

MCGREGOR: Artist drew on theme of recent book

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‘Dennis, have you ever done a mural?’” he recalled.

Having just done the Sisters piece, he was able to reply, “Well, I happen to have a picture right here...”

The artist met with the Old Mill District manager and determined on how to spruce up the visual appeal of the utility facilities in the outdoor shopping mall. Images from “You Stole My Name” would do the job. Smith wanted to use indigenous animals, so they settled on mule deer, chicken hawk, and bull trout.

Rather than simply reproducing book images, McGregor created new paintings to suit the space both in composition and in color, using an inviting blue sky color. The pieces were printed with a digital image on thin sheets of metal by MC Smith Sign Co./Dana Signs, operated by Brent Grenfield.

Two of the pieces are right at ground level, so viewers can approach them up close. The original paintings were also given to the Old Mill District for display.

The project took almost exactly six months from concept to installation.

“I love it, y’know?” McGregor said. “It’s really just a dream job... It’s been received so well already.”

Teen mayor: People can serve no matter their age

PORTLAND (AP) — The teenage mayor-elect of a small Oregon city says he will be a steward for the budget and a proponent for growth.

The Oregonian reports voters in Yoncalla last week elected 18-year-old Ben Simons to be mayor.

The 2018 high school graduate and current student at Umpqua Community College beat out two other contenders with 41 percent of the vote.

Yoncalla is a city of just more than 1,000 people about 44 miles (71 kilometers) south of Eugene.

Simons has lived in Yoncalla all his life.

He says his experience and familiarity helped him win the election. He was the high school valedictorian and class president for two years. He also serves as a volunteer firefighter.

He says people can be involved in government no matter what their age.

Former OSP spokesman pleads not guilty

BEND (AP) — A former public information officer for Oregon State Police has pleaded not guilty to harassment charges involving his estranged wife.

KTVZ-TV reports 43-year-old Capt. Bill Fugate appeared in Deschutes County Circuit Court on Tuesday, October 23, entering the not guilty plea to two misdemeanor counts.

Prosecutors say the allegations stemmed from encounters last year with his wife, who filed for divorce and obtained a restraining order against him.

According to court documents, she claimed he had threatened her with a gun.

Fugate was placed on paid administrative leave earlier this year.

Defense attorney Stephen Houze filed a motion last week asking the judge to postpone the plea hearing in order to “continue ongoing negotiations” for a possible plea deal. The judge denied the motion.

A trial has been scheduled for May.

Fiery sky...



PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

Friday’s sunset drew a bunch of photographers along Camp Polk Road.

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