

**VETERINARIAN:**  
Adventurous life led to home here

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veterinary school in St. Kitts in the West Indies where we quickly realized we had the same adventurous spirit and goals, she said. “I was nervous about a move across the country but quickly realized it was where we were meant to be as the Central Oregon lifestyle fulfills our need for outdoor adventure and exploration.”

McSwain knew they would make the permanent move to Central Oregon one day since Mike was born and raised in Terrebonne, where his father practices veterinary medicine.

“We sensed that Mike would come home to practice alongside his father. We are all very passionate about veterinary medicine within a community where we can build long-lasting relationships by keeping it local.”

She aims to further build a trusting relationship with clients and their pets within the community.

“My love of animals came naturally, and their well-being was always of utmost importance to me.”  
— Dr. Terra McSwain

“I practice veterinary medicine as if each client and their pet is a part of my family. I’m excited to work alongside Dr. Lodge and Dr. Liedblad as they have welcomed me into such an inviting clinic with the most awesome staff,” she said.

Broken Top Veterinary Clinic’s office manager, Jenny, spoke for the staff:

“Dr. McSwain joined our team at the beginning of August and we are excited to have her in our growing family. She is bringing her love of veterinary medicine, client education, and service to the community and we would be thrilled to have you share and experience what she is bringing to our clinic and beautiful Broken Top community!”

The McSwains have two dogs, one cat, and a farm full of an assortment of animals — all of which are rescues.

Some of her interests include, internal medicine, dentistry, nutrition, and emergency & critical care. She is a member of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) and the Oregon Veterinarian Medical Association.

**HOMES:** Program offers first-time home ownership

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are sold through First Story’s 30-year non-interest loan program.

“What we’re doing in Sisters is the largest, most impactful project the non-profit has ever done,” said Duncan.

The three families received their keys to their First Story homes in the initial phase of the project, which is expected to take three years to complete.

Nathaniel Grimes told *The Nugget* that home ownership means freedom and stability for him and his 12-year-old son, Conner, after years of apartment living and frequent moves.

“Just... freedom,” he said. “Freedom to have your own house and make your own decisions.”

If Conner has anything to say about it, one of those decisions will be to get a dog.

“He’s been wanting a dog for a few years now,” his father confirmed.

Conner will attend Sisters Middle School, a short distance away.

Councilor Michael Preedin spoke on behalf of the City of Sisters and its efforts to facilitate affordable housing, saying, “I couldn’t

be more proud for these families. They’re the reason we’re here. This is a goal by the City we have decided to pursue as a community. It can’t happen without all of us in it together.”

Hayden Homes President Steve Klingman also cited the collaborative nature of the project, working with the construction trades and suppliers to facilitate the effort.

“It takes a big effort from a lot of people,” he said. “To be able to build these houses takes a community.”

Both Klingman and Duncan made special note of the efforts of project manager Cody Campeau.

“This is life changing,” said new homeowner Debbi Donati. “This was the only way we (could) have home-ownership for us.”

Jacob Christensen spoke for his family with heartfelt gratitude:

“Thank you from the bottom of our heart.”

He noted the value of NeighborImpact’s home-ownership program, saying the family is “grateful to NeighborImpact for steering us the right way and believing in us.”

First Story’s affordable loan program provides zero-down, zero-interest, 30-year loans to qualified individuals purchasing their first home. The First Story homes are triplex units — but they are only attached at the garage and do



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Nathaniel and Conner Grimes celebrate freedom and stability in their new home at McKenzie Meadows.

not share a living-space wall, giving them the feel of a single-family detached home. They are 1,058 square feet with three bedrooms and two bathrooms. They come with appliances, air conditioning,

fencing and landscaping in place.

First Story and Hayden Homes will collaborate on three more homes in 2021. For more information [www.firststory.org/own-a-home](http://www.firststory.org/own-a-home).

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