

greet EAGLE

Johanna Dahlman a Woman of Strength

She loves her family, enjoys traveling, helping others that are suffering and her Eagle home and neighbors!

PHOTO BY LESLIE SCOTT,
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Brady's Soapbox
by Brady Peterson

DOMINATE FRIENDSGIVING

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I'll never forget Friendsgiving 2022. After seeing no one touch my innovative cranberry sauce-smothered turkey, an efficient way to enjoy Thanksgiving's two best tastes, I learned my mistake. Friendsgiving shouldn't be a contest to see which friend can put the most effort into it. It should be a contest to see which friend can put the most thought into it.

You don't need to go to the grocery store, rack up on expensive ingredients, and spend time cooking—only to find out your friends are not hungry for watery, undercooked, dry, flavorless stuffing instead of your cranberry sauce. So, this year, Friendsgiving, bring what will be the highlight of the turkey. Friendsgiving just needs to get creative with the stuffing. You will see each friend bring their own unique stuffing, and it will be a hit.

Friendsgiving, the attention it was due. While my friends didn't get around to drawing hand turkeys, they clearly wanted that to become a Friendsgiving tradition for us going forward. When I returned for Friendsgiving 2024, I discovered that my buddy replaced the table I drew a turkey on with a brand-new one. I didn't have a permanent marker on me at the time, but, mark my words, that blank canvas of a table is getting all turkeyed up this November!

Last Friendsgiving, I brought my friendship to the table. I cheered my friends on as they prepared their dishes, and I gave them supportive feedback on what they made. When I told my friend that his mac and cheese could've been cheesier, he responded by saying, "No thanks to you." I guess somebody left their friendship at home... *Continued on page 34*

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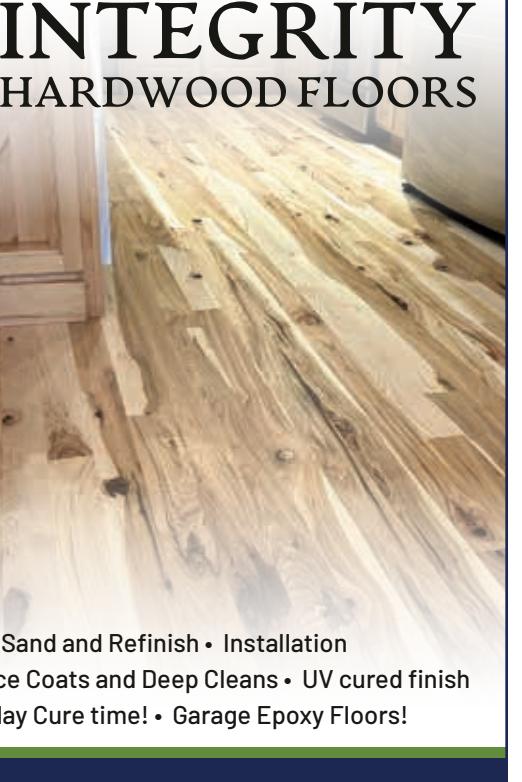
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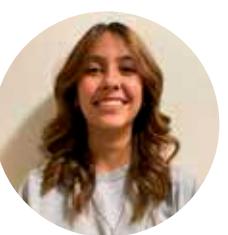
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A Seat at the Table

November highlights a sense of community, gratitude and belonging.

Football hums in the background, the smell of freshly baked rolls lingers in the air, and you finally find your seat at the table...right next to your cousin. Your name is elegantly written in cursive by your grandmother, who insists on making name cards even though everyone knows their place. You belong here.

We've all experienced a version of this scene in our own lives. The details may differ, but the feeling is the same: a sense of belonging. November brings into focus what truly matters—family, connection, and gratitude for the people who make our lives richer.

This issue of *Greet Eagle* celebrates just that. Inside, you'll find stories of neighbors and traditions that remind us how fortunate we are to belong to a community like Eagle.

As we step into this season of thankfulness, I want to extend my deepest appreciation to all of you. Our readers and sponsors, your support and enthusiasm inspire us to bring stories that resonate and uplift our community every day. You will always have a seat at our table.

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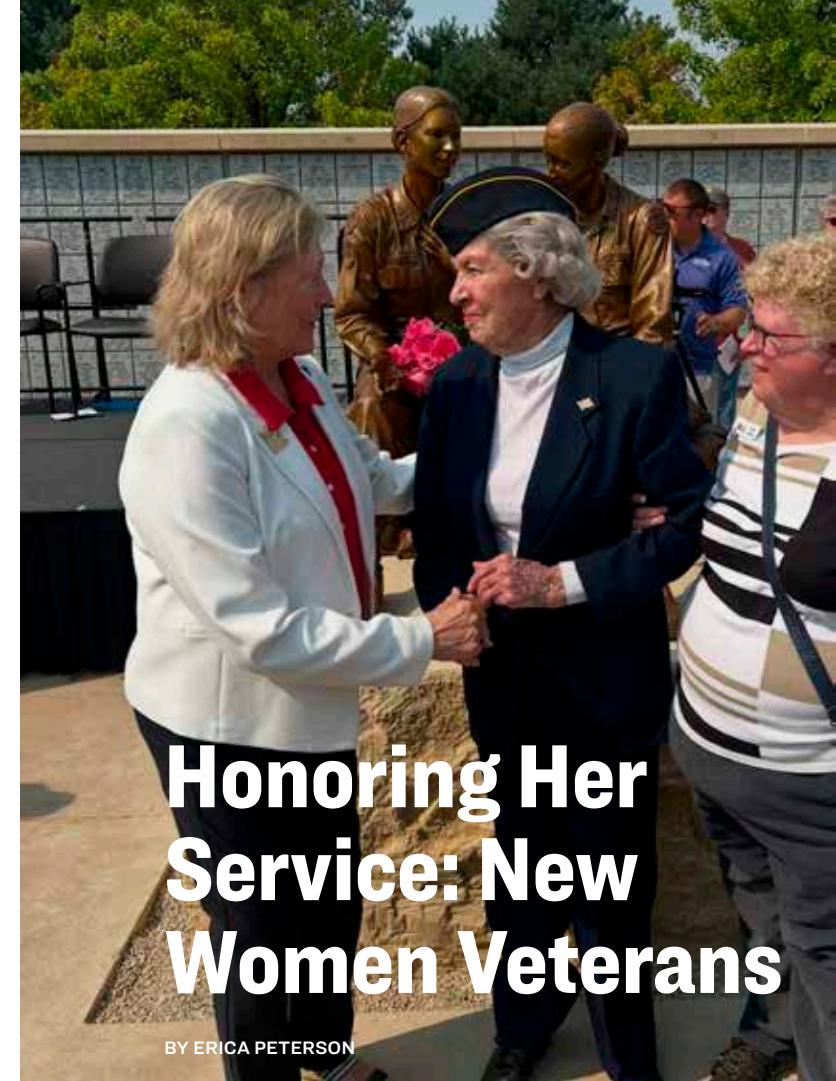
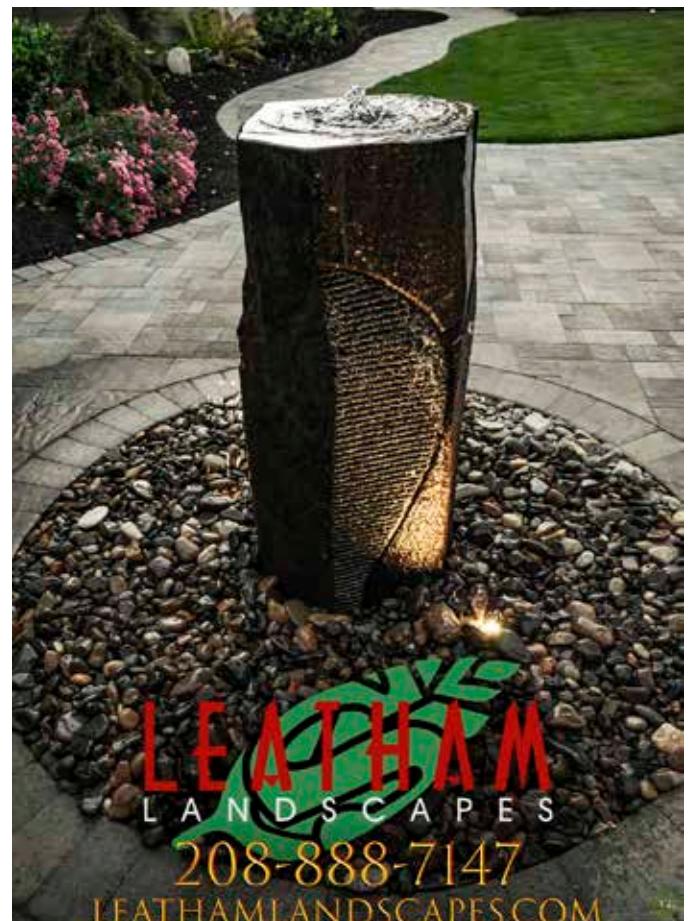
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Honoring Her Service: New Women Veterans

BY ERICA PETERSON

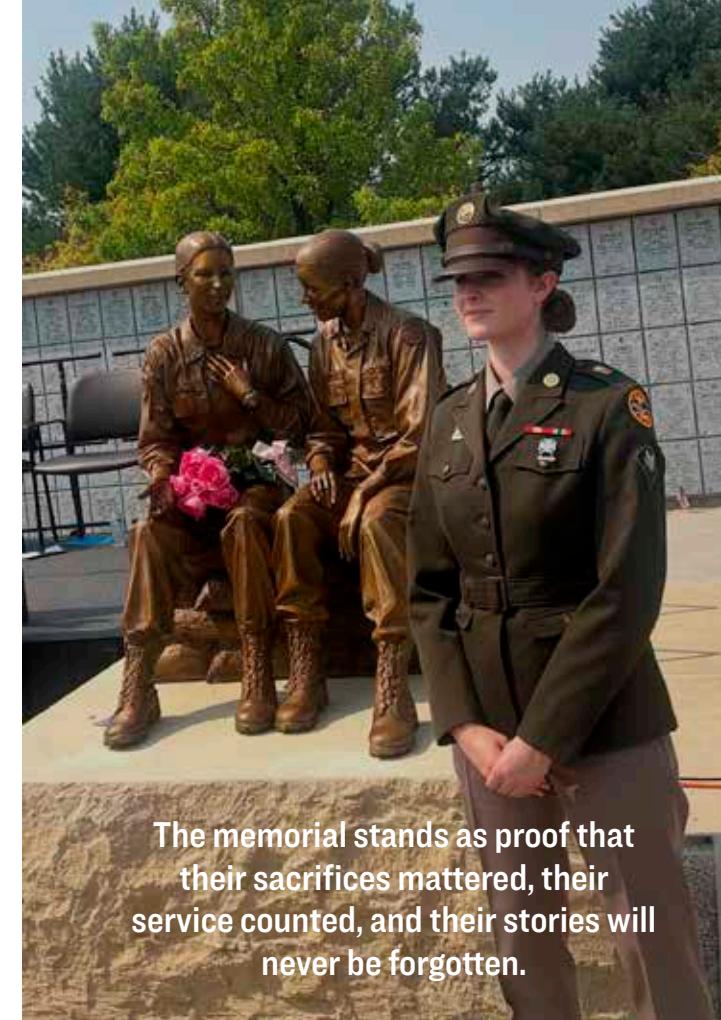
A 103-year-old WWII nurse attends the unveiling of Idaho's women veterans memorial—a living connection to generations of women who served.

ON SEPTEMBER 5TH, 2025, something truly special happened at the Idaho State Veterans Cemetery—the unveiling of a memorial dedicated specifically to women veterans, with the special recognition for Corporal Carrie French, the first Idaho woman to die in combat. Among those in attendance was an incredible 103-year-old nurse who served during World War II. Can you imagine the stories she could tell?

Her presence really highlighted just how long women have been serving our country in critical roles, often without getting the recognition they deserve. It got me thinking about how nursing and military service have been intertwined for generations of American women.

The history is pretty fascinating when you dig into it. After the Civil War, America recognized the need for formal nursing schools to train people properly for medical care. By the time the Spanish-American War rolled around, military leaders recognized that having skilled nurses was absolutely essential for keeping soldiers alive and healthy.

This led to the creation of the Army Nurse Corps, which was originally women-only until the Korean War. Think about



The memorial stands as proof that their sacrifices mattered, their service counted, and their stories will never be forgotten.

The soldier who served as the model for the memorial figure sitting beside Corporal Carrie French at the Idaho State Veterans Cemetery.

that—for decades, nursing was one of the few ways women could serve in the military in an official capacity. These women were pioneers, breaking barriers while saving lives.

This new memorial stands as a powerful tribute to all the women who have served our country throughout history—not just nurses, but women in every branch of the military and in countless roles that kept our forces strong. It's a place where families can come to honor their mothers, daughters, sisters, and grandmothers who answered the call to serve.

The memorial celebrates the proud tradition of women's military service across all branches and roles. It's a beautiful way to ensure that current and future generations can see and appreciate the contributions women have made throughout our military history. These women served with dedication and skill, and now they have a special place where their service is honored and remembered.

Having that 103-year-old WWII nurse present at the unveiling made the moment even more meaningful. She represents not just her own service, but the service of countless women who came before and after her. The memorial stands as proof that their sacrifices mattered, their service counted, and their stories will never be forgotten.



Eagle local through and through, Erica graduated from BYU and chose to plant her family's roots right back where hers began. She and husband James are raising three kids while she balances motherhood with possibly too many side projects.

Butter, Our Happy Go Lucky Pug

WRITTEN BY RESIDENT WRITER: FRANK NALEY

A Banbury friend, Nancy Harvey, attended her grandchildren's softball game nearly two years ago. She met a couple looking for someone to adopt their Pug. The woman making the offer was allergic to her Pug, so she was desperate to find a good home for her. Nancy told the woman she may know the perfect couple to take her in.

A few days later, we invited the couple to our home for breakfast and a meet and greet with our neighbors' dogs. Butter, their Pug, was pleased to meet us, our yard and her new friends. They wore themselves out running around our yard. We found that Butter loved attention, hugs, people and other dogs. We instantly fell in love with her.

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Butter Naley and her mom on adoption day!

The couple stayed with us for nearly three hours and agreed that Butter would be content in our home. They gave us their blessing and left our house, tears in their eyes. We offered them visitation rights, but they felt it best to cut all ties. They really were truly great people!

We, too, have been teary-eyed with our good fortune and have loved having Butter become a Naley. She follows us around from room to room all day, every day. She watches television with us, and we've found she's not a fan of the horses in Downton Abbey or the Liberty Mutual



: Butter Naley and Dad getting cropped out!

commercials. She crouches low and lets out her laughable bark-it-bark, bark.

She's always up for a lap (not easy with a 28-pound fire hydrant body), nap (snores like a hibernating bear) or ride in the car (wants to drive). We have found her to be an eating machine. If we're slicing a banana and a piece hits the floor,

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"It's dinner time, you know!"

she's on it like she's protecting us from a grenade. Although this grenade is swallowed up in about a tenth of a second, the floor beneath it is cleaner than before it landed.

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“

At my peak of health, I didn't understand and didn't have the tools, support, or knowledge to help my situation,”

— JOHANNA



The Dahlman's Are Loving their Life in Eagle

Johanna shares her battles and victories with alopecia areata.

Johanna Dahlman brings a world of experience to Eagle, where she and her family have made their home for the past two years. As a wife and mother who has visited 66 countries, speaks three languages and has lived in five different countries, Johanna has found something special in Idaho.

“We absolutely love it. We appreciate Idaho so much, we love our neighbors and all the family-oriented activities in the Treasure Valley,” she says.

Johanna's path to Eagle is as remarkable as her global adventures. After meeting her husband in a chance encounter at a Denver rooftop restaurant, their relationship blossomed across continents. He played professional basketball in Europe when they committed to each other, leading Johanna to Kosovo, the Netherlands and Japan before the family settled in Idaho.

However, Johanna's most transformative journey began just before she moved abroad with her then-fiancé. She was diagnosed with alopecia areata, an autoimmune condition causing hair loss.

“At my peak of health, I didn't understand and didn't have the tools, support, or knowledge to help my situation,” Johanna explains. “I lost over 50% of my hair, and more and more bald spots started forming and connecting. This was horrifying and filled with uncertainty.”

Rather than accepting conventional treatments with potential side effects, Johanna found a holistic approach. After four years of struggle, she achieved healing that has remained stable through pregnancy, COVID and international moves. This experience transformed her pain into purpose.

Johanna has run Alopecia Angel for eight years, helping adults and children worldwide heal naturally from alopecia. Now, she speaks internationally and is writing a book about her experience.

The Dahlmans embrace Eagle's outdoor lifestyle with enthusiasm. Their 4-year-old son enjoys swimming, bike riding and various sports, inheriting his father's athletic passion. The family frequently explores the greenbelt, attends the summer concert series by the Eagle Library, and visits local farms for berry and flower picking.

“I love the greenbelt and bike riding through there, seeing the new construction and activity throughout Eagle. I can see it growing, and I love the expansion and growth,” Johanna shares.

Despite their extensive international travels, the Dahlmans appreciate Eagle's simple pleasures. They visit the library weekly, attend local sporting events, and enjoy cooking family meals featuring vegetables from their expanding garden.

“I love the quietness of Eagle, how every day almost feels like a Sunday in terms of how quiet things are, and that's special,” Johanna reflects.

But they've found something uniquely valuable in Eagle—a community that reminds Johanna of her childhood in 1980s Orange County.

“I love the Christian morals and values that almost everyone has. It makes everyone nicer, more pleasant and respectful,” she says.

With their global perspective and warm approach to community life, the Dahlmans exemplify the diverse, friendly spirit that makes our neighborhood special.

Follow Johanna at: [@alopecia_angel](https://alopeciaangel.com/about/)
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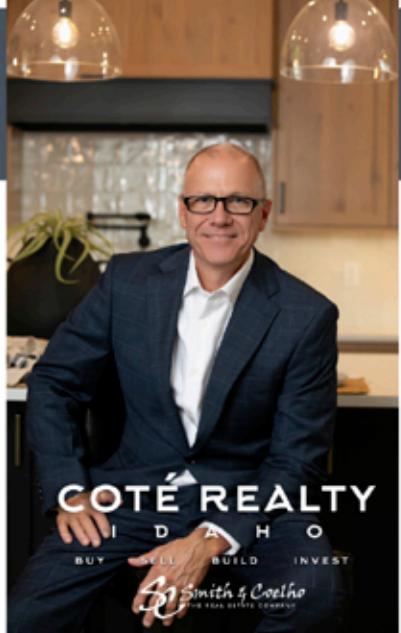


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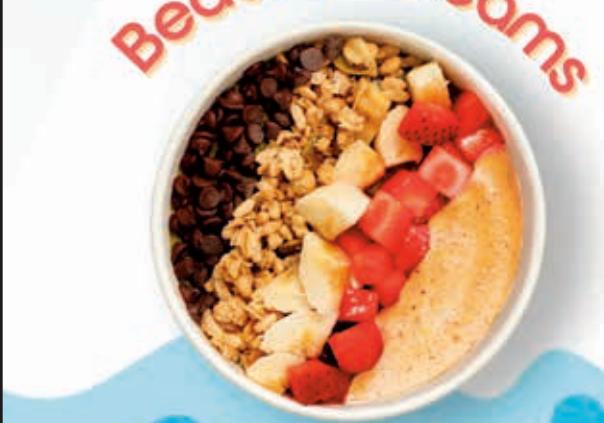
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From Local Roots to Trusted Service: The Goodsons' Plumbing Story

Rob and Michelle Goodson have called Boise home nearly their entire lives. Rob was born and raised here, while Michelle moved to the city when she was three. They both attended local schools, with Rob graduating from Bishop Kelly and Michelle from Boise High. Today, they live in southeast Boise with their three sons. Their oldest, 23, is studying Mechanical Engineering at Boise State University. Their 19-year-old son attends Westminster College in Utah and plays golf. Their youngest, Jacob, is a sophomore at Timberline High School and, like his brother, plays golf as well.

The couple's professional story began shortly after Rob finished high school. He enrolled in plumbing school and started working for Quality Plumbing, where he discovered his passion for the trade. "At that point I fell in love with plumbing," Rob recalled. He completed his schooling, became a Journeyman plumber, and by 2004 was ready to strike out on his own. He founded Rob Goodson Plumbing, which later became Goodson Plumbing Services.

The business initially focused on new construction and remodeling projects. Like many small businesses, it adapted during the pandemic and expanded to include service work. Today, Goodson Plumbing Services is available 24/7, offering a wide range of plumbing solutions for homes and businesses across Boise and the Treasure Valley.

"We started this business to support my family and provide a great service for the valley," Michelle said. That blend of personal commitment and community care has initially shaped the company.

What sets Goodson Plumbing apart is more than technical skill. It's the values behind the work. "We are a family-owned business that grew up in the valley. We provide honest, affordable service and have compassion towards our customers and their needs," Michelle explained.

The company offers everything from routine drain cleaning and toilet repairs to water heater replacements and sewer line services. With a licensed, bonded, and insured team, Goodson Plumbing



"We're not just plumbers; we're your friends, neighbors, and trusted partners."

—MICHELLE GOODSON

prides itself on handling large and small jobs with efficiency and care. For Rob and Michelle, the heart of the business lies in building lasting relationships. "At Goodson Plumbing, we're not just plumbers; we're your friends, neighbors, and trusted partners," Michelle said.

Rob adds his own assurance to every job. "I guarantee our workmanship. No job is too big or too small. We can do it all."

For the Goodsons, plumbing is more than a profession. It's a way to connect with neighbors, support their community, and set an example for their three boys about hard work and dedication. Their advice for homeowners is simple but wise: "Trust your gut when choosing someone to work on your house. Ask questions and be upfront with what you need."

Goodson Plumbing Services continues to grow, but its foundation remains steady—family, integrity, and a commitment to the people of Boise.

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Eagle Resident Christina Gillihan donated the 5,000th unit of blood.



The barrels represent the 5,000 units of blood donated!

Eagle Hills Church Hits Major Blood Donation Milestone

BY ERICA PETERSON

Eagle Hills Church reached an incredible achievement in September—5,000 units (or about 5,000 pints) of blood donated! That's a number that represents countless lives saved and families kept whole. But behind these impressive statistics are personal stories and family traditions that make this milestone even more meaningful.

One regular donor shared how blood donation became woven into their family's values: "Growing up, my dad told us, especially since we are Type O negative blood, that it was part of our civic duty to donate blood regularly. That was part of our family tradition." Some families pass down recipes and holiday traditions, while others pass down the commitment to help save lives.

Knowing your blood type isn't just useful information—it's part of understanding your family's medical heritage. Some blood types are inherited, and understanding these patterns can be crucial for both donors and recipients. For those of us who love diving into genealogy research, medical history is often one of the most valuable pieces we can uncover about our ancestors.

Type O donors, usually referred to as "universal donors," carry a special responsibility since their blood can help

almost anyone in an emergency. But every blood type matters, and understanding your family's donation history can inspire future generations to continue that legacy of giving.

What makes Eagle Hills Church's achievement so special isn't just the impressive number—it's how this effort brings the community together. Denise Marsh, the Eagle Hills Church Blood Drive Co-Leader for Red Cross, shared, "Our church has been blessed to have the Eagle community turn out to donate drive after drive, year after year. It truly fosters the idea of a community mission. Even better, it's such fun to watch strangers become friends over the course of a drive." When neighbors roll up their sleeves side by side, it creates bonds that honor both the living and the memory of loved ones who someone else's generosity might have saved.

Ready to join this life-saving tradition? The Red Cross and Eagle Hills Church continue to host regular blood drives, and they'd love to welcome new donors. Whether you're continuing a family tradition or starting a new one, every donation matters.

Want to share about a local service effort?
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Eagle's John Goegel donates Power Red with nurse Leah, giving double the red blood cells in a single donation. His simple reason for giving: 'Why not?'

Our church has been blessed to have the Eagle community turn out to donate drive after drive, year after year.

—DENISE MARSH

"Blood is constantly needed. It expires after 42 days on the shelf, but it never sits there that long"

—NURSE BRITAIN



Eagle local through and through, Erica graduated from BYU and chose to plant her family's roots right back where hers began. She and husband James are raising three kids while she balances motherhood with probably too many side projects.

MARK AND SIMONE SPARLING

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November Riddle:
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What am I?

Send your best guess to greeteagle@n2co.com, and you may win a \$25 Amazon gift card.

September Riddle and Answer
I speak without a mouth and hear without ears.
I have no body, but I come alive with wind.
What am I?
Ecco

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Riding Waves and Facing Life with Courage

Adaptive Surfing Champion, Meira Nelson

BY BRANDI WOLF

WHEN MOST PEOPLE THINK of Idaho, surfing might not be the first thing that comes to mind—but for one remarkable Eagle resident, the spirit of the ocean lives on in everything she does.

After nearly 40 years surrounded by the sea, this accomplished adaptive surfer now calls Eagle, Idaho home, bringing with her a story of strength, resilience, and unwavering passion.

FROM CANOES TO WAVES

Her journey into the world of adaptive surfing began through friends she met while paddling outrigger canoes in Hawai'i. They told her about a program called **Accesssurf Hawai'i**, a nonprofit dedicated to helping people with disabilities experience the joy of the ocean. “At first it sounded intimidating,” she admits, “but when I finally went, I caught my first wave and I was hooked.”



something ignited in me. A fire. I knew I wanted to train and compete at a higher level.”

A CHAMPION IN THE MAKING

That passion and drive paid off. Today, she holds the top spot in the Women’s Waveski Division at the Hawai'i Adaptive Surfing Championship, hosted by Accesssurf Hawai'i. This major event is the second stop on the global tour for the Association of Adaptive Surfing Professionals (AASP), an elite platform for adaptive surfers from around the world. With the finale fast approaching in September, she’s focused and determined to bring the championship title home—this time, to Eagle, Idaho.

FROM HAWA'I TO THE HIGH DESERT

So how did a world-class surfer land in landlocked Idaho?

Her family made the move after her husband, a former Boise State University athlete and national competitor in hammer throw, received a career opportunity that could positively impact their future. “It was a big decision,” she shares, “but after the loss of our oldest daughter, Aulani, it felt like a reset from grief. A chance to start fresh.”

Though the shift from island life to Idaho living was significant, the decision has proven to be a blessing. “There’s a beautiful adaptive community here,” she says. “People are kind, the seasons are magical, and the growth opportunities—both personal and professional—are plentiful.”

KEEPING THE SURFING SPIRIT ALIVE

While there’s no ocean nearby, her connection to the water hasn’t faded. She cross-trains in other sports to keep her body strong and visits the local White Water Park in

Boise for inspiration. “River surfing is a whole different world,” she explains. “It would take years to learn, especially with the right adaptive equipment. But I kayak, I train, and I’m staying open to it.”

There’s a saying in the surf world: *“If you have doubts, don’t go out.”* And while she’s cautious, she’s also optimistic. “I believe that’s going to change really soon.”

LIVING WITH PURPOSE

Above all, her story is one of gratitude. After surviving an accident 24 years ago that changed her life, she’s committed to living with intention, kindness, and love. “I was given a second chance,” she says. “I don’t take anything for granted anymore.”

She credits her husband for being her rock—an incredible father, partner, and supporter of her surfing career. Together, they’re raising their family with love and resilience, honoring the past while embracing their new chapter in Idaho.

“I’m proud to represent Eagle in my surfing journey,” she says with a smile. “This place, this community—it’s part of my story now.”

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TREASURE VALLEY ORTHODOX MISSION

Building a Spiritual Home in Eagle

When Kirk and Tillie first felt the pull to Eagle, Idaho, they believed it was more than just a relocation—a calling. After years of visits and prayerful discernment, they realized that the growing community in the Boise area was ready for something new: an Orthodox church that welcomed everyone.

"We wanted to not only include Greek Orthodox parishioners but to embrace all nationalities," Tillie explains. "That's why we call it an American

Orthodox Church." With the Treasure Valley population booming over the past six years, the timing felt right to establish a mission that could bring together Orthodox Christians from diverse backgrounds and welcome newcomers curious about this ancient faith.

From Curiosity to Commitment
Tillie grew up in Michigan, where she experienced all four seasons, while Kirk was born and raised in California.

It was an associate of Kirk's—who had moved to the Boise area—who first sparked their curiosity. Wanting to see for themselves, the couple began visiting Eagle regularly, sampling each season to decide if it was a fit.

"After doing that for a few years, we decided to move our agency here in October 2014," says Tillie. "The rest is history. We love it here—the people, the weather, and the way of life."

A Mission for All

The Treasure Valley Orthodox Mission is open to anyone who wishes to attend liturgies and explore the beauty of Orthodox worship. "Everyone is welcome," says Tillie. "We invite people to come and see for themselves if it's what they are looking for."

For now, services are being held at the Episcopal Church of the Holy Nativity, 828 W. Cherry Lane in Meridian. Liturgies are celebrated in English, with hymns sung in Greek and Romanian on select Saturdays.

A Growing Community of Faith

After much prayer, a group of Orthodox faithful began exploring the possibility of creating a multi-ethnic mission that could serve as a spiritual home for those not currently attending a church or those unfamiliar with Orthodox traditions. The mission has taken root with the guidance of the Orthodox Church in America (OCA) and blessings from the Romanian Orthodox Episcopate of America.

The community is especially grateful for the leadership of Fr. Florin Iftode, who currently serves a parish in Pomona, California. Fr. Florin will periodically travel to Boise to guide the mission, offering services and spiritual direction.

On Saturday, April 26, 2025, the Treasure Valley Orthodox Mission celebrated its first Divine Liturgy. Fr. Florin, joined by a talented choir leader, led a beautiful service filled with heartfelt hymns, prayers, and a powerful sermon. It was a milestone moment that marked the beginning of a new spiritual chapter in the Treasure Valley.

To learn more, email Tillie at Tilliemu@yahoo.com.

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From LAPD Detective to Stained Glass Artist: MEET NICOLE KITTLE

BY NICOLE KITTLE



Eagle is full of fascinating people with rich stories to tell—one of those people is Nicole, a recent retiree who traded in her badge for glass cutters and a soldering iron, turning a longtime hobby into a full-fledged small business right here in town.

Born in Ohio and raised in Southern California, Nicole's career path took her into public service. After earning a BA in Public Administration from Chico State University, she joined the Los Angeles Police Department in 1996. She further obtained an MPA from California State University, Northridge. Over the next 25 years, she rose to the rank of Supervising Detective, working in some of the department's most challenging units, including Homicide, Officer-Involved Shootings, and the Sexual Assault Unit.

When she retired in 2022, Nicole knew she wanted a change of scenery from Los Angeles. Her father, who had

supervised a manufacturing plant in Nampa years ago, often spoke highly of the Boise area. After visiting a few times and falling in love with the friendly people, slower pace, and natural beauty of the region, she chose to settle in Eagle. Her parents soon followed, relocating to Middleton.

Nicole's journey into stained glass began about 16 years ago with a simple six-week class near her home. "I instantly fell in love with the process," she recalls. What started as a creative outlet from the stress of police work soon blossomed into a passion. With the help of her dad's woodworking skills, she set up a home studio in her garage and began creating windows, lanterns, and suncatchers for friends and coworkers.

It wasn't until a retirement seminar emphasized turning hobbies into small businesses that Nicole seriously considered launching her own venture. In 2023, Nicole's Stained Glass was officially born. She now participates in art and craft shows,

local fundraising events, and holiday bazaars. Her offerings have expanded to include private stained glass classes, custom privacy and decorative windows, and restoration work on existing stained glass pieces.

Nicole draws much of her inspiration from her love of English gardens—flowers, bees, and dragonflies often find their way into her colorful creations. "I love watching how light moves through the glass and casts color across a room. Each piece is an artwork for your windows," she says.

Using both traditional lead came and modern copper foil techniques, Nicole works closely with clients to bring their

vision to life—each custom window is as functional as it is beautiful, reflecting personal style and imagination.

You can explore Nicole's work, learn about upcoming events, or book a class or consultation by visiting her website at www.nicolesstainedglass.com or following her on Facebook at [nicolestainedglass](https://www.facebook.com/nicolestainedglass).

Nicole lives in Eagle with her 12-year-old Springer Spaniel, Isaac. Isaac is a regular fixture in the studio, keeping Nicole company during work and welcoming students during class sessions. It's a new chapter filled with creativity, community, and color, and Eagle is lucky to have her.



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