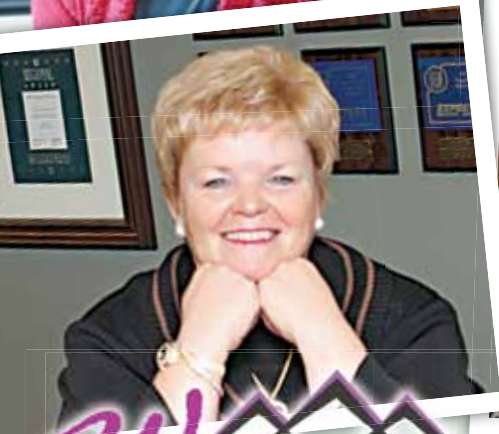


FREE MARCH 2016

BEND BUSINESS JOURNAL

PUBLISHED BY THE BEND Chamber VOLUME 31 ISSUE 3



Women
OF THE YEAR AWARDS
BEND Chamber **usbank**

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MORE DETAILS PAGE 5



A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN



The Future of Bend

By: Brian E. Fratzke, owner and principal broker of Fratzke Commercial Real Estate Advisors Inc, chairman of the Bend Chamber

People are moving into Oregon at one of the highest rates in the 49 years that I have lived in the state. And Bend is the town they want to live in, for the same reasons that you and I moved here.

Believe it or not, Bend is affordable. Yes, I said it, Bend is affordable if you move here from Sunnyvale or San Francisco, California, Seattle, Washington, Aspen, Colorado or New York City.

Many of my local clients and peers inform me on a daily basis how expensive Bend is to operate a business, or construct a building or home. But I remind them that to many of the people moving to town from out of state, Bend is a deal!

You are all aware about our Urban Growth Boundary and the challenges behind expanding the city limits. For the next three to five years, no new land will be brought into our UGB, annexed into the city limits, and entitled (which means it will be ready for development). The City is getting ready to send in their response to the UGB Remand to the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA). Once LUBA responds with their findings, assuming no appeals will occur and the remand is ap-

proved, the City of Bend will begin the annexation process. Once annexation is complete, the land must be entitled and infrastructure must be planned including roads, utilities and other services necessary for development. Suffice to say, this is not a quick process. It is estimated to take two to four years.

The Bend Chamber is working to keep Bend a great place to not only work and play, but also run a company.

Commercial real estate lease rates and residential rental rates continue to increase for existing inventory as absorption in all sectors of real estate takes place. The sales price of existing commercial buildings, specifically in the in-

dustrial sector, has doubled over the past three years. The cost of new construction is increasing primarily due to increases in labor, permits and fees.

And why is all of this taking place? Demand.

Bend is at the center of an economic bullseye. Massive demand, limited product and an extremely complicated land use planning system have set the wheels in motion. In addition, minimum wage is soon to increase, and taxes are rising for corporations.

The Bend Chamber is working to keep Bend a great place to not only work and play, but also run a company. You, as members of the Bend Chamber, can help by sending letters to those in office. Your stories make a big impact on our elected officials and let them see the true picture of what's happening here in Bend from the business perspective. Please reach out to the Bend Chamber. We are here to help you get involved, make your voice heard and share your opinions with all who are willing to listen.

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2016 PLATINUM PARTNERS

Are you interested in strategically partnering with the Bend Chamber?

Contact Bend Chamber Business Development Executive Patty Davis (541) 382-3221 or patty@bendchamber.org



ON THE COVER:

Photos of our Women of the Year Awards judges panel. From left to right:

Noelle Fredland, Old Mill District; Samantha Albert, Clear 101.7; Martha Rogers, The Bulletin; Sarah Lauderdale, The Bend Radio Group; Sonja Donohue, The Center Foundation; Pamela Hulse Andrews, Cascade Publications Inc - Cascade Business News; Connie Druliner, Express Employment Professionals; Stephanie Anderson Stroup, Twist Cocktail Catering Co.; Emilie Cortes, Call of the Wild Adventures Inc; Heather Hansen, Bryant, Lovlien & Jarvis PC

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VISION

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Once upon a time in Bend...

By: Rachael Rees van den Berg, Bend Chamber Communications

When settlers first gathered at “Farewell Bend” looking to cross the Deschutes, the area was mostly open forest of Ponderosa pine that melded into the high desert ecosystem replete with sage brush, bitter brush and juniper.

The first commercial sawmill was opened by the Pilot Butte Development Company in May 1901. Bend was incorporated in 1905 and grew to 536 people in 1910. In 1908, the Deschutes Railroad wars began, and with the hammering of the golden spike in 1911, the area was opened up by the railroads to more intensive timber harvesting.

By the early 1920’s the population in Bend had exploded to 5,400. Bend was, and remained a mill town, with the industry driving Bend’s economy well through the first half of the 1900s.

In 1918, the state of Oregon allowed the cities in Oregon to plan their own expansion. And Bend was doing just that, modifying to suit its bustling timber industry. The first car drove up the road at Pilot Butte on July 1922. The Pine Tavern opened its doors in 1936, the Tower Theater opened in March 1940 and Mt. Bachelor Ski Area was founded by Bill Healy in December 1958.

But by 1969, things started to change. The Oregon legislature adopted Senate Bill 10, which required every city and county in the state to have a comprehensive land use plan that met state standards. Although the law was weak, with most cities and counties refusing to develop plans due to no effective enforcement mechanism or a program of technical assistance from the state, it

was the start of the transformation of land use policy in Oregon.

Tom McCall, the 30th governor of Oregon who was in office from 1967 to 1975, wanted to protect development land. There were two main industries: wood products companies and agriculture and McCall wanted to put a process in place to manage land development. In 1973, he requested legislation establishing a state-wide program for land use planning, and by May of that year, SB 100, which created the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) and the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD). These changes encouraged higher density urban areas and careful considered growth of urban growth boundaries in an effort to prevent urban sprawl.

So what does this mean for Bend and Oregon? This means our state is different than many others. It means urban development is not allowed beyond the UGB - the invisible line in the dirt that separates the city from the country land - unless a city can prove it needs the boundary expanded.

Opponents of the UGB claim is too timely and outdated, resulting in an improper balance of supply and demand in terms of land, which drives up cost and prevents redevelopment.

But proponents of the UGB claim the process ensures smart growth and protects our forest and farmlands. They believe growth should be kept within the existing cities.

Between the 1950s and 1960s, the population in Bend only increased by 500. But by the 1980s, Bend was a tourist hot spot with a population of nearly 18,000. Today, we have a population of 81, 236, according to the United States Census Bureau, with a diverse economy that includes multiple different business sectors.

The last time the city of Bend expanded its UGB was in 1981. The current UGB expansion began in 2004 with a residential Land Study. But 11 years later there has been no expansion.

Lease rates for industrial, office and retail space have soared. For example, in April 2012 lease rates for industrial land were \$0.35 per square foot per month triple net. In April of this year, they were \$0.65 per square foot per month triple net. Since leases are typically three to five years, many tenants in Bend are currently paying recession rents. But as these leases expire, rents are going up 50-100 percent due to the new demand. The result is many small businesses are being forced to close and people are being priced out of the community.

If the UGB remand is submitted in 2016, LUBA has until 2018 to approve the remand. Then the land must be annexed into the City of Bend UGB and infrastructure must be put in place. It is estimated that no new entitled land will be available for development until 2022.

READ MORE ABOUT BEND'S UGB - PAGE 10



TIM CASEY

I'll be the first to admit it can be hard to hold your tongue when someone is attacking your beliefs.

Politics and the up-and-coming professional

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT & CEO

TIM CASEY IS AVAILABLE TO MEET WITH YOU. CALL (541) 382-3221 OR EMAIL TIM@BENDCHAMBER.ORG

“Every action done in company, ought to be with some sign of respect, to those that are present.”

- George Washington's The Rules of Civility and Decent Behavior in Company and Conversation

If ever there was a networking golden rule, this is it. And it's fitting to share it as we gear up for the presidential election this year.

Whether it's our local city council race or the oval office, chances are you've run into a conversation or two regarding elections. We all have our

own personal political views, and there are certainly times and places where it is more than appropriate to share your beliefs, but there may be times you should exercise restraint. I'll be the first to admit it can be hard to hold your tongue when someone is attacking your beliefs. But the question for an up-and-coming professional is, "Is it appropriate to talk about politics at a networking event?"

Etiquette is defined as society's customs designed to show respect for your fellow person. What makes us individuals is our character. Professional etiquette is the action of your character in a business setting. Both good and bad, it's how you present yourself to your peers, employees and customers.

Business networking events are designed to help you make connections with others in the community. One of our goals at the Bend Chamber is to make networking an enjoyable and fruitful experience for your business.

Every business has a brand, something that comes to mind when your company is thought of. You represent that brand and have the ability to influence how others see not only you, but your business as well. There is no hard and fast rule regarding political opinions, just the use of good judgment. If you offend someone, they simply won't do business with you. As a representative, protecting your business's best interest should be the guideline over personal preferences.

This is not to say that politics and business don't mix; on the contrary, they are rarely separate. And like religion, there are many appropriate times and venues to share your views. However, when you are networking and meeting people, possibly for the first time, you should give careful consideration to subjects you discuss.

If you feel very strongly about your political views, I applaud and encourage you to never lose that passion. I know I won't. If however, you are tempted to use business networking as your soap box, please keep this in mind: Clients who do not mix business with politics will keep their distance, possibly long after ballots have been cast.

Boom, bubble or bust for Central Oregon?

REAL ESTATE FORECAST - APRIL 20

Is Central Oregon in another boom? That's the million-dollar question! We will first travel back in time to 2005 - 2007 when Bend's economy was "booming" to learn from the past. Join our panel of experts over a continental breakfast, to compare then and now and discover if the recent growth in housing prices

is based on sound economic ground, or speculative growth.

Next we will jump back to the present to discuss how the election and the erratic stock market will impact growth trends, property prices, construction and the urban growth boundary remand. You'll learn what all of this may

mean for you and your business.

Don't miss the most talked about real estate forecast in our community, presented by the Bend Chamber of Commerce in partnership with Schwabe, Williamson and Wyatt on April 20 at the Tower Theater from 7:30 - 10 a.m.

BEND Chamber
REAL ESTATE
FORECAST

SWW SCHWABE, WILLIAMSON & WYATT
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WHO wants to go to IRELAND?

The Bend Chamber believes once-in-a-lifetime experiences abroad connect people together in a unique way. The relationships made during world travel bond business owners as life-long friends, creating opportunities they may never have realized.

On Sept. 21, the Bend Chamber is taking you on a 10-day tour of the Emerald Isle.

Kilkenny – Waterford – Killarney

After three days in the historic city of Dublin, you'll travel to Kilkenny to explore the medieval atmosphere of the city situated on the banks of the River Nore.

Then, you'll arrive in Waterford and visit the House of Waterford Crystal. Enjoy a fascinating factory tour and browse the retail store that's home to the largest collection of Waterford Crystal in the world.

On day five of your Ire-

land adventure, you'll journey to historic Blarney Castle and embrace the opportunity to kiss the famous Blarney Stone!

"For over 200 years, world statesmen, literary giants and legends of the silver screen have joined the millions of pilgrims climbing the steps to kiss the Blarney Stone and gain the gift of eloquence," the Blarney Castle & Gardens website states.

According to the website, the stone's powers are unquestioned but its story still creates debate. Some say the stone was Jacob's Pillow, brought to Ireland by the prophet Jeremiah. Others say it may be a stone brought back to Ireland from the Crusades. A few claim it was the stone that gushed water when struck by Moses.

You'll conclude your day by choosing the perfect spot from a 'menu' of Killarney's great restaurants and indulging in some authentic Irish cuisine.



Highlights

Dublin • Irish Evening • Kilkenny • Waterford Crystal • Blarney Castle • Killarney • Jaunting Car Ride • Ring of Kerry • Farm Visit • Limerick • Cliffs of Moher • Galway • Castle Stay

Contact the Bend Chamber

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The Bend Chamber's response to a minimum wage increase:

More than 30 letters from the Bend Chamber and its membership were sent to lawmakers in opposition to SB1532.

The Bend Chamber is here to support small business in response to the new legislation that will make Oregon's minimum wage one of the highest in the U.S.

"Now is the time for businesses in our community to start preparing for significant changes," said Bend Chamber President and CEO Tim Casey. "These changes may include companies having to reduce their workforces, cut employee hours or employee benefits in order to survive."

Oregon's minimum wage is currently \$9.25 an hour. The new plan outlined in Senate Bill 1532, which Governor Kate Brown said in a statement she expects to sign into law, calls for a three-tiered regional system that will be implemented over a six-year period. By 2022, Deschutes County's minimum wage will rise to \$13.50. Portland's minimum wage will soar to \$14.75 and rural communities will have a minimum wage of \$12.50.

Bend has a large service-driven industry with many restaurants and tourism-related

businesses that will be severely impacted, Casey said.

More than 30 letters from the Bend Chamber and its membership were sent to lawmakers in opposition to SB1532.

"The Bend Chamber worked hard to voice the impact this legislation would have on business, as well as both our state and local economy," Casey said.

Casey said the Bend Chamber is working in partnership with the Oregon State Chamber of Commerce and the Oregon Restaurant and Lodging Association to help provide as much education and assistance as possible to businesses.

During the Bend Chamber's What's Brewing Community Forum in January, Senator Knopp stated, "The minimum wage was never meant to be a career wage, it



was meant to be a starting point."

A raise in minimum wage will impact those on a fixed income – seniors, veterans and the disabled – the most.

"The Oregon State Legislature just created artificial inflation," Casey said. "The new dollars that minimum wage earners receive will be offset by an increase in the costs of products and services."

Oregon's historically high minimum wage has not yielded economic gains for Oregon workers. Since

2002, when Oregon voters passed Measure 25 to increase minimum wage and index for inflation, Oregon's unemployment rate has consistently exceeded the federal unemployment rate and Oregon's wage and salary income per employee has consistently trailed the U.S. average.

"The real winner of a minimum wage increase will be state government who will see a significant increase in employment tax," Casey said.

fyi

Tier 1 (the Portland urban growth boundary):

July 1, 2016: \$9.75
July 1, 2017: \$11.25
July 1, 2018: \$12
July 1, 2019: \$12.50
July 1, 2020: \$13.25
July 1, 2021: \$14
July 1, 2022: \$14.75

Tier 2 (Benton, Clackamas, Clatsop, Columbia, Deschutes, Hood River, Jackson, Josephine, Lane, Lincoln, Linn, Marion, Multnomah, Polk, Tillamook, Wasco, Washington and Yamhill counties):

July 1, 2016: \$9.75
July 1, 2017: \$10.25
July 1, 2018: \$10.75
July 1, 2019: \$11.25
July 1, 2020: \$12
July 1, 2021: \$12.75
July 1, 2022: \$13.50

Tier 3 (Malheur, Lake, Harney, Wheeler, Sherman, Gilliam, Wallowa, Grant, Jefferson, Baker, Union, Crook, Klamath, Douglas, Coos, Curry, Umatilla and Morrow counties)

July 1, 2016: \$9.50
July 1, 2017: \$10
July 1, 2018: \$10.50
July 1, 2019: \$11
July 1, 2020: \$11.50
July 1, 2021: \$12
July 1, 2022: \$12.50

Thereafter, starting in 2023, the minimum wage will be adjusted annually for inflation.

Economic development plan to help businesses thrive

“Economic development is not something the city does to business, it’s a partnership with business” - Carolyn Eagan

Bend City Councilors discussed a five-year plan for economic development within the City of Bend to help businesses thrive.

Carolyn Eagan, economic development director for the City of Bend, said the definition of economic development is: “The act of creating policy that gives decision makers the results they want in terms of economic activity.”

Typically the outcomes of economic development policies result in more jobs, higher wages and a more talented workforce, she said.

An Economic Development Department is new for the City of Bend. In May, Eagan was promoted from the Bend business advocate to the city’s economic development director to help spur economic development and oversee more than \$20 million in programming including the business advocacy program, affordable housing and the Bend Municipal Airport.

Proposed goals/outcomes Eagan presented to councilors on Feb.3 included:

- Increasing the average wage in Bend
- Increasing the percent of jobs in non-service-sector industries
- Increasing the density of employment on employment land (amenities)
- Increasing the number of jobs and companies at the Bend Airport
- To develop and expand downtown to maintain employment and density superiority

However, she said this is just the beginning, adding topics like tourism and affordable housing will also need to be addressed. Her goal, she said, is to align economic development outcomes with existing policy. She did note that the city’s economic department is just one piece of the community’s economic development program.

When asked what a successful economic development department looks like councilors said they’d like to see barriers to business growth removed, reduced complaints, more incentives for business, increased access to public transit and more high paying jobs, among others.

Councilor Victor Chudowsky asked how the community could create more high paying jobs. Eagan suggested implementing policies like the enterprise zone agreements that, for example, give incentives like offset permit fees or making land available at a cheaper rate for companies who are willing to pay higher wages.

Councilor Doug Knight said the Bend Airport has experienced a lot of economic viability over the years and could benefit the community economically.

“It’s a resource that deserves our attention,” he said.

Eagan said creating the environment where businesses thrive is about coordinating resources to grow, recruit and retain businesses.

“Economic development is not something the city does to business, it’s a partnership with business,” she said.

She encouraged businesses in the community to reach out to the new Bend business advocate to actively participate in the conversation.

In other news, during the regular city council meeting, the ordinance amending the Bend Development Code was approved 5-2, with councilor Knight and Mayor Jim Clinton opposed.

GET INVOLVED!

**THE BEND CITY COUNCIL
MEETS THE 1ST AND 3RD
WEDNESDAY EACH MONTH**



Chamber executive graduates from professional development program

Robin Rogers, the senior vice president of programs and events at the Bend Chamber of Commerce, was among the 29 chamber executives to graduate last Friday from Academy, a professional development program presented by the Western Association of Chamber Executives (W.A.C.E.).

Academy is an interactive 3-day (three year) training program on chamber management essentials

designed for today's chamber executives and staff professionals.

"We congratulate all of the graduates and their chambers for having the vision to invest in professional development," said W.A.C.E. President Dave Kilby.

During the three-year academy program, graduates participated in 18 three-hour classes and successfully completed additional independent study outside of the

classroom.

W.A.C.E is an association of chamber of commerce executives and staff professionals designed to promote and enhance professional development. With approximately 850 members from seventeen Western states and Canada, W.A.C.E. is the largest state or regional association of chamber of commerce executives in the United States.

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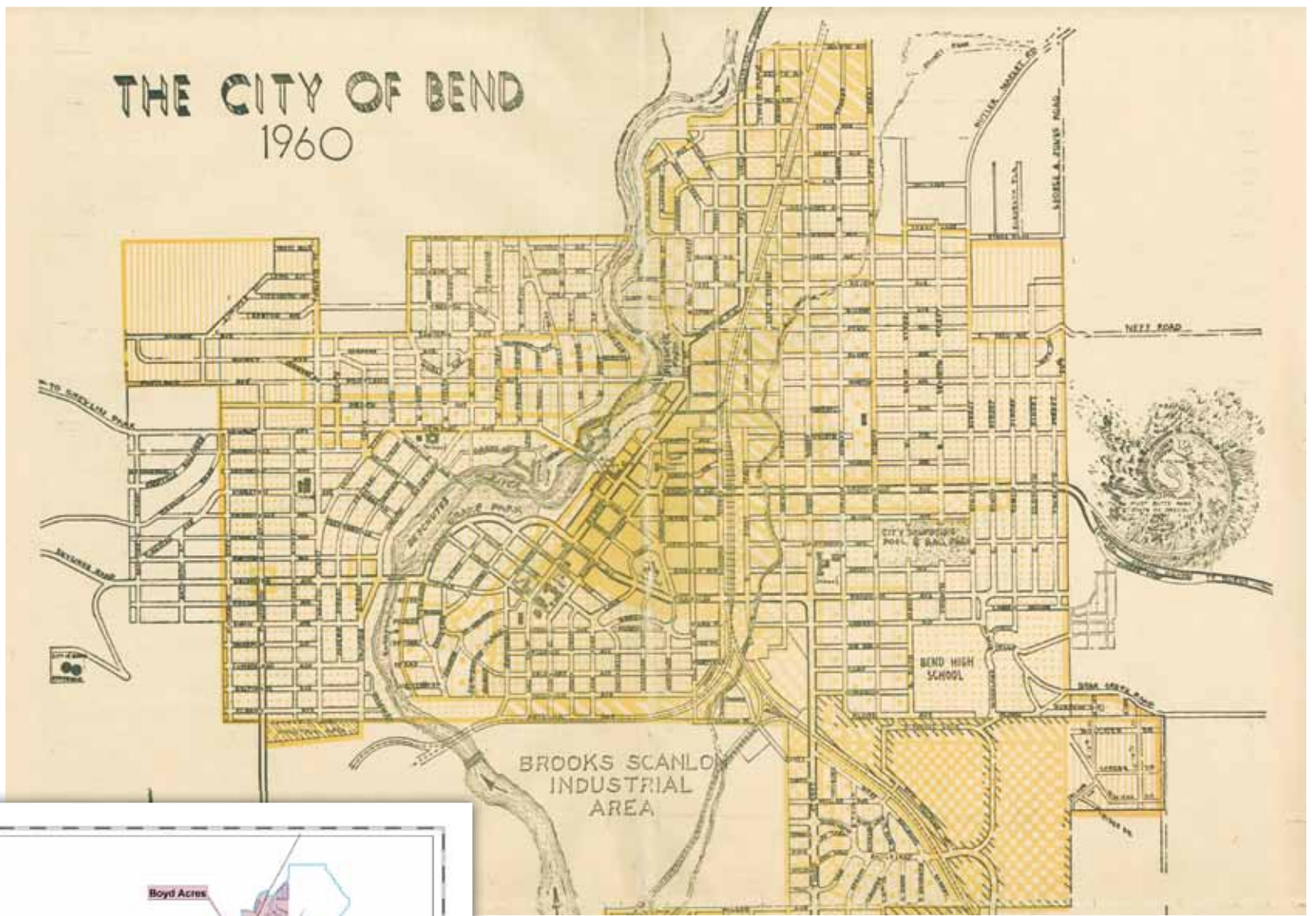
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Photos from: <http://www.bend.or.us/>

Framework for Creating a Smart Growth Economic Development Strategy: A Tool for Small Cities and Towns

Many small and mid-sized cities around the United States are struggling because their economies were built largely on a single economic sector that has changed significantly.

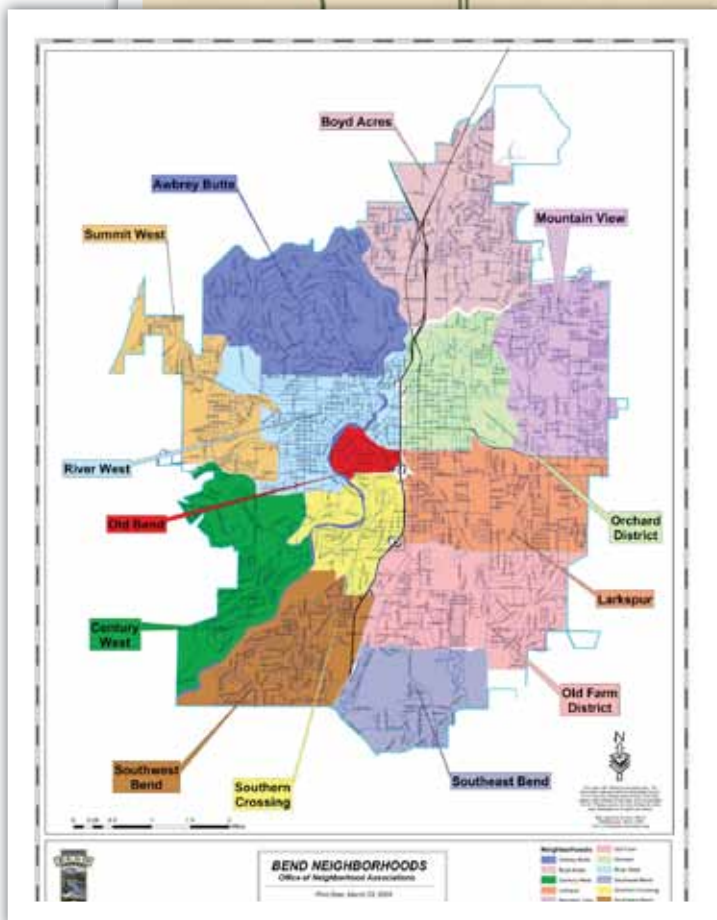
For example, jobs might once have been heavily concentrated in industries like logging, mining or manufacturing, but technology and market forces have transformed these sectors, and they no longer employ a large workforce.

Changing circumstances, such as those caused by resource depletion, globalization or shifts in consumer preferences, can shake the economic foundations of these communities, leaving people without jobs and cities without a healthy tax base.

Rather than simply seeking to attract major employers to replace these lost jobs, some cities have tried a different method to anticipate and overcome some of these challenges.

This emerging shift toward place-based approaches to economic development can go by various names including smart growth economic development. The strategy builds upon existing assets, takes incremental actions to strengthen communities and builds long-term value to attract a range of investments.

Article Source: <http://www.epa.gov/smart-growth/framework-creating-smart-growth-economic-development-strategy>



Partly a celebration and partly a massive town hall meeting

Save the Date! Bend Livability Project Coming June 3, 4 and 5

"I believe livability goes hand in hand with quality of life, the reason most of us chose to live in Central Oregon. The Bend livability conference is a great opportunity for the community to be both educated and to provide input on how we want Bend to look in the future."

-Tim Casey, President & CEO - Bend Chamber of Commerce

GOALS

EDUCATE

Show the forces most affecting the future of our city and teach Bendites about the livability opportunities and challenges they present.

EMPOWER

Teach Bendites what opportunities they continue to have for proactively and constructively shaping the future.

ENGAGE

Plug residents into existing projects, new initiatives and public input processes so that they may directly engage on critical community questions.

How do we ensure the livability of this special place in the face of the next wave of population growth and urbanization?

Coming this June, you can help answer this question by joining Bend 2030 and more than a dozen partners for the Bend Livability Project – a large-scale conference designed to educate, empower and engage the Bend community to harness and shape the dramatic growth we will experience in the coming years.

As the City of Bend submits its application to the State of Oregon to expand the urban growth boundary and increase

density within our current city limits, residents will be primed for this unique opportunity to gain new skills for shaping our future.

Partly a celebration and partly a massive town hall meeting, this conference offers three days of lectures, panels, workshops, films, parties, public art projects, walking tours and events where Bendites of all ages and backgrounds are invited to participate in ensuring the livability of Bend.

Keep your eyes peeled for project registration opportunities coming soon!

Bend Livability Project Partners:
Age-Friendly Bend
American Institute of Architects
American Planners Association
Basecamp Design Studio
Bend 2030
Bend Chamber of Commerce
BendFilm
Bend Park and Recreation District
Building a Better Bend Central Oregon
Association of Realtors
City Club of Central Oregon
City of Bend Central Oregon
Intergovernmental Council
Habitat for Humanity
High Desert Mural Festival
OSU-Cascades
Scalehouse
Central Oregon Community College

another

BEND2030
vision builds

community project

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Friday, June 3

Bend Livability Project Future Fair at Art Walk

5 - 9 p.m.

Use your "passport" to visit a dozen interactive art stations throughout downtown and into the Makers District while learning about livability issues and helping to shape the arts and culture scene in Bend.

Saturday, June 4

Bend Livability Conference at COCC
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

This full day of keynote speakers, lectures, forums and workshops at COCC will feature tracks in housing, transportation and neighborhood livability. Keynote speaker Matt Carmichael, editor of Livability.com – a premier rankings and ratings publication for livable cities in the United States – kicks off the day. Then attend several of a dozen sessions designed to ignite action on our community's most challenging issues. Cap off the day with a City Club forum focused on city council structure models and whether it's time to consider charter review in Bend.

BendFilm Festival Event at Bend Senior High School

5 - 8:30 p.m.

BendFilm will host this mini-festival featuring films focused on urbanization and livability issues around the nation and globe. Showing of films will be followed by a facilitated panel discussion led by BendFilm pros.

Sunday, June 5

Day of Action

All Day

East side and west side residents all come together to improve our community through a variety of trainings and community projects.



*Become a supporter of the conference...sponsor a workshop!
Contact Erin Foote Marlowe, Executive Director, Bend 2030
541-420-8603 or erinfootemarlowe@gmail.com*

March 9 | Wednesday 5 - 9 p.m.
Women of the Year Awards
@ The Tower Theatre

N O M I N E E S



LiLian Chu



Laura Craska Cooper



Sandy Garner



Sue Hollen



Martha McGinnis



Corky Seneca



Dr. Traci Clautice-Engle



Lisa Dobey



Carolyn Eagan



Andie Edmonds



Sue Fountain



Lisa Graham



Kim Meeder



Naomi Mozelle



Cindi O'Neil



Tona Restine



Corey Schmid



Sandra Titus



Lis Thomas



Sarah Torcom



Tiffany West



Nita Belles



Trish Connolly



Erin Foote Mark



Amanda Stuermer



Judy Trego



Charlotte Van Valkenburg



Dr. Dana Whitelaw



Sasha Wolfe



Glenn Wysling

NOMINEES

TICKETS & DETAILS
 BendChamber.org/events
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TOWER
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Women OF THE YEAR AWARDS BEND Chamber usbank

NOMINEES

Lifetime Achievement

LiLian Chu
 Laura Craska Cooper
 Sandy Garner
 Sue Hollern
 Martha McGinnis
 Corky Senecal

Jenni O'Keefe
 Sarah Pool
 Lis Thomas
 Sarah Torcom
 Tiffany West

Woman of the Year

Katie Anderson
 Robin Baney
 Shawn Cannon
 Moe Carrick
 Dr. Traci Clautice-Engle

Community Hero
 Nita Belles
 Trish Connolly
 Erin Foote Marlowe
 Sue Fountain
 Dorothy Olsen
 Alison Perry

Joan Steelhammer

Lisa Dobey
 Carolyn Eagan
 Andie Edmonds
 Sue Fountain
 Lisa Graham
 Bryn Hazell

Bo Stern
 Amanda Stuermer
 Judy Trego
 Charlotte Van
 Valkenburg
 Dr. Dana Whitelaw
 Sasha Wolfe

Jasmine Helsley-Barnett

Cindy Maricle
 Wendy McGrane
 Kim Meeder
 Naomi Mozelle
 Cindi O'Neil
 Tona Restine
 Corey Schmid
 Sandra Titus

Young Hero Award -
 Age 14-17
 Madelynn Bowers
 Sage Hassell

Entrepreneur of the Year

Kate Dunn
 Anna Kramer

Young Hero Award -
 Age 18-21
 Merritt Allen
 Hannah Birchem



Katie Anderson



Robin Baney



Shawn Cannon



Moe Carrick



Bryn Hazell



Jasmine Helsley-Barnett



Cindy Maricle



Wendy McGrane



Kate Dunn



Anna Kramer



Jenni O'Keefe



Sarah Pool



Dorothy Olsen



Alison Perry



Joan Steelhammer



Bo Stern



Madelynn Bowers



Sage Hassell



Merritt Allen



Hannah Birchem



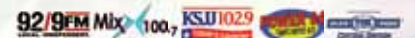
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The Bulletin
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The Bend Radio Group





PINTS: with Brad Irwin

It's not just making whiskey anymore ...

Brad Irwin got into the business of distilling by accident.

“As a bartender for about 20 years, I really had a passion for trying to understand what made spirits taste differently and have unique flavor profiles,” he said. “Because of that, I started to study how they were handled from a production standpoint and the distillation process.”

In his pursuit of that knowledge, he said he became really fascinated with the production methods of making good whiskey.

“My wife and I asked ourselves the question, ‘Why don’t we make good whiskey?’” he said. In 2009, the couple started Oregon Spirit Distillers and “it’s been awesome ever since,” according to Irwin.

Bend is an ideal place to make whiskey because Oregon has the necessary resources, Irwin said.

“What’s super important to us, makes our product fantastic and drives our desire to succeed in this business, is the relationships that we have with the agricultural community,” he said. “It feels fantastic to be taking one of Oregon’s best commodities, grain, and turning it into a product that is sold not only to Oregonians, but outside of Oregon as well.”

In August, Irwin opened The



<http://oregonspiritdistillers.com/>

Barrel Thief Lounge and a new distillery at 740 NE First Street. The company, which didn’t have a restaurant component before, went from 5 to 19 employees.



“In many ways it’s a new endeavor for us. Almost all of our previous success was wholesale,” he said, mentioning that Oregon Spirit Distillery has 11 products including whiskey, vodka, gin and absinthe. “By adding the lounge component, we have the ability to control how our products are showcased. It ultimately gives us more interaction with customers.”

Fifty percent of the visitors that come to Bend, visit a brewery or a distillery, Irwin said. Arguably, brewing and distilling is one of the major industries of Central Oregon. Irwin anticipates making 250 barrels of whiskey this year and houses the largest whiskey barrel inventory in Oregon with more than 400 aging barrels.

“We’re becoming a destination for out-of-town people,” he said. “It’s really neat to be able to give them

a high-quality experience when they’re here; show them the brands, give them a tour and a great meal. They will then take that memory of their experience with them, back to wherever they are from, and order our product.”

In a nutshell, Oregon Spirit Distillers gives customers the distillery-to-glass experience.

“There are very few places in the U.S. that you can enjoy the spirit in the form of a cocktail at the same location where it is made,” Irwin said. “You can’t do it at Jack Daniels!”

For more taproom talk with Brad Irwin, come to Pints March 31 at the Deschutes Brewery Tap Room. Details on page 23.

LEARN MORE AT

PINTS: WITH BRAD IRWIN

Presented by the YPN Council

Thursday, March 31 from 5 - 7 p.m.

@ Deschutes Public House

The Bend Chamber is giving you access to some taproom talk with Brad Irwin, Oregon Spirit Distillers. This Bend visionary will share his life experiences and his secrets to success. One lucky winner will land a one-on-one lunch with Brad Irwin!



Pictured: Shannon Bennett- YPN Council
Ideal You Weight Loss Center- General Manager

YPN: *Growing relationships in and out of the workplace.*



INVEST IN YOUR YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

BUY THEM A YPN MEMBERSHIP CARD BEFORE MARCH 31

The Bend Chamber's Young Professionals Network is a conduit for young emerging professionals, ages 21-40, to access unique and valuable experiences. We're engaging, educating and empowering young professionals to become the future leaders of business in the region.

YPN Programming:

YPN Socials - The fun and drinks come naturally at the Young Professionals Network quarterly socials! These socials are uniquely crafted to attract the most engaged and connected young professionals in our area. Our YPN members are serious about business and intentional about making the most of the evening.

Pints - In true Pints fashion, we are going to give you the upfront access, and connections you need to become a more impactful leader in your business, family, community and personal life. You will engage in high-level conversations over a pint, and hear from leaders and pioneers who have paved the way in their industries and beyond at this quarterly event.

YPN Membership:

The Bend Chamber offers a comprehensive membership for young professionals to help them achieve personal and business success through the Bend Chamber All-Access Card, Limited-Access Card and the YPN Member Card.

All-Access Card - \$255

Includes: FREE 3 YPN Socials, 4 Pints, 4 What's Brewing Community Forums, Real Estate Forecast Breakfast, Economic Forecast Breakfast, Women of the Year AND 5% off all other Bend Chamber events (*a \$335 value!*)

Limited-Access Card - \$96

Includes: 3 Socials, 4 Pints and 5% off all other Bend Chamber events (*a \$142 value*).

***Available now at
BendChamber.org
(541) 382-3221***

Brought to you by the Bend Chamber
in partnership with:





SESSION 5:

Boards, Nonprofits & Human Services



Now's the time for action!

By: Shelley Nelson, Leadership Bend Class of 2016

Leadership Bend spent the day learning about the structure and impact of nonprofit businesses, specifically those that serve the many needs of Central Oregonians.

With several hundred nonprofits in the area, one might believe there are too many. However, we learned that these organizations serve specific needs that are not currently being met by local government or private businesses. According to Oregon Community Foundation, "nonprofits create many public benefits such as opportunities to participate in civic affairs, enrich cultural life, provide needed services, generate significant economic impact, address inequities and create innovative solutions to community issues."

As an employee of NeighborImpact, one of the largest nonprofits in the region, I see the need every day to help local residents. Whether it's providing food, shelter, resources or education, the nonprofits in Central Oregon work strategically to help infants, children, animals, the environment, seniors, low-income families, immigrants...and the list goes on and on.

The profound takeaway from the January session was, "What is my passion?" and "How can I use my experience or skills to get involved?" Because nonprofits rely on a variety of funding and volunteers, resources are often scarce. If it's sitting on a board for a nonprofit

with a mission that resonates with you, or simply volunteering an hour or two of time, any support helps nonprofits succeed in serving the needs of our community.

Now is the time for action. According to the Oregon Community Foundation, "Oregonians give more of their income than the United States as a whole." Bend is generally known as a "giving" community. If you have the time to spend a few hours a month volunteering, find a nonprofit that meets your "passion" and give your time. Serving those in need can be the most rewarding experience you will have.



PITCH FOR A PURPOSE

MAY 10 | 5:30 PM.

THE RIVERHOUSE
CONVENTION CENTER

In May, five nonprofits will take the stage and show off the culmination of how they have become well-equipped to better position themselves as organizations

Empowering Central Oregon's Nonprofits to Strengthen Our Communities

BROUGHT TO YOU BY LEADERSHIP BEND, A PROGRAM OF THE BEND CHAMBER



By: Redmond Municipal Airport

Beginning May 2, the Redmond Municipal Airport (RDM) will suspend all fixed wing/commercial air service for approximately 21 days. RDM runways are in a 'X' formation, requiring the closure of both runways to complete the intersecting portion through May 22.

The entire runway project, which will upgrade the runways to be consistent with current FAA design standards, will last approximately four months. During the majority of the construction project, aircrafts will use a secondary runway.

"As the region's only commercial air service destination/hub, we have made every effort to design and stage construction to minimize impacts to our customers," the Redmond Municipal Airport website states.

Air carriers will not issue RDM tickets to customers during the closure dates and will route customers to the nearest alternative airports for service. Customers can plan on traveling through RDM with confidence because the construction schedule will be communicated to RDM's commercial air service partners.

While summer months offer the most consistent warm weather for paving projects, those months are also the airport's busiest passenger travel time for Central Oregon tourism and other purposes. In addition, the United States Forest Service has a significant firefighting base located at RDM. Therefore, the closure needs to occur in advance of what are typically the most active firefighting months (June – September).

The project is estimated to cost approximately \$18,300,000. Nearly 94 percent of the project is funded through a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) grant. The remainder is funded through a State ConnectOregon grant in an amount of \$1,200,000.

This investment will modify and upgrade the airport's primary runway by re-engineering the pavement cross section to improve drainage and prevent water accumulation from the runway surfaces. A project of this intensity usually occurs every 20 - 30 years or longer.

The City of Redmond has appointed a Runway Closure Task Force which began meeting in May 2015. Please check www.flyrdm.com for meeting times, periodic updates and general information.



RENEWING MEMBERS: January

Cascade WOMEN'S EXPO

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CASCADIAN BUSINESS NEWS

Saturday, April 16th 10AM-4PM
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Inc
Deschutes Brewery Inc

21-25 Years
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Chan's Chinese Restaurant
Glas-Weld Systems Inc
McMurray & Sons Roofing
Merrill Lynch
RBC Wealth Management
Snowberry Village
Zolo Media - KBNZ (CBS)
KOHD (ABC)

16-20 Years
Boyd Consulting
Fox Hollow Apartments
Jones & Roth CPAs and
Business Advisors
Opportunity Knocks
Papa Murphy's Take 'N' Bake
Pizza

Premier Printing Solutions
Skanska
The Oregon Store
Weston Technology Solutions

11-15 Years
Basic Books Accounting
Bend Fairfield Inn & Suites by
Marriott
Bend's Community Center
BendTel
Central Oregon Builders
Association
Columbia Bank - Wall Street
Details Professional Cleaning
OTIS Elevator Company
Pahlisch Homes Inc
Riley Wigle CPAs LLC
St. Vincent de Paul - Bend
Standard TV and Appliance
Inc

6-10 Years
College Excel Inc
Ferguson Wellman Capital
Management
Harper Houf Peterson
Righellis Inc
Looney Bean Roasting Co
Pro Q Solutions

Roth Heating/Ponderosa

1-5 Years
Bellissimo Body Care
Bend Web Design
CBT Nuggets LLC
CenturyLink
Collette Vacations
EPIC Property Management
LLC
First Story
HomeStreet Bank
Hummingbird Auto Glass
Moementum Inc
NW Navigator Luxury
Coaches LLC
Pape Kenworth
Patrice & Associates
Hospitality Recruiting
Pine Desert Painting
Pour House Grill
Quantum Communications
Radsport USA
RE/MAX Key Properties
Real Time Research
Smolich-Lobos Financial
Services LLC
Summit Bank
Tri County Climate Control
Vacasa

NEW MEMBERS: January

Advanced Machining Services

Tiffany Venner
20690 Carmen Lp Ste 100
Bend, OR 97702
(541) 617-9500
Machine Shop - Fabrication &
Manufacturing

Aircraft Rubber Manufacturing

Marilyn Clark
1550 NE Kingwood Ave
Redmond, OR 97756
(541) 923-6005
<http://fuelsafe.com>
Manufacturing

All Schools Considered

Elie Gaines
(602) 686-4480
<http://allschoolsconsidered.com>
Education - Consultant and
Services

Bend 2030

Erin Foote Marlowe
650 SW Columbia St
Bend, OR 97701
(541) 420-8603
Nonprofit

Bendoregon365.com

Valerie Wodrich
(541) 550-0170
<http://bendoregon365.com>
Vacation - Planning

Ferguson Fabricaton

Kerry Ferguson
100 Galice Rd
Merlin, OR 97532
(541) 471-9220
Associate - Out of Area

Freedom Interventions

Matt Brown
(503) 765-7405
<http://freedominterventions.com>
Alcohol & Drug Treatment
Medical - Substance Abuse
Treatment

GoodLife Brewing Co

Ty Barnett
70 SW Century Dr
Bend, OR 97702
(541) 728-0749
www.goodlifebrewing.com
Breweries and Brew Pubs
Restaurants - Taverns & Pubs

Rod's Detail Service

David Spicer
20685 Reed Market Rd
Bend, OR 97702
(541) 317-0992
<http://bendautodetail.com>
Automobile - Detailing

Rose City Associates

Dawn Cross
(503) 702-5374
<http://rosecityassociates.com>
Insurance - General

Sport Clips

Kara Cottrell
1500 NE Cushing Dr Ste 110
Bend, OR 97701
(541) 213-2102
haircutmeneastbendor.com
Barber
Beauty Salons and Services

Terpsichorean Dance Studio

Dakota Weeda
1601 NW Newport Ave
Bend, OR 97703
(541) 389-5351
<http://terpsichoreandance.com>
Childrens Activity
Performing Arts

The Conservation Alliance

John Sterling
925 NW Wall St Ste 202
Bend, OR 97703
(541) 389-2424
Nonprofit

The Gear Fix

Joshua Sims
550 SW Industrial Way Ste 183
Bend, OR 97702
(541) 617-0022
www.GearFix.com
Sporting Goods - Outdoor Apparel

Va Piano Vineyards

Mauri Brown
425 Powerhouse Dr Ste 301
Bend, OR 97702
(509) 529-0900
<http://vapianovineyards.com>
Wineries, Wine Shops & Wine
Storage

Village Interiors

Amber Kerbow
382 E Hood Ave
Sisters, OR 97759
(541) 549-6406
www.villageinteriorsdesign.com
Furniture - Retail & Wholesale

Waldo Insurance Inc

Barbara Waldo
PO Box 1667
Nyssa, OR 97913
(541) 372-5301
Associate - Out of Area

Businesses in the News:

Continues page 20 -21

the OXFORD hotel

The OXFORD hotel has been recognized as a winner in the United States category of the 2016 TripAdvisor Travelers' Choice™ awards for Hotels, ranking fifth out of the top 25 U.S. hotels designated for the award. The OXFORD hotel was the only hotel in Oregon to earn the award.

Family Access Network

The Family Access Network (FAN) is pleased to announce that services will begin at Barnes Butte and Crooked River elementary schools in Prineville. This is the first time FAN advocates have been available outside of Deschutes County. FAN advocates will be available half-time in each school to connect families to basic-need resources.

Va Piano Vineyards

Va Piano Vineyards, a premier winery located in Walla Walla, Washington, announced they are opening a tasting room in Bend. The tasting room will be located in the Old Mill District, and is an extension of the main tasting room in Washington. The grand opening is scheduled for April 22-24.

Harcourts

The Garner Group Real Estate

For the second time in three years, Harcourts The Garner Group Real Estate has been named Realtor of the Year by the Central Oregon Builders Association. President and CEO Sandy Garner received the 2015 award from COBA President Dan Goodrich at the association's annual Excellence Awards Gala on Jan. 21.

D.E. Rink Construction

D.E. Rink Construction was awarded the Central Oregon Builders Association's "Remodeler of the Year 2015" on Jan. 21 at the annual awards banquet. David Rink was honored to accept for his staff and crew. "We completed over 15 custom home and commercial building remodels last year," Rink said.



National WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Celebrate the Women in your life with the Bend Chamber at the Women of the Year Awards, March 9 at the Tower Theatre! Tickets at BendChamber.org.

Women's History Month had its origins as a national celebration in 1981 when Congress passed Pub. L. 97-28 which authorized and requested the President to proclaim the week beginning March 7, 1982 as "Women's History Week." Throughout the next five years, Congress continued to pass joint resolutions designating a week in March as "Women's History Week." In 1987 after being

petitioned by the National Women's History Project, Congress passed Pub. L. 100-9 which designated the month of March 1987 as "Women's History Month." Between 1988 and 1994, Congress passed additional resolutions requesting and authorizing the President to proclaim March of each year as Women's History Month. Since 1995, Presidents Clinton, Bush and Obama have issued

a series of annual proclamations designating the month of March as "Women's History Month."

From the Law Library of Congress' guide to the legislative history of Women's History Month. *Source:* <http://womenshistorymonth.gov/>

connectW It's All About Community

<https://connectw.org/>

An independent, nonprofit organization founded to encourage and support self-directed business women, ConnectW creates community by connecting and empowering women in business and in life.

But ConnectW doesn't stop there. It supports and participates in the Central Oregon community through events like its annual Women's Business Expo and fundraisers like the Annual Winter Wonderland Gala.

Margaret Mead once said, "A small group of thoughtful people could change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

As women join together, they create a powerful feminine force to influence the business community, our cities and our world. Want to learn more? Email info@connectw.org.

Of women-owned businesses, 5.5% used a loan to get started, compared to 10.7% overall

SAGE BEND Chamber LARGE BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

WEBFOOT PAINTING Seriously Great Painters

Webfoot Painting Co., one of the premier painting contractors in Central Oregon, took home the prize of Large Business of the Year at the 2015 Bend Chamber SAGE Awards.

“Three years ago we won small business of the year. We were really honored to go from small to large business of the year in such a short time frame,” said Webfoot Cofounder Gavin Hepp. “We want to be a pillar in the community and this award reaffirms that

the things we are doing are being seen and appreciated.”

Webfoot was founded in 2003 by Hepp and Travis Ulrich. It was originally developed as a means of financial support through college at the University of Oregon.

“In college, we never planned on Webfoot being what is today. It was a summertime hobby business,” Hepp said. “Every year was always the last year. Then, after college we decided we were enjoying what we were doing and



Photo by The Hidden Touch Photography

wanted to make a run of it to see how far we could take it.”

In 2006, Webfoot Painting relocated from the Willamette Valley to Central Oregon. Since the move, Webfoot has grown from just a couple summertime helpers to 45 employees in the summertime and about 25 employees in the winter months. During Webfoot’s busiest months, employees may paint as many as six to eight projects per week.

“When we started out, it was flip flops and shorts,” Hepp said. “Now, we have uniforms and a system for everything we do in serving our customers.”

The company offers a number of different services including exterior and interior painting and staining, deck refinish-

ing and maintenance, dry-wall patching and texturing, as well as home repairs and handyman work.

Hepp said Webfoot has a new carpentry division that’s going to be an additional asset for customers.

“There’s a real need for available and reliable carpenters,” he said. “It’s often a challenge for homeowners to find someone to do smaller projects. We’re excited about being a one-stop shop for home repairs and maintenance through our various divisions.”

Hepp noted that Webfoot is looking to grow its team.

“The key to our success lies with hiring good people and training and coaching them to become great leaders and

managers,” Hepp said. “Once a team member is well trained and has been bought into our system, we can put those leaders in the position to run systems that care for their employees, their customer and the project at hand.”

To support the community that supports them, Webfoot has started two annual charity events: Carving for Kids, which benefits MountainStar Family Relief Nursery, and Webfoot’s \$5,000 Painting Charity Giveaway that awards painting services to a family or non-profit in need.

“We’re here to serve the community and to contribute to making Bend beautiful,” Hepp said.

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Hilary Rich



Leah Stephenson



Greg Stillwell



Kyle Johnson

MEMBER NEWS

Hilary Rich

PacWest Realty Group, exclusive broker for MonteVista, is excited to announce Hilary Rich as their new Real Estate Broker specializing in new home construction sales. In her new position, Hilary will list, market and sell new homes in the northeast and southeast areas of Bend, as well as, communities in Terrebonne.

Leah Stephenson

Digital marketing and SEO specialist Leah Stephenson has joined DVA Advertising & Public Relations, Central Oregon's largest advertising agency, as an account manager. In addition to her account management responsibilities, Stephenson will be responsible for monitoring and optimizing website analytics and other digital efforts for DVA clients.

Greg Stillwell

Vantage Clinical Solutions founder/CEO Tannus Quatre, PT, MBA, recently announced the promotion of Greg Stillwell to the position of director of revenue cycle management, a role within which Stillwell will oversee all operations related to medical billing processes and services at the Bend-based company.

Kyle Johnson

SGA CPAs & Consultants would like to announce the hiring of Kyle Johnson. Johnson, previously of Delap LLP in Portland, joined SGA CPAs as a staff accountant. Kyle has experience in all areas of tax practice, but has been working recently on tax compliance related to estates and trusts.

Melanie Saunders

SHARC, in Sunriver, welcomes new events manager, Melanie Saunders. She will manage event sales, sponsorships and logistics for banquet events and SHARC's signature events such as Turf Tunes and Uncorked. Contact her at melanies@srowners.org to check out SHARC's indoor and outdoor event spaces, perfect for any business function and party.

Tom Rowley

Economic Development for Central Oregon (EDCO) is pleased to announce the hiring of Tom Rowley as its Bend manager. His focus will be on guiding employers outside the region through the relocation process, mentoring and referring scalable young companies to EDCO's Venture Catalyst Program and working closely with local traded-sector companies.

Ben Hemson

The City of Bend recently hired Ben Hemson as its new business advocate. For the City of Bend, Hemson will primarily focus on building relationships with the business community, seeking input from the business community relating to how City policy and processes impact commerce.

Stuart Johns

Stuart Johns, a directors council – financial advisor in RBC Wealth Management's Bend office, recently was selected as a member of the firm's Portfolio Focus – Senior Portfolio Manager Group, an exclusive group of financial advisors recognized for their success in building fee-based discretionary portfolio management practices.



Stuart Johns



Rob Hakala



Ryan Brown



Jens Trumpa



Melanie Saunders



Tom Rowley



Bend Hemson

Send news to:

rachael@bendchamber.org
(541) 382-3221

Rob Hakala

Rob Hakala, a directors council – financial advisor in RBC Wealth Management’s Bend office, recently was selected as a member of the firm’s Portfolio Focus – Senior Portfolio Manager Group. To qualify for the group, Rob demonstrated a commitment to creating and managing customized portfolios designed to meet client’s individual investment needs.

Ryan Brown

U.S. Bank has promoted Ryan Brown to the position of relationship manager in commercial banking, serving businesses in the Central and Eastern Oregon region. He will be based in Bend. Brown joined U.S. Bank in 2006, working in Bend with business clients large and small.

Jens Trumpa

Jim Mazziotti, the principal managing broker and franchise owner of Exit Realty Bend, announced today that Jens Trumpa has joined the Exit Realty firm in Bend as a realtor broker and real estate consultant. He will focus on residential real estate and working with both buyers and sellers.

Paul Martin

Jim Mazziotti, the principal managing broker and franchise owner of Exit Realty, has announced the addition of Paul Martin to his team of agents at Exit Realty. He comes to Exit Realty as a realtor/broker and real estate consultant after serving the Portland marketplace as a realtor.

Dan Solomon

Jim Mazziotti, the principal managing broker and franchise owner of Exit Realty, has announced the addition of a longtime Central Oregon professional, Dan Solomon to his Exit Realty office. Dan Solomon brings to Exit a wide range of entrepreneurial leadership, diversification and experience skills, having worked in the construction and building trades industry.

Deanna Fairchild

Deanna Fairchild is the new admission representative for Linfield College’s Online and Continuing Education program. She works with students interested in a myriad of business degree and certificate programs, all of which retain both the convenience of online classes and the quality and reputation of a Linfield education.

Businesses in the News:

Mid Oregon Credit Union

The National Credit Union Administration has approved **Mid Oregon Credit Union’s** application to expand its community charter boundaries. The new charter allows Mid Oregon Credit Union to serve people in Lake and Wheeler counties, and in Northern Klamath County that is part of the COCC tax district.

Volunteers in Medicine

Volunteers in Medicine (VIM) is pleased to announce the recent award of more than \$43,000 in grant funding to help sponsor the medical care and prescriptions for 57 patients for a year. VIM’s services are provided on a donation basis to adults over 18 who live in the tri-county area.



Paul Martin



Dan Solomon



Deanna Fairchild

reserve your meeting
or event space



The Environmental Center
envirocenter.org | 541-385-6908
16 NW Kansas Avenue



February's What's Brewing? IP-28



Find more photos at
BendChamber.org under the
events tab!

PHOTO Gallery

TheHiddenTouch
Photography | Videography



Young Professionals Network went behind the scenes at Oregon Spirits Distillery and the Barrel Thief on February 11



Ribbon Cutting at My Place Inn and Suites

BEND Chamber EVENTS



Register at BendChamber.org | (541) 382-3221

MARCH

March 8 | Tuesday 10 - 11 a.m.

Membership 101

@ Bend Chamber

Located at: 777 NW Wall St. Ste. 200

This informative and interactive session will show you how you can turn your chamber membership into your greatest sales and marketing tool.

March 9 | Wednesday 5 - 9 p.m.

Women of the Year Awards

@ The Tower Theatre

Located at: 835 NW Wall St

Come celebrate successful women throughout the region. This award ceremony recognizes and honors women of all ages, of diverse cultures, roles and accomplishments who have demonstrated a commitment to the betterment of Central Oregon through significant contributions.

March 10 | Thursday 4:15 - 5 p.m.

Ribbon Cutting

@ Bend Escape Room

Located at: 358 NE Marshall Ave Ste 1

Join your fellow Bend Chamber members at this Ribbon Cutting for the Bend Escape Room. The Bend Escape Room is a fun, challenging, immersive, interactive game experience taking place every day. While it looks like an ordinary room, it's actually a puzzle!

March 15 | Tuesday 5 - 7 p.m.

What's Brewing?

Tourism & Taxes

@ Deschutes Brewery
Public House

Located at: 1044 NW Bond Street

It's no secret. Tourism rebuilt our economy, locally and statewide. It brings in billions of dollars and thousands of jobs. Yet, it comes with unintended consequences like traffic, crowds, vacation rental issues, wear and tear on our roads and added stress on our resources, to name a few. At this What's Brewing, panelists will cover the state of tourism, including the role of transient room taxes.

March 23 | Wednesday 4:30 - 6 p.m.

Business After Hours

@ TBD

Bask in the Tower spotlight! Stand where Jeff Bridges, Brandi Carille, Clint Black, Kenny Loggins, Molly Ringwald, Bruce Hornsby and the Peking Acrobats have stood. Hear a sneak preview of upcoming shows and exclusive member benefits. Go behind the scenes and experience the "real" Tower Theatre.

March 31 | Thursday 5 - 7 p.m.

Pints with Brad Irwin, Owner of Oregon Spirit Distillers

@ Deschutes Brewery Public House

Located at: 1044 NW Bond Street

The Bend Chamber is giving you access to some taproom talk with Brad Irwin. This Bend visionary will share his life experiences and his secrets to success. One lucky winner will land a one-on-one lunch with Brad Irwin!

APRIL

April 5 | Tuesday 5 - 7 p.m.

What's Brewing?

@ Deschutes Brewery Public House

Located at: 1044 NW Bond Street

What's Brewing is a community forum that will get you informed and engaged about issues important to you and our community. Casual, social and served up with a complimentary beverage, What's Brewing will give you the inside scoop!

April 7 | Thursday 4:15 - 5 p.m.

Ribbon Cutting

@ Pridestaff

Located at: 2214 Division Street, Suite 202

Join your fellow Bend Chamber members at this Ribbon Cutting for PrideStaff, which is now open in Bend and wants to welcome everyone to come tour their offices and meet the newest staffing and recruiting team to Central Oregon. Expect great appetizers, beverages, and raffle prizes. See you there!

April 12 | Tuesday 10 - 11 a.m.

Membership 101

@ Bend Chamber

Located at: 777 NW Wall St. Ste. 200

This informative and interactive session will show you how you can turn your chamber membership into your greatest sales and marketing tool.

APRIL 20 | Wednesday 7:30 - 10 a.m.

Real Estate Forecast

@The Tower Theatre

It's time for one of the most talked about real estate forecasts in our community. Is Central Oregon in another boom? Join our panel of experts as they discuss growth trends, property prices, the erratic stock market and more to learn what it may mean for you and your business.

April 27 | Wednesday 4:30 - 6 p.m.

Business After Hours

@ Jimmy John's of Bend

The Bend Chamber helps you cultivate productive business relationships while giving you an exclusive look into one of our members' businesses. Enjoy hors d'oeuvres and beverages amid a fun, social atmosphere that gives you the opportunity to make valuable connections.



SAVE THE DATE

APRIL 20 starts 7:30 a.m.

Real Estate Forecast

@The Tower Theatre

Continental Breakfast will be available.

Is Central Oregon in another boom? That's the million-dollar question! Join us and our panel of experts to get the answer.

**** Tickets available now ****

BendChamber.org under the events tab.

SAVE THE DATE

JUNE 7 from 5 - 7 p.m.

What's Brewing?

State of the Community

@Deschutes Brewery

Mountain Room

**** Tickets available now ****

BendChamber.org under the events tab.

FREE



BEND *Chamber* BUSINESS AFTER HOURS March 23 - 5-7 p.m. @ The Tower Theatre

Go behind the scenes and experience the “real” Tower Theatre during this special FREE mixer. Hear how the nonprofit Tower Theatre Foundation provides performing arts and education programs to our community and area schools. Plus, enter raffles for Tower tickets, CDs and autographed posters. Food and drink provided.



Details at BendChamber.org/events & (541) 382-3221

