



# PEOPLE

## Annalisa Holcombe

Western Governors University announced the appointment of Annalisa Holcombe as President of WGU Advancement, effective Sept. 16. She brings more than 15 years of experience in higher education, fundraising and community relations to WGU's nonprofit fundraising organization.



Holcombe

Holcombe joins WGU Advancement after serving in various roles for more than a decade at Westminster College in Salt Lake City, most recently as Vice President and Chief Advancement Officer. She holds a bachelor's degree in Business Management from Westminster College and a juris doctorate from the University of Utah College of Law.

## Phil MacDougall

Western Industrial Nevada (WIN) has hired Phil MacDougall as its new executive director, where he is responsible for working with the board to manage operations of the organization, including board facilitation, event planning, financial management, corporate sponsorships, marketing and member retention/recruitment.



MacDougall

MacDougall has extensive experience in all of these areas, having worked in similar roles for NBA's Sacramento Kings and Arco Arena Entertainment Facility, Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, California Asian Chamber of Commerce, California Museum of History, Quarry Park Adventures and Ebara Technologies.

He completed his degree at Richmond University in London, England, with a focus in international relations; and received his bachelor's degree in political science from Bridgewater State University in Bridgewater, Mass.

## Travis Coombs and Michael Keller

Nevada-based contracting firm CORE Construction announced the promotion of Travis Coombs to Vice President of Northern Nevada operations. Since entering the construction industry in 2001, Coombs has established trusting relationships with design partners, building partners and clients. Coombs joined CORE in 2013 and has served in several departments. In his new role, he will now lead business strategy and development in Northern Nevada.



Coombs



Keller

Alongside Coombs' promotion, Director of Pre-Construction Michael Keller relocated from CORE Construction's Las Vegas office to its Reno office earlier this year to support the firm's strategic vision for the future and expand its influence in the Northern Nevada community. Prior to working for CORE, Keller served as an Owners Representative and Construction/Program Manager for a variety of public sector clients lending him a unique perspective to his role as Director of Pre-Construction.

## Pam Becker

Western Title Company, Nevada's largest provider of title insurance, recently welcomed Pam Becker to the team. Originally from San Francisco East Bay, Becker came to Reno 30 years ago.

She enjoys riding mountain bikes along



Becker

the Truckee River and along back hill trails with her husband, Brian. She's been in the title and escrow field since 2004 and joins Western Title's Kietzke South office as a commercial escrow officer.

## Stephanie Casteel

Snell & Wilmer announced that Stephanie "Stevie" Casteel has joined the Reno and Las Vegas offices as a Partner in the firm's Private Client Services practice group.



Casteel

Casteel focuses her statewide practice in wealth transfer and tax planning and exempt organizations with an emphasis in sophisticated estate and gift planning techniques, nuptial agreements, charitable planning, including private foundations, supporting organizations and charitable trusts, and domestic asset protection.

Prior to joining Snell & Wilmer, Casteel was the founding partner of Wallace Morrison & Casteel LLP in Atlanta, Georgia, and South Lake Tahoe. She received her J.D., with distinction, from Emory University College of Law, and her B.A. in Economics, with High Honors, from Agnes Scott College.

## Marcos Franco

Peterbilt Truck Parts & Equipment announced Marcos Franco has been named parts manager. Franco brings 11 years of experience to his new position, most recently serving as parts manager at Westrux International in Fontana, Calif.



Franco

As parts manager, he is responsible for overseeing the parts department, including purchasing, inventory and scheduling. Franco puts specific focus on customer experience and satisfaction.

He attended Mt. San Antonio College in Walnut, Calif., where he studied Police Science. He is Navistar Dealer Certified in parts. Franco also enjoys coaching Little League.

## Ken McKim

Ken McKim recently started his own business, Nobel Patient Advocacy, as a Board Certified Patient Advocate, in August 2019 after seeing a need in the Reno/Sparks community for focused, dedicated and reliable support for people struggling to deal with the healthcare system.



McKim

McKim offers liaison services, records consolidation, and doctor visit preparation and recap. He also offers transportation to patients to attend medical appointments, notetaking before and during the appointment, and assistance with filling prescriptions. For more information, visit [www.nobleadvocacy.com](http://www.nobleadvocacy.com).

## Kelly Gold

Rancharra, the 141-acre master planned community, announced recently that Kelly Gold will lead efforts for the health and wellness division at The Club at Rancharra as the Spa and Fitness Director. Gold has nearly 20 years of experience in spa management.



Gold

Before joining The Club at Rancharra, Gold was the Spa Director for the Lahontan Golf Club in

Truckee. Gold started her career with the Lahontan Golf Club at a grassroots effort, much like Rancharra will be, building the spa amenities from the ground up and creating a legacy home for the members of the club.

## Brian Sandoval

The nonprofit Tahoe Fund announced Sept. 17 that former Nevada Gov. Brian Sandoval has joined its Council of Special Advisors.



Sandoval

Sandoval has a history of supporting Lake Tahoe through his work as governor (2011-2019) and as a past board member of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency. While serving in the Nevada legislature, Sandoval was on the TRPA Oversight Committee and was a member of the Natural Resources, Mining and Agriculture Committee for two terms, each of which had jurisdiction over Tahoe related bills. Sandoval is the second to be appointed to the new advisory council, joining former Tahoe Fund board member and longtime Tahoe advocate Steven Merrill.

## Louie Llamas

Stark & Associates has announced Louie Llamas as its newest Associate.

Prior to joining the Stark team, Llamas spent the last 35 years in the hi-tech world of Silicon Valley. He has held Executive Management positions with Seagate, WD, Hitachi GST, DNR Direct, Unigen Corporation, Elliptical Mobile Solutions and Flextronics, as well with other hi-tech firms and successful start-ups. He also has three years of law enforcement experience as a Special Agent with the FBI prior to moving to the Bay Area in 1983.

Llamas was born and raised in El Paso, Texas, and has a BS in Marketing from the University of Texas at El Paso.



Llamas

## Tony Lillios

EO Reno Tahoe, the local branch of the international Entrepreneurs' Organization (EO), recently welcomed Tony Lillios as a new member.

Lillios is an integral coach in personal development who is passionate about people living less limited lives and growing into bigger versions of themselves. As a serial entrepreneur, he founded and grew several companies, most notably the mobile case and accessory company, Speck Products. His companies have been featured on the Inc 500 Fastest Growing private companies list for many years with the highest rank of No. 41.

Tony was last part of the EO San Francisco Chapter in 2005 and was approved by Global to rejoin into the EO Reno Tahoe Chapter.

## Mike Kazmierski

Mike Kazmierski, President and CEO of Economic Development Authority of Western Nevada (EDAWN), will be honored with the

Good Scout Award by the Nevada Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America on Oct. 24 during a 12 p.m. event at the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa.

Kazmierski, a Wisconsin native, is a retired Army Colonel and former Commander of U.S. Army Garrison-Fort Carson, Colorado. Under his command, Fort Carson was recognized as the best of all 270 installations in the Army.



Kazmierski

He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Engineering and Economics from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point; a Masters Degree in Business Administration; and a Masters Degree in Military Arts & Science.

For more information, sponsorship details and tickets for the Oct. 24 event, contact Nevada Area Council Executive Director Paul Penttila or Executive Assistant Tracy Ladd at 775-787-1111.

## Daniel S. Judd

Daniel S. Judd has joined Allison MacKenzie Law Firm as a new associate attorney. Judd will focus his practice on the areas of family

law, divorce, guardianships and estate planning. He is a former law clerk for both Allison MacKenzie and the Honorable James T. Russell, District Court Judge of the First Judicial District Court in Carson City. Additionally, he served the community as a Deputy Sheriff in



Judd

Carson City.

A Douglas High School graduate, Judd attended Western Nevada College before transferring to UNR, where he obtained his BS in Criminal Justice-Pre-Law in 2013.

Pursuing his dream of becoming an attorney, Daniel attended the University of Wyoming College of Law, and in 2017, he obtained his Doctor of Jurisprudence Degree. In 2018, he was admitted to the practice of law in Nevada.

## Heidi Gansert

The directors of Plumas Bancorp, the parent company of Plumas Bank, appointed Nevada Sen. Heidi Gansert to the Plumas Bancorp and Plumas Bank Board of Directors. Gansert is an engineering graduate of Santa Clara University who holds an MBA from UNR.

She has over 30 years of management experience and currently serves as the Executive Director of External Relations at UNR.

She also serves on the boards of EDAWN and Reno's newly created Downtown Reno Partnership.

Gansert currently serves in Nevada's part-time legislature as a state senator; she previously served as Chief of Staff to Gov. Brian Sandoval, and prior to that as the assemblywoman representing District 25 in the Nevada State Legislature.



Gansert

## Timothy Baker, Melissa Piasecki and Lisa Calvo

The University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine (UNR Med) recently announced a trio of senior educational and academic leadership roles.

Timothy Baker, M.D., will serve as the new senior associate dean for academic affairs; Melissa Piasecki, M.D., previously executive associate dean and senior associate dean for academic affairs, will take on an expansion of her role as executive associate dean; and Lisa Calvo, M.D., will serve as interim associate dean for medical education.

In his new role, Dr. Baker will oversee all UNR Med academic programs and support services related to medical student, physician assistant and resident education.

Expanding the role as executive associate dean, Dr. Piasecki will oversee institutional vision, stability, growth and excellence.



Baker



Piasecki



Calvo

Piasecki will continue to lead the school's accreditation process, as well UNR Med's Continuous Institutional Assessment office, Office of Statewide Initiatives and the Savitt Medical Library.

Dr. Calvo, meanwhile, will lead UNR Med's Office of Medical Education and will be responsible for educational activities across the four-year undergraduate medical education curriculum.

**Janet Kavandi**

Sierra Nevada Corporation (SNC), announced that former NASA astronaut and Glenn Research Center director Janet Kavandi



Kavandi

will join the company as Senior Vice President for its Space Systems business area.

After 25 years with NASA, Kavandi retired last month as director at Glenn, having led the center's Moon to Mars work. She is joining SNC in a period of growth for the company's space initiatives

and two years before the first of six missions for SNC's Dream Chaser spacecraft to service the International Space Station under contract with NASA.

Kavandi was tapped for NASA's astronaut corps in 1994 and went on to fly three space shuttle missions from 1998 to 2001, logging more than 33 days and 13.1 million miles in space. She was inducted into the Astronaut Hall of Fame in April 2019. Kavandi earned a Ph.D. in Analytical Chemistry from the University of Washington.

**Grace Chou**

Grace Chou has been hired as new director of the University of Nevada, Reno Innevation



Chou

Center—Powered By Switch. Chou joins the Innevation Center from the Nevada Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED), where she was director for manufacturing and technology.

Her career includes senior-level positions with DuPont Industrial Biosciences, SRI International and venture-backed startups, all based in the San Francisco Bay Area or Silicon Valley. She is a former board member for the Bay Area Science and Innovation Consortium (BASIC) and has taught in the University's College of Business and at Sierra Nevada College in Incline Village.

Chou holds a Ph.D. degree in chemical engineering from the University of California, Berkeley and a bachelor's in chemical engineering from the University of Texas at Austin.

**Jim DeVold**

Renown Health Board of Directors Chair Jim DeVold has been awarded the prestigious 2019 Commitment to Community Award for



DeVold

Trustee Excellence from the Nevada Hospital Association (NHA).

Each year at the association's annual meeting, the Nevada Hospital Association publicly acknowledges one trustee who exemplifies exceptional leadership and characteristics.

DeVold was nominated by President & CEO of Renown Health, Anthony D. Slonim, MD, DrPH and his senior leadership team at Renown Health.

After eight years serving in various roles with Renown Health's board of directors,

DeVold — who works as managing director for the commercial banking division at First Independent Bank — was elected as chairman for a two-year term, effective Jan. 1, 2019. A lifelong Nevadan, DeVold grew up in Yerington before moving to Reno 31 years ago.

**Paul Stowell**

City National Bank recently announced that Paul Stowell, Nevada regional executive for the bank, has joined the Board of Trustees for the Nevada Museum of Art.



Stowell

Stowell will serve a minimum of a three-year term and will be a member of the Museum's Las Vegas committee responsible for the fundraising efforts and building of a new Museum facility in southern Nevada.

Stowell also serves on a number of nonprofit boards and community groups, including the Nevada Corporate Giving Council, JDRF of Southern Nevada, and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southern Nevada. He is a graduate of Brigham Young University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications and Broadcast Journalism.

**Hector Aparicio**

Peterbilt Truck Parts & Equipment and Silver State International announced Hector Aparicio has been named rental account



Aparicio

manager of their local leasing divisions — PacLease and Idealease.

Aparicio has worked for the dealerships for over six years, most recently as a leasing service adviser, where he was responsible for scheduling service

appointments and overseeing technician assignment and customer service. In his new role, he will be responsible for managing the Idealease and PacLease rental fleet.

Aparicio received his Associate Degree in business management from WyoTech in Laramie, Wyoming. He is a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, where he received the Marine Achievement Medal. He is a member of the American Legion and is the president of Sparks National Little League.

**Carrie Kester and Stacey Berger**

Agents Carrie Kester and Stacey Berger of the Kester-Berger Team with RE/MAX Realty



Kester

Affiliates have earned the nationally recognized Seniors Real Estate Specialist (SRES) designation from the Seniors Real Estate Specialist Council of the National Association of Realtors.



Berger

The Kester-Berger Team joins more than 15,000 real estate professionals in North America who have earned the SRES designation. They were required to successfully complete a comprehensive course in understanding the needs, considerations, and goals of real estate buyers and sellers aged 55 and older. For more information, visit SRES.org.

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**Northern Nevada HEALTH SYSTEM**

**Northern Nevada Medical Center**

**Northern Nevada Sierra Medical Center - COMING SOON!**

**Northern Nevada Medical Group**

**ER at McCarran NW - COMING 2020!**

**COMMITTED TO WHAT MATTERS MOST**

**Quality Care.**

**Patient Safety.**

**Serving the Community.**

**Growing for the Future.**



Awards indicated above received by Northern Nevada Medical Center. Physicians are independent practitioners who are not employees or agents of Northern Nevada Health System. The system shall not be liable for actions or treatments provided by physicians. For language assistance, disability accommodations and the non-discrimination notice, visit our website. 194059-5537 9/19