City council considers new homeless services

BY TIM TRAINOR

Redmond Spokesman

The city of Redmond has offered some services to the growing number of homeless residents in the city, but councilors indicated April 12 they were ready to look for additional solutions.

Homelessness has become a more serious problem in the growing city over the last few years, as housing prices have skyrocketed and rent has increased along with inflation. Numerous people are now living on public lands on the edge of town, east of Antler Ave., with limited services. Camps have also popped up on 17th and Greenwood streets in east Redmond, near the Redmond Athletic Club, and sporadically on some downtown sidewalks.

At the council's meeting on Tuesday, April 12, city attorney Keith Leitz presented an update on legal cases that could help guide council decisions. Most current case law argues that cities cannot criminalize homelessness, or sleeping in public right of way, without offering a shelter or other place where people can go. For now, there are few low-barrier, overnight shelters in Redmond —



Campers park at the intersection of 17th Street and NE Greenwood Avenue in Redmond in September

and only in winter and when there are enough volunteers to staff them.

On Tuesday night, numerous people spoke in favor of offering more homeless services, including Steve Curley of Redmond Economic Development Inc. (REDI). Curley asked for council to come up with a "temporary

solution" where people could park their RVs and vehicles off city streets until more stable, long-term services can be established.

He said the current situation is "posing an increasing safety issue and impacting current and future economic development opportunities in Redmond." Curley also noted

there is also an opportunity for the city: If those currently struggling can find stable housing, they could help fill a number of open jobs in the

A number of nongovernmental organizations are working to provide homelessness services in the area. Expansions of Jericho Road, Shepherd's House Ministries and Bethlehem Inn, as well as a safe parking program, are expected in upcoming years. Oasis Village, a designated campground and shelter where people can stay with their belongings and their vehicles, will not open until 2023 at the earliest.

According to deputy city manager John Roberts, the city of Redmond has put a \$50,000 grant toward funding the safe parking program and provided \$30,000 to help Shepherd's House operate its winter shelter.

Other actions taken by council:

- Approved a contact not to exceed \$13 million to RS&H, a national architecture and engineering company, to design and plan a multi-phase expansion of the Redmond Municipal Airport terminal. The design work would begin immediately and construction could start in 2024.
- Indicated council would reconsider the planning commission's April 11 decision to approve an 89-unit complex of cottages, slated to be built in southwest Redmond off Helmholtz Way. The Redmond Urban Area

Planning Commission approved the project on a 4-2 vote on April 11, despite more than a dozen neighbors who spoke against it. Area residents argued the development was too dense for the surrounding neighborhoods and infrastructure.

The planning commission, chaired by Teri Jansen, said the development met city code requirements and say there was "an extreme need" in the city for all kinds of housing. On Tuesday night, councilor Ed Fitch said city council should reconsider the planning commission decision and Mayor George Endicott said they would do so.

 Approved a contract to design the city's third roundabout, this one planned for the intersection of SW Airport Way and 19th Street. The \$610,00 contract was awarded to Murraysmith. Construction of the full-size roundabout is planned for 2023 or 2024.

• Proclaimed April 14, 2022 "Rotary Club of Redmond Day." The Redmond Rotary Club is celebrating its 70th anniversary in the city.

• The city met in executive session to negotiate a land swap for a future development.

Bend man dies in crash near Redmond

Another man injured in multi-vehicle crash that closed Highway 97 for 4 hours

BY TIM TRAINOR

Redmond Spokesman

A Bend man died and another was injured Thursday, April 14, in a multiple-car crash on a snowy Highway 97 south of Redmond.

Christopher May, 44, of Bend

was killed when the driver of a Toyota 4-Runner heading south spun on ice into northbound traffic, according to a release from Oregon State Police.

Authorities responded at approximately 6:51 a.m. to the pile-up that closed the high-

way for approximately four hours. The accident occurred at milepost 125.5, about four miles south of downtown Redmond.

A police investigation revealed that the driver of the 4-Runner, Amadeo Prono Soto Inga, 32, of Redmond, lost control and struck May's Scion XA broadside. The northbound driver of a Ford F150 also hit

May's vehicle.

The pickup driver, William Harsh, 46, of Bend, was not injured. Inga had only minor injuries, according to police.

Highway 97 was closed for roughly four hours as police cleared the roadway and investigated the scene. OSP was assisted by Deschutes County Sheriff's Office, Redmond Fire and Rescue and ODOT.

Redmond man arrested after short chase

Deputies initially responded to disturbance report

Spokesman staff

A Redmond man was arrested Tuesday, April 12, after leading sheriff's deputies on a chase near Cline Falls, off Highway 126.

Jonathan Burke, 32, was charged with assault, felony attempt to elude, DUII, and misdemeanor charges of reckless driving, reckless endangering and

Deschutes County Sheriff's deputies were dispatched about 9:30 p.m. to Cline Falls Mobile Home Park, off Southwest Mesa Way, to a reported dispute. When they arrived, deputies were told an intoxicated Burke had left the area and

was driving a green Jeep. A deputy soon found the

Jeep nearby, attempting to leave the mobile home park. According to police, Burke "drove past the deputy, nearly striking him."

Burke left the park and headed west on Highway 126 toward Sisters. A pursuit was quickly discontinued, according to police, due to Burke's high speeds.

Deputies continued

checking the area and eventually found Burke's Jeep on Holmes Road, near milepost 6. A deputy watched the Jeep turn onto Lower Bridge Road, where law enforcement was then able to use a patrol vehicle to prevent Burke from driving out of the area.

Burke was taken into custody without incident and lodged in the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office Jail.



Submitted Photo

Meet Toes & Pepe.

These sweet boys came to us as an owner surrender due to the owner unable to care for them. They are pretty unique cats, they are both polydactyl which means they were born with 6 toes.

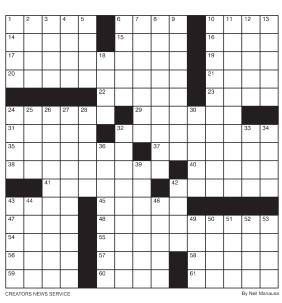
Since being at the shelter they have shown us how

They may take a while to warm up to new faces, but once they are comfortable they love to have their chin scratched and will say thank you with a

Come down to Brightside to meet them!

CROSSWORD

Potpourri



ACROSS

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Answers on Page 5

18 Zest

25 Gambit

24 Army NCOs

26 Roadster feature 27 Donetsk denizens 28 Draws nigh 30 Lariat 32 Cozy chat 33 Alcohol burner

> 39 Practice pedagogy 42 Shut off sight 43 Trembling tree

36 Vacillated

44 Thousandths: prefix 46 Yarns

50 Redirected sound 51 Uncommon: L. 52 Straddling 53 Plies a thimble

SUDOKU

Fill in the grid so every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9, with no repeats.

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5 3		9				7		
3					1			
	8	7			4	3		

Answers on Page 5

WEATHER

FORECAST	HIGH	LOW		
Tuesday	52	32	Partly Cloudy	
Wednesday	60	38	Cloudy	
Thursday	56	35	PM Showers	
Friday	52	32	PM Showers	
Saturday	54	34	Partly Cloudy	
Sunday	59	36	Partly Cloudy	
Monday	60	36	Partly Cloudy	
LAST WEEK	HIGH	LOW	PRECIP	
Saturday, April 9	49	22	0	
Sunday, April 10	46	30	0	
Monday, April 11	41	31	0	
Tuesday, April 12	44	21	0	
Wednesday, April 13	46	27	.07	
Thursday, April 14	45	29	.06	

Precipitation to date this year: 1.38 inches

* = daily record

National Weather Service broadcasts are on 162.50 mhz.

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