

July 2021 Client Corner: From Auto Traffic to Cows

In recent conversations within our sphere of influence, we are discovering more people that are moving out of California. There has been a slow drain moving out of this state for many different reasons, one of which was the recent pandemic which allowed people to work from anywhere. One of the more popular locations that seems to come up more often as of late is Idaho. Judy, the daughter of a longtime Kemp Financial Family Member and current client of KFM, moved from California to Idaho a few years ago for her retirement and never looked back. She was not looking for Idaho to be the same as California. She was looking to Idaho to be exactly what it was before she moved there; a beautiful, rugged countryside.



“In Idaho, you build fences to keep cattle out, not keep them in!” Judy stated. Being defined as an “Open Range State” (outside of townships and specified areas) the cattle are free to roam. Coming from Templeton, California, Judy was not new to rustic living and open country. She embraced it and wanted to keep Idaho just the way it was. There are always rumblings of not wanting to tell people outside of California where you are from. (We have heard stories of ex-Californians wanting to change license plates away from the Golden State as quickly as they can so they do not get sodas

thrown at their car.) Judy figured she would just jump right into the local community just the way she had back in Central California.

In Templeton, one the many things Judy juggled, beside her psychology practice, was sitting as an elected official on the Service District Board, where she served four terms as a Director. In total, she served her community for 16 years. One key aspect to the job was her ability to crack into the “good ole boys” network that had been tough to infiltrate. Let’s just say for conversations sake, she was eventually welcomed into the group based on her no-nonsense approach and hard work.

Now that she had retired, moved from her community, finished up her position on the Board of Directors, and relocated to her ranches in Idaho, she could just sit idle and watch the days go by...as you read the previous passages, you know full well that is not the route that Judy would ever take. As many of you that are reading this know, retirement ends up being busier than one could ever be pre-retirement. If only we had a nickel for every time we heard our clients say, “How did I get all of this done when I was working?” Thinking that she would get



involved in the planning and zoning of her community, Judy started putting the feelers out to her neighbors. Through those conversations, there soon arose a need for a Director on the [Adams Soil and Water Conservation District](#). She was roped in by a neighbor and now she is now a conservationist!



“Oh, don’t call me a conservationist, you are making me sound like a Tree-Hugger!” Judy laughed. “What we do is help the agricultural community with conservation, better land use and sustainable use of the natural resources.” Projects that deal with water rights, weed abatement, fire protection, and much more. They started a pollinator program that is run through the schools to help kids plant and sell flowers to help fund the garden and green house projects in their schools; some excellent activities and ways to get involved. On rare

occasions, the district must roll up their sleeves and kindly let people know they are in the wrong. Recently, on one such occasion, there was someone who thought it would be OK to change the course of the river and after a few chats with several agencies, the constituent understood that they were in the wrong.

Judy, like most Idahoans, wants to keep the State intact and not give into the ways of the outsiders moving in. While she may be too far out of town to run for Mayor, who knows what her next volunteer experience will be. Her energy and joy simply come from being an active part of the old well-established community.

There are a lot of ways to fill the time when you retire just like Judy has discovered. That is one of the many things we enjoy about working with clients like Judy. All our clients manage to fill their time with the things that Matters Most to each of them. Whether it be like Judy as a “Conservationist” 😊, volunteering in your community, or whatever else that drives you, we enjoy living vicariously through each of you.

Thanks for sharing your story, Judy!

[For more information on the Adams Soil and Water Conservation District and the work that Judy and others do there, click here.](#)