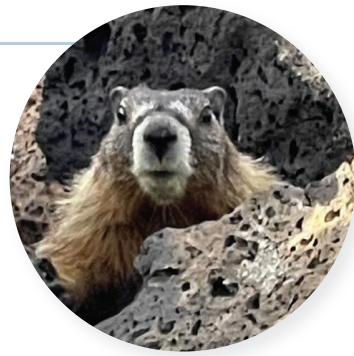


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THE REDMOND Spokesman

A special good morning to subscriber Ron Bryant

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Former Oregon death row inmate guilty of stabbing three men near Redmond bar

BY GARRETT ANDREWS
CO Media Group
REDMOND — A former Oregon death row inmate who got a second chance at freedom could now face nearly 20 years in prison following a conviction for stabbing three people outside a Redmond bar.

Gregory Paul Wilson, 55, was found guilty on Wednesday of three counts of second-degree assault and three counts of unlawful use of a weapon. He could be assigned to serve up to 19 years in prison at his sentencing next month. In 1993, Wilson was convicted of aggravated murder in the "torture killing" of 18-year-old Portland woman Michelle "Misty" Largo and sentenced to death. Wilson eventually won a retrial after

appealing his conviction to the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. In his second trial, he was convicted again, and again, he successfully appealed his case. Days before he was set to go to trial a third time in 2010, Wilson accepted a plea deal for manslaughter. He was released from custody in 2013 after 21 years in custody. Wilson was the last of four living defendants in Largo's

death to have his case resolved. A fifth was murdered. Wilson's recent case in Deschutes County is also complex. On July 23, 2021, the Castle Rock, Washington, resident was in Central Oregon as the companion of a woman here to attend a medical conference. Wilson's three victims consist of one Redmond resident,

Chris Gannon, and two of his friends, Clint Holdbrook and Kyle Bates, who live out of the area. Throughout Wilson's trial this month, prosecutors referred to two groups of people involved in the case: Wilson and his associates, whom they called "conferencegoers," and Gannon, Holdbrook and Bates, who were referred to as "locals."

See Wilson / A4

REDMOND Council split over bans of 4th of July fireworks

Jay Patrick plans to run for mayor

BY TIM TRAINOR
Redmond Spokesman
Redmond City Council is split on whether or not to ban fireworks in places in the city where a fire could be most dangerous. During a Redmond City Council meeting May 24, Councilor Ed Fitch recommended banning fireworks in Dry Canyon, the old Juniper Golf Course and on Redmond Airport property, among other areas. Fitch argued that if a fire broke out in those areas, the threat to life and property would be extreme. "When we look at the risk and reward, why would want folks to be doing fireworks in the canyon? ... Doesn't make any sense," Fitch said. "We shouldn't have fireworks there, period. Anytime." Mayor George Endicott and councilors Jay Patrick and Krisanna Clark-Endicott opposed bans in those areas, since there has been only one such fire in recent memory. "I don't think we need to have an ordinance written for one incident," Clark-Endicott said. "I would tend to have problems with limiting what people want to do on the Fourth of July," Patrick said.

Councilors Clifford Evelyn and Cat Zwicker said there is increased danger of serious fire, due to new residents not understanding the risks in a desert environment, as well as serious ongoing drought. "It could be a catastrophe," said Evelyn said. "Safety supersedes celebration." Zwicker said she would consider a temporary ban of all fireworks in Dry Canyon, due to drought and how difficult fighting the fire would be for crews. "I'd rather err on the side of caution," she said. The council was split 3-3 with one councilor absent. No action was taken.

See Council / A4

Dry Canyon Arts Association



Katie Harris, right, a board member of the Dry Canyon Arts Association, watches a student work on her fused glass art project.

Tim Trainor/Spokesman

Art blooms again in Redmond

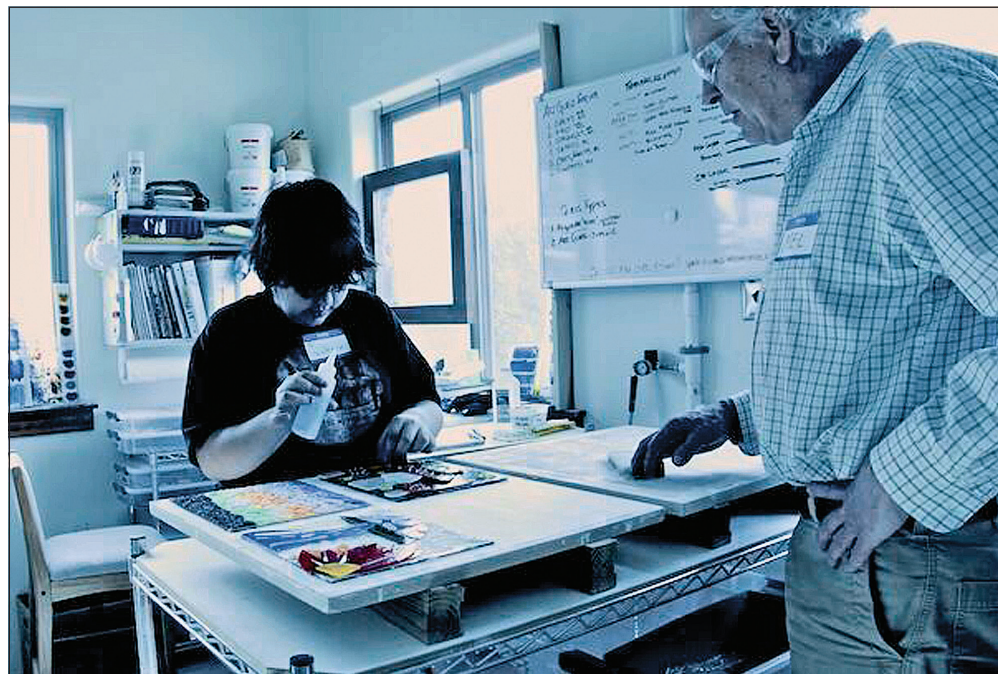
First Friday events June 3; Plans for arts center

BY TIM TRAINOR • Redmond Spokesman

The pandemic disrupted all aspects of life in Redmond, including a burgeoning nonprofit that worked to support and connect local artists.

But the Dry Canyon Arts Association has made up for that temporary disruption. The organization is growing again by leaps and bounds, and is now spearheading a number of projects that put art in front of residents.

Recently, four Elton Gregory Middle School students were cutting, shaping and arranging shards and shaves of glass at Mel Archer's studio near Odin Falls. Archer, a retired cabinetmaker from Hillsboro, is chair of the Dry Canyon Arts Association. The afterschool program funded by the Deschutes County Arts and Culture Program taught a total nine students how to make fused glass panels. Archer said it was incredible to see the change in the students from when they first arrived to their final product. "Most started with quite a bit of apprehension and ended with a lot of self confidence, cutting and chipping the glass



Mel Archer (right) gives feedback to a young student working on a fused glass art project taught by the Dry Canyon Arts Association.

Tim Trainor/Spokesman

like old pros," said Archer. The student work will be displayed on Friday, June 3 at the Redmond Senior Center from 4-7 p.m. — part of the second First Friday Art Walk of 2022. The First Friday program is led by the Dry Canyon Arts Association, which Archer said is growing by leaps and bounds as the pandemic restrictions wind down and artists can again gather for shows and classes. The association now has more than 80 members. "We added 10 more just last week," said Archer. "People really want to be a part of it." This Friday's events include book readings by celebrated Northwest authors

Willy Vlautin and Jonathan Evison from 7-8 p.m. at the High Desert Museum Hall in Redmond. The readings are in conjunction with the art walk, and is presented by the Deschutes County Library and Redmond's Herringbone Books. Other First Friday events are planned at the Senior Center and the SPH Hotel. Dry Canyon Arts also started the "Lend Me Your Walls" program, which allows local artists to show their wares at high traffic areas around town. Currently, Grace and Hammer Pizza and the Redmond Senior Center are showing the work of local artists for two month cycles. Customers who like what they see can purchase it right off the walls, and the sale price goes directly to the artist.

Katie Harris, a member of the all-volunteer Dry Canyon board, said they hope to expand the program to other area businesses in the near future. Archer said that the organization is in the process of locating and purchasing a downtown building that they could use as both a gallery to display artwork and function as a gathering space for meetings and classes. The organization has enough funding and support to do that, Archer said, they just need to find and secure the right location.

The Spokesman uses recycled newsprint

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