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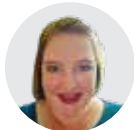
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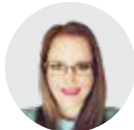
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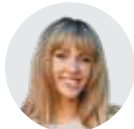
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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

THE SOCIAL PUBLICATION



Greetings Grants Pass!



We hope you all enjoyed your Summer because Fall is officially here and with it comes many changes in our Valley. The fresh new smells, the breathtaking views of our deciduous forest and the excess of pumpkin spice are nostalgic for some or brand new for others. We think most of you would agree that Grants Pass is one of the greatest places to be during this time of year and We honestly feel that we do fall just right. We love going down to Fort Vannoy Farms with my family and checking out the new corn maze each year and maybe taking a few blasts with the pumpkin chunker or relaxing at some of our amazing wineries! This is also one of our favorite times to get out and hike a few of our amazing trails we have around our town. Bolt mountain, Waters Creek Trail, or just walking around at Reinhart Park are always a win. Whatever you are doing this Fall, be sure to plan out some quality time with those who are special in your life and make lasting memories. Obviously, we have Halloween coming in hot and lets not forget to make this year's costume one of the best yet. We am hoping to see many of you go big this year! We will definitely be out with my family loading up on way too much candy and enjoying our incredible community. We want to say thank you to each of you who read and support The Social Publication and We hope that you continue to enjoy our monthly issues. Happy Halloween and Happy Harvest!

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Expert Contributors



MARLA QUINTANA *AesthetiSpa Laser & Wellness Center*
Marla, a long time native of Southern Oregon, has raised four children in Grants Pass with her husband, Max. A nurse for over 38 years, she has practiced aesthetic nursing for the past 15 years. Marla is the owner of AesthetiSpa Laser and Wellness Center and believes in building an enduring and rewarding relationship with her clients and community, through knowledge and superior service.



DEVIN NELSON *C Street Dental*
Devin Nelson, his wife Lena, and 5 kids have lived in Grants Pass since 2016. Before becoming a dentist, Devin had a unique job in Arizona as a mascot for the Phoenix Suns. He received his undergraduate at BYU and his doctorate in dental medicine (DMD) for the Arizona School of Dental and Oral Health (ASDOH). His dental practice treats all areas of dentistry including cosmetic & esthetics, oral surgery, crown & bridge restoration, preventive, and emergency dentistry.



SUSIE ATONDO *Edward Jones*
Born and raised in Grants Pass, Susie Atondo has been a financial advisor since 2006. She works with multi-generational families to develop unique strategies for wealth transfer, and with business owners in creating strategies for business succession, portfolio construction, and tax reduction. She married her husband, Paul, in 2001 and they have three children, Luci, Penny, and Finn. They enjoy hiking and going to the beach.



CHRISTINE LOWE *Diversity Home Lending*
Born and raised in the Southern Oregon area, Christine Lowe absolutely loves enjoying the outdoor beauty we have here. With 25 years in the mortgage industry, ensuring that you make the right choice for you and your family is her goal and she is committed to providing her customers with mortgage services that exceed their expectations.



JENA HETH *Diversity Home Lending*
Jena Heth and her family have been Grants Pass residents for the past 19 years. Her husband is quite the fisherman, so this is a perfect place to live. She has been in lending for 30 years and has seen so much change in the industry. What she loves most about her profession is her clients, some of whom have become dear friends. It's a profession based on knowledge and trust and her clients know she is always there for them.



BRENT ERICKSON DMD, MS IN ORTHODONTICS *Grants Pass Orthodontics*
Born and raised in Grants Pass, Dr. Brent D. Erickson has been practicing in the Grants Pass area since 2015. His goal as an orthodontist is to create long-lasting smiles in a comfortable environment and to give confidence with joy. When not at the office, he enjoys adventuring with his wife, Ashley, their four kids and dog, Timber, doing all things outdoors, playing soccer and golf, going snowboarding, and playing video games.



SHERYL ZIMMERER *Logos Public Charter School*
Since 2017, Sheryl Zimmerer has served as the Executive Director for Logos Public Charter School, the largest, non-virtual charter school in the state of Oregon. Under her leadership, the K-12 school that serves Jackson and Josephine County students has reported its highest graduation rate ever (95%) and has been voted one of the best non-profits to work for in Oregon 5 years in a row. Since her daughters have grown up, she now lives in Talent with her husband in the house they rebuilt after the 2020 Oregon Alameda wildfire with their two spoiled golden retrievers.



WADE SQUIRES *The Venuti Group at Cascade Hasson Sotheby's International Realty*
Wade Squires, owner of The Venuti Group, became a Realtor in 2016 after spending over 10 years in construction as a lead carpenter, building new homes and performing extensive remodels. It was there he learned the value of communication, and as a Realtor, he has continued to make this a top priority. Whatever your real estate needs are, Wade would be happy to help you achieve your goals!



KEYNA MEIVES *The Venuti Group at Cascade Hasson Sotheby's International Realty*
A Licensed Realtor since 2000 and owner of The Venuti Group, Keyna Meives is a seasoned realty enthusiast. Her optimistic and joyful countenance makes her a delight to work with and has contributed to her being a consistent top producer in her market area. She loves spending time exploring the outdoors with her husband and three children.

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MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS | **The Erickson Family**

 by Alexandra Hruz

Brent and Ashley Erickson first met while attending Highland Elementary, but it took quite a few years before the pair realized their friendship was actually more. “We had always been friends from afar. We ran in the same circles but never developed a close friendship,” they share. Both Brent and Ashley went to Oregon State and would occasionally see each other on campus and stay in touch when home for the holidays. After graduating from OSU, they both moved to Portland; Brent was in dental school, and Ashley was pursuing her master’s in education. It was there that they finally began to see each other in a different light. “Eventually our friendship blossomed, and we became best friends,” they say. The couple decided to return to Grants Pass—a place they feel extremely grateful to call home. Brent is an orthodontist and operates Grants Pass Orthodontics, and Ashley worked as a public school teacher before becoming a stay-at-home mom raising the couple’s children and maintaining their home. In their leisure time, the couple enjoys running and exercising; they say sneaking in a few outdoor runs throughout the week is a great way to enjoy some quiet time.

Ashley and Brent have been gifted with four children. “All of our kids have an abundance of joy,” they say. “The Lord has given them a spirit of fun and likeability, and we are so blessed to be their parents.” The oldest in the crew is Beckham: He’s 8-years-old, and his parents say he has a great sense of humor. Beckham loves being active—he enjoys running, swimming, and riding his scooter. He also plays soccer for OFA and is interested in joining a swim team. Video games are another one



of his interests; he loves playing his Nintendo Switch and has some serious Mario Golf skills. Next up is 5-year-old Adri. Her parents share that she is extremely organized and hardworking. Gymnastics is the activity she loves best: She has aspirations of being an Olympian and goes to practice at Motion Matrix twice a week. She loves dancing and performing, and she may even try out for the local Nutcracker production this year. Adri also



loves going to school and learning new things. Everett was Ashley and Brent’s third child and would be 3-years-old. The couple says he was their happy guy who had a smile that said 1,000 words and that he always seemed wiser than his young years. The Ericksons say they feel blessed by the 11 months they had with him. Rounding out the family is Oaks, who is just a year old. His parents explain that he is their “mighty guy”—he’s a comforter and loves to make people laugh and smile. “Our kids are unique because they have been through hard seasons and have still maintained a joy and peace about them,” they say. “They are insanely great travelers and are resilient to anything the world brings them.”

The Erickson crew loves discovering new places together—heading out on a road trip to see the country in their

sprinter van is a treat for the whole family. Huntington Beach, California and Whitefish, Montana are two of their favorite vacation spots, and this summer, the family discovered Sandpoint, Idaho on a trip and loved it there. But don’t expect the Ericksons to be moving anytime soon—the family loves Grants Pass. “We don’t think there are many places better to live than where we do,” Brent and Ashley say. “We feel blessed and privileged to live and work in such a beautiful community—a community that has been there for us at our hardest times in life and people who have truly showed up in ways we don’t think they could’ve anywhere else.” In Grants Pass, the family says that a dream Saturday includes going for coffee at Wheelhouse, riding bikes to the farmer’s market, getting a coffee ice cream from Dutch Bros, walking

around downtown, and enjoying a round of golf at the Applegate golf course before heading home to watch the sunset from their porch with a fire and listen to worship music. The family likes to frequent local businesses whenever they can, and they cite Rainbow Baby + Kids Boutique, The White Owl, Loam + Black, Bella Luna Boutique, Fiona Bean, and House of Glory as some of their favorite spots to shop. Brent and Ashley say that they love heading to Taqueria for date night because of the amazing menu, the wonderful service, and the stellar atmosphere.

Hardships are a part of life and must be weathered, and the Erickson family has grown and become stronger from the experiences they’ve had. Now, the family is focused on enjoying lots of time together in the community that they love.



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 by Alexandra Hruz



At Central Eyes Optometry, Drs. April and Barrett Napier have worked to create an environment that is the central place for all things related to patients' eyes and vision—hence the company name. “We aim to provide patients with excellent patient care and a better understanding of their eye health and visual system,” the doctors say. They add that it’s important for them to stay up-to-date on the latest technologies and treatments available to provide the best care possible while keeping services affordable.

Both doctors grew up in Northern Illinois and moved to Oregon when Dr. April started optometry school. After supporting his wife’s academic goals and watching her pursue her dreams, Dr. Barrett, a paramedic, decided to go back to school for optometry as well. Dr. April completed her doctorate in optometry and served in the Air Force as an optometrist and officer, and Dr. Barrett finished his doctorate during this time. The husband-wife duo share similar philosophies concerning patient care and knew they would work well together and make great business and practice partners. “We are excited to own our clinic, as it allows more freedom over things that are often taken away from you as an employed provider, such as how many patients to



see, how long (or short!) the appointment times are, and what type of services you can provide,” they explain. “As the owners, we are able to establish our own clinic culture and bring unique services with a personal touch to the clinic.” The pair felt at home in Grants Pass right away and knew they had chosen the right place to live and work.

Central Eyes Optometry is a small clinic that focuses on patients and their eye health. Drs. April and Barrett have experience in caring for patients of all ages. They are InfantSEE providers who conduct initial eye screenings for infants from 6–12 months of age at no cost. At their clinic, they provide primary eye care, such as glasses and contact lenses, and they’re also trained to diagnose and manage eye disease, infections, and injuries. Beyond that, they offer unique services like hard-to-fit specialty contact lenses and myopia (near-sightedness) control to help slow down how fast kids’ eyes change. Further, the doctors offer orthokeratology, which are lenses that act like retainers for the eyes that gently



and temporarily reshape the corneas to improve vision; these lenses are worn at night and removed during the day and are a great solution for those with active lifestyles.

The doctor duo at Central Eyes Optometry are dedicated to their optometry trade. “We believe healthy eyes and clear vision are important for a fully, happy, and productive life,” they say. “We strive to improve our patients’ lives by protecting and optimizing vision and eye health.” By continually enhancing their skills and providing modern, evidence-based medicine with cutting-edge technology, Drs. April and Barrett aim to help the people of Grants Pass have better vision health throughout their lives.

TESTIMONIALS:

Review from Julie Niles-Fry

A+++! I never imagined an eye exam being an amazing experience. From scheduling my appointment with Rick to the most thorough eye exam that I’ve ever received with Dr. Barrett to Jill’s care in choosing glasses and Dr. April joining in. Sincere, friendly, and professional in every aspect. They followed up promptly about my contacts and all the colors available for the glasses that I liked. Fabulous service! The exam wasn’t remotely like any eye exam that I’ve had before. Their state-of-the-art technology (no, it doesn’t cost more) and Dr. Barrett and Dr. April’s level of expertise resulted in a now better view of the world than I’ve had in years. And their pricing for contact lenses equates to online sale prices, so now I don’t have to price shop anymore. The icing on top is the roomy, fresh, bright, clean, modern office.



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1020-512HC_25765-6/17/2022



 by Alexandra Hruz

Kelcie and Larry Ragsdale are proud parents to Jude and Elliot, two pups who help make their house a home. Jude is an 8-year-old black Labrador Retriever, and Elliot is a 5-year-old Goldendoodle. The two dogs found their way into the Ragsdale home for different reasons. “Jude was a big surprise for my husband right after we got married,” Kelcie says. “He always wanted a Lab, so I surprised him with sweet Jude! Elliot was more serendipitous; I saw his cute face online and fell in love!” Jude received his name because the couple had always wanted a big Lab named Jude. Elliot was going to be named “Groot,” but they felt like his goofy nature needed a more fitting moniker, so they went with Elliot, like the character in Pete’s Dragon.

Kelcie is a photographer, and she loves taking photos of Jude and Elliot. Whenever the opportunity arises for a cute photo op (think: ugly holiday sweaters or Halloween costumes), she stylizes them in different outfits. When these two pups aren’t posing prettily for Kelcie’s camera, Jude and Elliot love to play hide-and-seek and fetch. The Ragsdales will take their two dogs to the river whenever they can. Both Elliot and Jude enjoy swimming and being outside — when they don’t go to the river, these fur buds lounge around in their kiddie pool in the backyard. Larry and Kelcie say their pups are very special to them, and they love to spoil them with time and affection.



The Ragsdales share that Elliot and Jude are very food driven and will eat just about anything, although they say that carrots are their favorite. Sometimes, this seemingly insatiable need for food goes a little too far. “Elliot has eaten everything!” Kelcie shares. “He counter surfs and is very tall, and he has eaten baked goods and full pans of sloppy joes! He and Jude work together to steal anything they can when no one is looking.” Elliot also has a funny habit of belching quite loudly, which usually occurs when he’s looking at someone right in the eyes. Kelcie says that she loves to watch a new person experience her dog’s burps because it’s so funny to see the person’s reaction.



Jude has been the reason for plenty of laughter as well. Kelcie says that one time when they were out on a boat with the dogs, Jude decided to leap into the water, just when the boat started speeding up. Luckily, she had a strong hold on him, but it gave everyone a laugh.

Like many pet owners, Kelcie and Larry say that it can be a challenge making sure Jude and Elliot have enough stimulation, time, and socialization. But with these two canine characters, the couple says that their kind and lovable natures make any difficulties worth it. “There is nothing like the unconditional love you get from pets,” they say. “It’s so special, and we are so grateful for it.”

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KOOL KID | Lydia Daggett

 by Kathy Ford

There are tons of things that make Lydia, who is a nine-year-old, homeschooled, 4th grader, super kool. One thing that makes her kool is that she loves handwriting.

Lydia is part of a really kool family. She has lots of brothers and sisters. Her kool siblings are Eden, 12; Gideon, 6; Mimsy, 4; and Anna, almost 2. Her family includes a three-year-old Chuggle dog (a cross between a pug and beagle) named George Thomas and six-month-old chickens.

Another really kool thing about Lydia is that she loves Puerto Rican music introduced to her by her mom, who is Puerto Rican. This kool kid also loves to cook. She loves making yummy food. While cooking is currently a hobby, she wants to become a really kool chef when she grows up.

Lydia is a dancer; she started dancing



seven years ago. To Lydia, the best thing about dancing is “making friends.” While learning new stuff is always challenging, she loves it anyway. She also gets to perform before an audience. Another kool thing about Lydia is that she has been learning to play the piano for three months. Lydia is a dancing, piano-playing kool kid, but this is not enough for her. She also wants to learn to play the flute.

This kool kid’s favorite color is red. Her favorite foods are spaghetti and anything with ketchup. Whenever she gets a chance, she goes to her favorite restaurant, The Vine, in Grants Pass. Another kool thing about her is that her favorite animal is the blue whale.

When she’s not in school, dancing, or playing the piano, Lydia relaxes by watching her favorite TV show, America’s Got Talent, or her favorite movie, Moana. If she’s not relaxing, she may be playing at her favorite place at the river. Another thing she likes to do is cheer along to her favorite sports team, the Ducks. When she was asked about her favorite sports team, she replied, “Ducks! Duh!”

Her favorite thing to do with her kool family is take kool trips. The coolest trip was to Great Wolf Lodge this summer. It was the “BEST ever” vacation. While Great Wolf Lodge was the best vacation

“ever,” her happiest memories are from a trip to Disneyland when she was four years old.

Kool kid Lydia is a busy young lady, but she enjoys working on her favorite hobbies, cooking and painting, as often as she can.

If Lydia were a superhero, she would want the superpower of super strength so that she can lift anything. She may not be a superhero yet, but she’s a super kool kid anyway.

We know Lydia is a kool kid for lots of reasons, but she told us she’s kool because she is “one of a kind,” and she loves Jesus.



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 by Alexandra Hruz

It was after completing high school that Susie Atondo decided that she wanted to help make a meaningful difference in other people's lives through her work in the financial industry.

Susie explains that the more she learned about investing and the economy, the more excited she was to become a Financial Advisor. She spent the first part of her career working for large, publicly traded bank-affiliated brokerage firms and became a Financial Advisor in 2006. During her time with these large firms, she learned a lot about the ins and outs of the industry. After spending years doing this work, Susie made a big professional decision. “In 2019, I decided that I needed to make a change so that I could continue to provide the level of service my clients needed and expected,” she says. Susie joined Edward Jones in 2019, and she feels confident that her decision was the best possible one she could have made.



In her role at Edward Jones, Susie provides comprehensive wealth strategies that focus on and are tailored to each client's unique financial goals. “I follow a process that allows me to understand what is most important to the individual that I am working with, where they are currently, where they want to be, and then together, we establish goals and personalized strategies to align what they are doing with the goals that they have,” Susie says. “I meet with my clients on an ongoing basis to review and adjust their goals as life moves forward.” Building relationships with her clients is a vital part of Susie's work. She says that she's worked with many of her clients throughout her entire career, and she feels very grateful

that she's been trusted to manage people's finances. Susie adds that her branch office administrator, Laurie, has partnered with her since she joined Edward Jones, and she is very glad that Laurie was there when she joined.

One of the things setting Edward Jones apart is how client-centered the partnership is — Susie explains that every decision at the business is made with the client in mind, and because of this, each experience is positive and fulfilling for clients and Financial Advisors alike. Edward Jones began in 1922 and is celebrating its centennial anniversary this year. It is a partnership, which means that the company doesn't have stockholders to appease with quarterly earnings and

profit-minded results. Susie explains that the company's purpose is to partner for positive impact; it strives to improve the lives of its clients and colleagues, which the partnership feels will then lead to better communities and society.

After decades of partnering with clients to help them achieve their financial goals, Susie feels the best is yet to come with her work at Edward Jones. She's enthusiastic about continuing to help more people on their journeys to financial well-being.



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The content of this article was sponsored by the local Edward Jones office of Susie Atondo.



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The Real Estate Rumble

Address	List Price	Sold Price	Bedrooms	Bathrooms	Square Feet	Status
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3580 Redwood Avenue	\$1,350,000	\$1,240,000	4	5	3,956	Closed
1858 NW Sunview Place	\$739,900	\$733,000	3	3	3,185	Closed
1214 NW Cooke Avenue	\$547,500	\$526,294.8	4	3	2,322	Closed
1830 NW Highland Avenue	\$495,000		3	2	1,625	Active
5264 Leonard Road	\$1,695,000		4	5	5,277	Active
2444 Rogue River Highway	\$859,000		5	4	1,620	Active
583 Darneille Lane	\$849,000		3	3	2,444	Pending
1215 Summer Lane	\$750,000	\$675,000	3	3	2,830	Closed
434 Edgewater Drive	\$1,190,000		4	4	4,293	Active
274 Parkhill Place	\$735,000		3	2	1,664	Active
2781 Upper River Road	\$700,000		3	2	2,151	Active

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