



October 2023

NEWS FROM THE BOARD

A monthly newsletter from the Ada County Board of Commissioners

Welcome to the monthly newsletter from the Ada County Board of Commissioners. We are happy to share information on significant news and events in Ada County.

Ryan Davidson - Commissioner
Rod Beck - Board Chairman
Tom Dayley - Commissioner



LOCAL PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICERS (PIOs)

The importance of collaboration

Think about all of the information you need on a regular basis from your city, county, state, and the highway district - to name a few. Being informed and knowledgeable about how things work and how to get things done is critically important whether you're a business, a family or an individual. That's where Public Information Officers (PIOs) come in. These communications professionals share information every day with their stakeholders on a seemingly endless amount of subject matters. PIOs work each day to get the right information to the right people at the right time, not just in emergencies but every day. They also share information among themselves on best practices as it relates to social media platforms like Facebook, NextDoor, Instagram, X (formerly Twitter), and agency homepages. Many thanks to the City of Meridian for hosting the recent meeting of the Treasure Valley Government Communicators.

Treasure Valley Government Communicators tour the Meridian Public Safety Scenario Training Village



DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!



ADA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SIGN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH PROCLAMATION

Each year the Board of Ada County Commissioners signs a proclamation recognizing October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. This year the board signed the proclamation on **Purple Thursday** at the FACES Victim Center in Downtown Boise. Ada County has owned and maintained the facility since it was opened in 2006.

For those not familiar with FACES – it is a one stop location for anyone who is experiencing domestic violence, child abuse, stalking and other interpersonal violence, and it provides a safety net of crisis services. At the FACES Victim Center on 6th Street, medical providers from St. Luke’s and Saint Alphonsus, law enforcement, prosecutor staff, victim witness coordinators, social workers, counselors, civil legal staff, and others work together to support victims and intervene in the cycle of violence. The goal is to provide proactive, team-oriented, victim-centered services to those in need.



Boise Mayor Lauren McLean, Ada County Sheriff Matt Clifford, Ada County Commissioner Ryan Davidson, Ada County Commissioner Tom Dayley, Ada County Commission Chairman Rod Beck, Ada County Prosecutor Jan Bennetts

In 2004 Ada County was the driving force behind the creation of the center with then-Elected Prosecuting Attorney Greg Bower, and Deputy Prosecutors Jan Bennetts and Jean Fisher, bringing together a multi-jurisdictional group to develop the center. Fast forward 19 years and FACES is now the gold standard across the nation in victim-centered community service centers.

Board Chairman Rod Beck

“Each community in the Treasure Valley is working toward a day when incidents of domestic violence are rare, and maybe even non-existent,” said Ada County Commission Chairman Rod Beck. “Until that day, Ada County and our partners will continue doing everything in our power to support victims and educate those who need help learning how to manage themselves in a way that doesn’t involve violence or abuse of any kind.”



Ada County Commissioner Ryan Davidson, Ada County Commissioner Tom Dayley, Ada County Sheriff Matt Clifford, Ada County Commission Chairman Rod Beck, Women’s and Children’s Alliance (WCA) CEO Bea Black, Ada County Prosecutor Jan Bennetts, Ada County Treasurer Elizabeth Mahn



The board is grateful for the guest speakers at the October 19th event – Ada County Prosecutor Jan Bennetts, Ada County Sheriff Matt Clifford, and Anne Wardle, a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) at FACES. Thank you also to local law enforcement, elected officials, FACES staff and county employees who attended the event.

Police leadership from Boise, Meridian, and Garden City were on hand for the event as well as Boise Mayor Lauren McLean and Ada County Paramedics Director Shawn Rayne.

Domestic Violence thrives in the shadows. Anyone experiencing emotional, physical, or sexual abuse by an intimate partner is encouraged to reach out for help. To learn more about FACES or to refer a friend in need visit <https://www.facesofhopevictimcenter.org/> You can also call (208) 577-4400.



**Ada County Sheriff
Matt Clifford**



**Ada County Prosecutor
Jan Bennetts**

“I remember one of the first domestic violence cases I ever handled and thinking we could do better as a system. We could do more to provide resources and support for victims earlier on in the process, and create laws that would provide more protections for victims,” said Ada County Prosecutor Jan Bennetts. “I’m so proud of the strides our county and state have made in serving those who experience interpersonal violence, especially when I think of the creation and partnerships that have been built at the FACES Victim Center.”



HONORING A TRUE LOCAL HERO

Commissioners Sign Proclamation Designating October 4th as Bernie Fisher Day

Sometimes a community event is so inspiring and uplifting it leaves a lasting impact. That was the case October 4th at a joint meeting of the Kuna City Council and the Ada County Commission.



Ada County Commission Chairman Rod Beck, and Commissioners Ryan Davidson and Tom Dayley were joined by Ada County Sheriff Matt Clifford, Ada County Assessor Rebecca Arnold, Ada County Clerk Trent Tripple and [Ada County Paramedics](#) Chief Shawn

Rayne to share updates on new developments that will improve the lives of residents in Kuna. The joint meeting was also an opportunity for elected officials and the community to honor a local hero.



Brad Fisher talks about the events in Vietnam that were the impetus of his father's medal of honor award

Major Bernie Fisher was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor by President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1967 for his outstanding heroics in the Vietnam War. In the years that followed Fisher rose to the rank of Colonel and after his distinguished military career retired to his home in Kuna. If you live in Kuna, and you've been to Bernie Fisher Park, that's who the park is named after. We are so grateful Bernie's extended family was on hand to hear a proclamation designating October 4th as Bernie Fisher Day and talk about their father's life. Col. Fisher passed away in 2014. You can read more about Fisher in the book "Beyond The Call Of Duty" published in 2004.

Thank you to Kuna Mayor Joe Stear and his gracious staff for helping to coordinate the meeting and the Bernie Fisher Recognition.

Bernie's son Brad Fisher, and Chairman Rod Beck



Friends and Family attend Ada County/ Kuna joint meeting



Commissioner Tom Dayley, Chairman Rod Beck and Commissioner Ryan Davidson at Joint Ada County Kuna meeting

ADA COUNTY TREASURES

Ada County looked a lot different in decades past so it's such a blessing when that rich heritage is preserved. Congratulations to Danny and Sheila Beal on receiving the Ada County Treasure Award for their property on W. Beacon Light Road. Ada County Commissioner Ryan Davidson presented the couple with their award October 5th.



The Beal's 34+ acre property north of Eagle has a two-story colonial revival house with a covered porch. The house was built back in 1925 and the property

also includes an impressive barn that looks like something from an old movie. Quite beautiful. The Ada County Historic Preservation Council wishes to acknowledge the efforts of Danny and Sheila Beal for preserving this Ada County Treasure.



If you'd like to learn more about the Ada County Historic Preservation Council and Ada County Treasure learn more here:

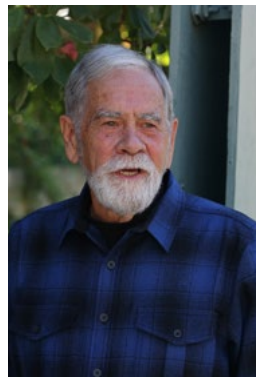
<https://adacounty.id.gov/historicpreservation/>

<https://adacounty.id.gov/historicpreservation/county-treasures/>

The Ada County Board of Commissioners and the Ada County Historic Preservation Council is pleased to present its 2023 Making History Award to John Bertram for his contributions in preserving Ada County's history for future generations.

John is a retired planner who first came to Boise through the VISTA program. John and another VISTA volunteer worked in the River Street neighborhood. After his VISTA program experience John went back to the University of Washington to finish his degree in Urban Planning. Upon receiving his degree John returned to Boise to work for the federally

funded River Street Design Center. His firm, Planmakers Planning & Urban Design, created in 1977, has been part of more than 100 planning, design, and preservation projects. John is an accomplished preservationist and planner who has devoted his career to historic preservation



planning and advocacy.

The Ada County Board of Commissioners and the Historic Preservation Council appreciates that John saw a need for his talents in our community and devoted over a 40-year career to the preservation of historic and cultural treasures in Ada County.

ADA COUNTY PROCUREMENT RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

For the 3rd year in a row Ada County Procurement has been awarded the prestigious 2023 Annual Achievement of Excellence in Procurement® (AEP) from the National Procurement Institute, Inc. (NPI). The AEP Award is earned by agencies that demonstrate a commitment to procurement excellence. This annual program recognizes procurement organizations that embrace Innovation, Professionalism, Productivity, Leadership, and e-Procurement.

The AEP program encourages the development of excellence as well as continued organizational improvement to earn the award annually.

For 2023, there were 194 successful applicants including 67 cities, 44 counties, 25 special districts, 25 school districts, 17 higher education agencies, 5 state agencies and 10 others. Ada County Procurement is the only Idaho agency ever to receive this award.



(Pictured Left – Right)

Ken Sinclair, Fleet Manager

Noah Hill, Procurement Officer I

Evan Amidan, Procurement Officer II

Kathy Corless, Procurement Analyst

Robyn Swaney, Procurement Officer II

Alyssa Ellington, Procurement Manager

Jared Watts, Buyer

Bob Perkins, Procurement Director

Rod Beck, Ada County Commission Chairman

Tom Dayley, Ada County Commissioner

ADA COUNTY GOVERNMENT



In addition to elected offices, Ada County government includes thirteen individual departments. Each department provides important services to our residents in Star, Eagle, Meridian, Boise,

Garden City, Kuna, and Unincorporated Ada County.

These services include law enforcement protection, emergency preparedness, election services, parks and waterways, public defense, indigent services, juvenile court, solid waste management, the Western Idaho Fair, Weed, Pest & Mosquito Abatement and more.

Learn more about the services provided to you by Ada County

<https://adacounty.id.gov/>

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITIONS

Bonnie Oberbillig – 25 years of service

One of the nicest things about the Ada County Commissioner's weekly Open Business Meeting (OBM) is when the board recognizes an Ada County employee for a career milestone. You learn more about a person who has spent a career in public service making our county a better place to live. You also hear how one individual can have a significant impact on an entire department or office.



Bonnie Oberbillig began her career with Ada County in 1998 as a Deputy Recorder. Bonnie was promoted

to a Lead Recording Clerk in 2017. Bonnie has worked in the Recorder's Office for 25 years, under four Clerks.

Bonnie has seen the construction of the courthouse on Front Street, implementation

of new systems, and the change in recording standards throughout the years. In 2020 she assisted in streamlining office processes and helped create the online alcohol license renewal system. Bonnie is an invaluable asset to the county and will assist any office in need. Her knowledge, expertise, and professionalism support the mission to build trust in government.

Thank you Bonnie for all your work, for your outstanding work ethic and for being another reason why the Ada County Clerk's Office is often voted one of the best places to work in our community.



Clerk's Office Co-workers L-R Traci Hunt, China Gee, Vicky Bailey, Bonnie, Heather Luther, Che Fowler & Lydia Gomez.

Kate Cahill 25 years of service

Kate was hired full time as an EMT in 1998 and within a year and a half went through the Advanced EMT program and was promoted to Advanced EMT in April of 2000. She didn't spend much time in that role as she quickly began training to become a Paramedic. She successfully completed the Paramedic program and was promoted in March of 2001. Kate became a Field Training Officer in February of 2007 and trained many of our new employees for a little over 10 years. In October 2016 Kate accepted a promotion to Quality Assurance Captain and serves in this role today.



She is responsible for ensuring that our providers are adhering to the high standards of care we

have at Ada County Paramedics and helping those folks continue to grow.

Thank you, Kate, for 25 amazing years of service to Ada County Paramedics and our community.



L-R Ada County Commissioner Ryan Davidson, Kate's Dad, Wade Steele, Kate's mom, Sandy Steele, Bo Madlinger, Kate Cahill, Ada County Commission Chairman Rod Beck, Commissioner Tom Dayley and Ada County Paramedics Director Shawn Rayne.

Shary Abbott 20 Years!

Imagine working somewhere for twenty years and your work being described as almost perfect all the time. That's some kind of high praise! Especially when your job involves the court system.

Congratulations to Shary Abbott on a very important milestone in her career in public service. Shary is a legal assistant and has worked for Ada County since 2003. Shary's co-workers in the Trial Court Administrator's Office (TCA) say she is independent and requires little supervision - she simply knows her job well and just gets things done.

"I would just like to say that I appreciate Shary's service to the Trial Court Administrator's Office, as well as her service to many judges, throughout her years with Ada County. I appreciate her dedication and persistence with her work as a Legal Assistant for our office." District Judge Lynn Norton

"She does a fine job of it. Her work is timely, accurate, detail-oriented, and almost perfect every time. She's the best." District Judge Samuel Hoagland.

Thank you Shary for 20 years of service to Ada County!



Front Row: Martha Lyke (Legal Assistant), Imelda Ramirez (Deputy TCA), District Judge Lynn Norton, Shary Abbott (Legal Assistant), District Judge Samuel Hoagland

Back row: Janet Hoskins (5th Floor In Court Clerk Supervisor), Jennifer Montgomery (Legal Assistant), Janine Korsen (In Court Clerk to Judge Norton), Lisa Aberasturi (Legal Assistant), Kathy Pataro (In Court Clerk to Judge Hoagland), Linda Sims-Douglas (Legal Assistant), Kari Maxwell (Legal Assistant).

COMING UP!

You can watch the Ada County Board of Commissioner's weekly Open Business Meeting on YouTube.



WATCH NOW

Want to see what's on the Agenda?

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