot creamier and richer than a soft serve would," said Samuelsen.

Real-fruit ice cream takes less than a minute to make—whole fruit moves through Birdsong's specialty machine and is mixed directly into the cream to create a bright, tangy blend that is as fresh as it is flavorful.

These swirls bring patrons back to the basics: sprinkles naturally dyed with ingredients such as beetroot, a chocolate-coconut shell developed by Price that hardens like magic on contact and crisp waffle cones from a generations-old Canadian cone artisan. You won't find artificial dyes, just bright colors from nature and pure ingredients with gluten- and dairy-free options.

Some customer favorites include the Oregon-native marionberry or raspberry topped with the housemade chocolate shell. And look out for seasonal collaborations with local vendors. Last season Birdsong teamed up with Bend's Ascend Mushrooms for a limited-edition matcha ice cream.

Behind the counter, the pair takes pride in their delicious offering, Birdsong's regional ingredients and sharing summer with the community—one waffle cone at a time. See birdsongicecream.com. **13**





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Painting from past artist in residence, Derek Yost.

Art (and a Pulitzer Prize) Take Root

Pine Meadow Ranch Center for Arts & Agriculture connects artists and community in creative collaboration

WRITTEN BY CATHY CARROLL | PHOTOGRAPHY BY LOMA SMITH

A 260-acre ranch beside Whychus Creek, surrounded by the peaks of the Three Sisters Wilderness and the Deschutes National Forest in Sisters, is inspiring artists of all disciplines from around the country. In rustic studios—including a converted dairy barn, tack room and shop—artists immerse themselves in pursuits from metalwork and painting to fiber arts, photography, writing, music and more.

At Pine Meadow Ranch Center for Arts & Agriculture, during two- and four-week residencies, artists share the ranch's large, historic home, engage with local and regional experts related to their fields and offer events for the public. The center aims to bridge sustainable agriculture, conservation, the arts and sciences.



This year's residency theme, "Care and Stewardship," links the program with the work of its umbrella organization, the Roundhouse Foundation, which focuses on supporting rural and Indigenous spaces.

The value of an artist residency in the creation of a work was evidenced this past spring, when the 2025 Pulitzer Prize for a memoir went to one of the ranch's first participants. Tessa Hulls of Seattle worked on her debut book, the graphic novel *Feeding Ghosts*, during her residency at the ranch in 2018. She mentioned that she was inspired by the Ranch and did much of her writing there, in the book's acknowledgements.

It's an example of the vision of Roundhouse Foundation Founder and Trustee Kathy Deggendorfer, an accomplished painter who believes that bringing together artists and scientists of seemingly disparate disciplines yields

inspiring discussion and the basis for creative problem solving. She researched and attended multiple residencies around the nation and abroad to inform the program at the ranch.

"There were always interesting conversations, new ways of thinking about things, expanding people's horizons," she said. "It's this great equalizer and a way to create this area of respect between people, which I think is something that's really, really needed now."

Two recent artist residents, Mallory Craig and Joshua Anderson, hail from New York City and North Dakota respectively, and at the ranch both deepened their artistic journeys and worked on projects they shared with the local community.

CONNECTING WITH THE LAND

For Mallory Craig, a residency gave her insight into rural food systems, which connects to her work with the urban

food system in her home neighborhood of Harlem. There, Craig manages the Greenhouse and Education Center and Learning Gardens, where she offers community programs around therapeutic horticulture, art and foodways.

At the ranch, Craig shadowed staff, learning about regenerative practices such as rotational grazing and the use of native plants to support water conservation and fire ecology. As part of her ongoing project around eating as an agricultural act, she made plant pigments and handmade papers for image transfers. "We play a part in our local ecologies and our food system just by what we decide to eat," she said.

She often found herself in the sagebrush at the ranch, surrounded by ponderosa pines. "To look up and know that the water that I was hearing was coming from these amazing



ABOVE Bucolic inspiration on the ranch.

THIS A past artist in residence, Mersaedy Atkins, at work.



mountains—you can see how it all connects and how the ecology really relies on itself,” said Craig.

She held a workshop for developing a more intimate relationship with foods and nature. She led guests in two activities: starting a sit-spot practice of finding a place to quietly observe nature and creating an artful recipe book while considering their everyday foods.

WORDS AND FILMMAKING AS SEEDS OF CHANGE

An integral part of our food system and health is soil, the focus of another artist resident, writer Joshua Anderson. He had been teaching literature and creative writing in New England in 2022 when he made a fateful visit to his hometown in rural North Dakota. “There was a biblical windstorm—acres and acres and acres of topsoil were blowing away—it looked like [a scene from] *The Grapes of Wrath*.”

Poor soil health practices, including the area’s monoculture of sugar beets for processed sugar, led to erosion. His home county has lost more than half of its topsoil since 1960. “People think the dust bowl ended in the 1930s, but it has decidedly not ended in the rural Great Plains,” Anderson said.

A job with his hometown’s soil conservation district opened, and he took it. As manager and watershed coordinator, his work ranges from running public education and outreach programs to planting grass and trees, and collecting water samples.

Pine Meadow Ranch connected him with Central Oregon soil scientists, geologists, river ecologists and others to help advance his conservation and storytelling work, which includes “Common Ground: A Prairie Podcast” and a documentary film tentatively titled “Soil and Water.”

During his residency, he also collaborated on a lecture with his sister, Jordana Anderson, a geologist and biologist in Prineville, exploring land health, personal care work and rural abundance. Guests engaged in discussion followed by a seed planting activity.

Conservation work is much like seed planting, he said. “A lot of the seeds that you plant, nothing grows, and so you’ve got to plant a lot of them.”

For upcoming artist-in-residence workshops, lectures and open studios at Pine Meadow Ranch Center for Arts & Agriculture, see roundhousefoundation.org. **18**



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Wax and Flame

Encaustic art by Allison Shadday

WRITTEN BY LEE LEWIS HUSK | PHOTOGRAPHY BY TAMBI LANE

With a blowtorch in hand, Allison Shadday directs the hissing flame at a wooden board layered with paint and wax. Heat melts the surface, creating abstract patterns and textures that range from a soft, translucent glow to the cracked look of a dry creek bed. It's all part of the encaustic painting process, an ancient art form that, for Shadday, reflects both her family background and her journey with multiple sclerosis.

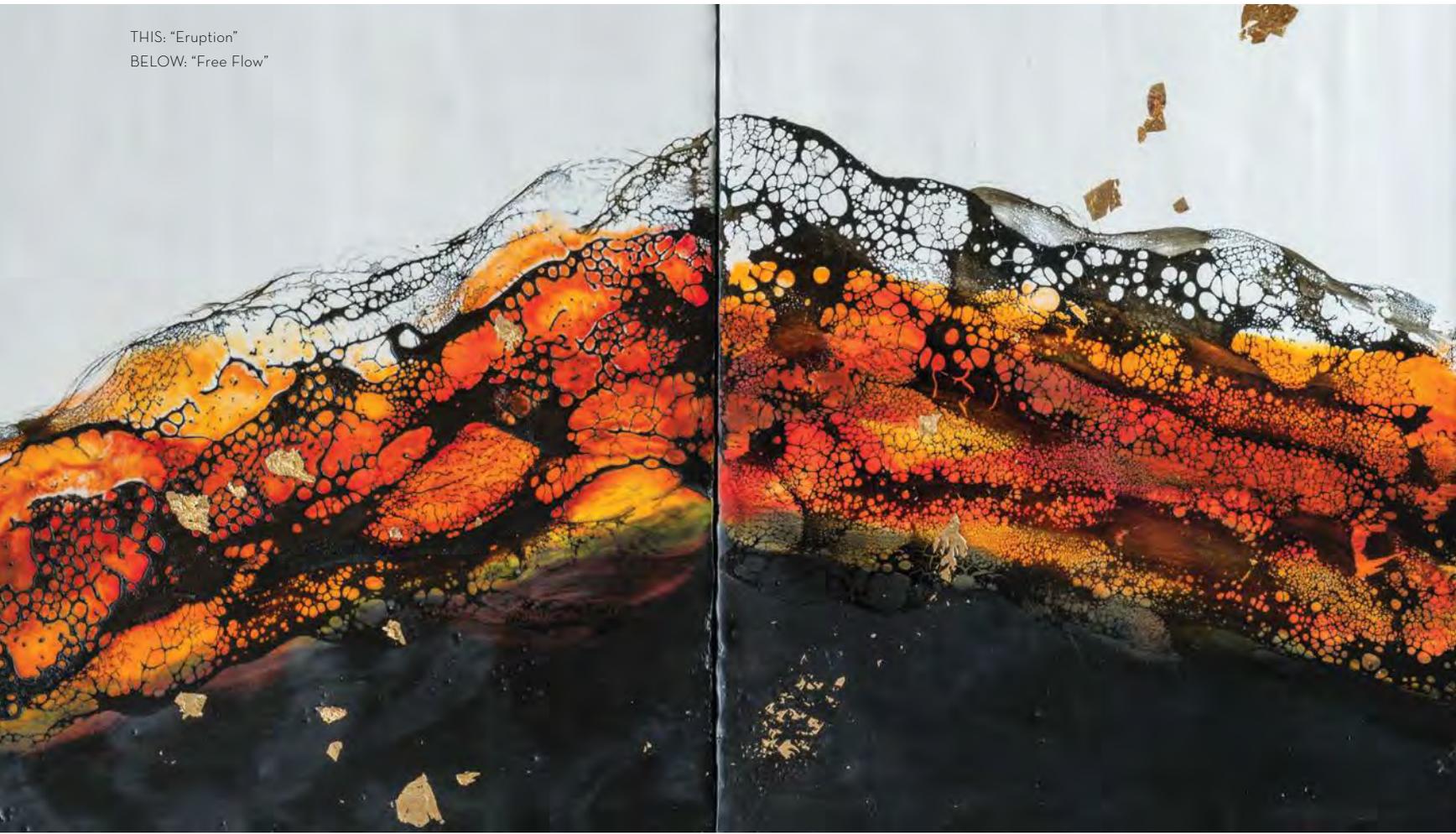
Shadday began encaustic painting after her mother died in 2018. Until then, she had never drawn or explored any form of visual art. But creativity ran in her

blood—both her grandmother and mother were artistic. Picking up the blowtorch felt like a way to channel their presence.

In the 1990s, while in her 30s, Shadday was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, which would later influence her attraction to encaustic painting. Effective treatments for MS were nonexistent then, so she chose an unconventional therapy: allowing honeybees to sting her 30 times every other day to trigger an anti-inflammatory response. It helped manage her symptoms. At one point, when she and her husband lived in West Linn, Oregon, a beekeeper approached Shadday and



THIS: "Eruption"
BELOW: "Free Flow"





her husband about keeping hives on their property. “Bees started to play a big role in my life,” she said.

Decades later, while visiting Seattle, she encountered a large encaustic painting. “When I saw this encaustic, and it was primarily created from beeswax, it sparked something in me.”

CREATING LUMINESCENT IMAGES THROUGH WAX AND FIRE

Shadday returned to O’ahu, where she was living at the time, and focused on learning the technique for encaustic painting. She took classes and experienced early success: She was accepted into the juried Haleiwa Arts Festival in 2019. “I sold 17 of 18 encaustic paintings, which motivated me, so I kept going,” she recalled.

Despite her success in the new medium, the tropical heat was starting to take its toll on her health. Seeking a change, the couple relocated to Central Oregon for its sunshine and temperate climate. “When we moved here, I needed a studio outside the house,” Shadday said. She found a shared space with several glass artists and chose the entryway specifically for its window, which provides essential ventilation from the encaustic process. “It’s messy, it’s smelly, and it’s physical. I paint with fire and a blowtorch,” she laughed.

IN THE STUDIO

The panel she’s working on began with five layers of brushed-on, melted white beeswax. Over that base, Shadday builds up dozens of pigmented wax layers, fusing each one to the last with her torch. While the wax is still molten, she can push the surface around to achieve unexpected color blends. “It’s very exciting when you see what emerges,” she said. For added texture, she sometimes embeds materials—copper strips or, recently, pretzels that dissolve away, leaving only the salt behind. As a painting nears completion, she’ll torch the surface again, encouraging a distinctive “cool crackle,” a Shadday hallmark.

She set the blowtorch down and stepped back to study the work. “I love how this is turning out,” she said of the commissioned piece—an opportunity that arose when a collector spotted one of her paintings at the Laylor Art gallery in downtown Bend. “It brings me a lot of joy to do this,” she said. The 63-year-old self-described extrovert stays active, including golfing five days a week, but noted that encaustic painting is the one thing that brings her indoors. “This is a place I can come to settle down and go inward, tapping a different part of my brain.” In this space, she lets her ancestors—and even the honeybees—shine through each luminescent layer. See allisonshadday.com. **IB**



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WESTERN SPIRIT AT THE HIGH DESERT MUSEUM

The High Desert Museum's annual "Art in the West" exhibition and silent auction is open from July 5 through September 20. It showcases a collection of fine art celebrating landscapes, wildlife and culture of the American West. Visitors can view and purchase works ranging from traditional Western paintings to contemporary sculpture. Proceeds from the sales support the museum's educational programs and exhibitions. See highdesertmuseum.org.

VISIT BEND CULTURAL TOURISM GRANTS FUEL GROWTH IN BEND

Twenty organizations received a total of \$300,000 from the Bend Cultural Tourism Fund to boost cultural programming throughout the city. Now in its 10th year, the fund managed by Visit Bend supports projects that attract visitors during the shoulder seasons. Some of the grantees include the High Desert Museum's "Volcanoes" exhibit, BendFilm, TEDxBend, Central Oregon Taco Fest and Hayden Homes Amphitheater sustainability projects. See visitbend.com.

ART IN THE HIGH DESERT RETURNS TO RIVERBEND PARK

Art in the High Desert, Bend's juried fine art show, takes place August 22 through 24 at Riverbend Park. Ranked in the top 25 art shows nationwide, the outdoor event brings together artists working in painting, sculpture, ceramics, jewelry, photography and more. Presenting artists are in attendance as an opportunity for collectors and art lovers to connect with creators. See artinthehighdesert.com.



"GOLDEN MEMORIES" 50 YEARS OF THE SISTERS OUTDOOR QUILT SHOW

The world's largest outdoor quilt show returns to downtown Sisters on Saturday, July 12. Founded by Jean Wells in 1975, this year marks the 50th anniversary of the event with the theme "Golden Memories." The Sisters Outdoor Quilt Show is a nonprofit organization committed to celebrating the art and heritage of quilting, and draws art and visitors from across the world. See soqs.org.





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—RAY BRADBURY, *DANDELION WINE*

PHOTO BY RICHARD BACON



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