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# THE REDMOND Spokesman

A special good morning to subscriber Allende Piedad

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## ‘Excitement and hope’ at new Bethlehem Inn

*Redmond’s first shelter for the homeless opens with room for 88*

**BY NICK ROSENBERGER**  
Redmond Spokesman

With a snip, smiles and a smattering of applause, the Bethlehem Inn of Redmond opened its doors on Friday, June 24 — after 18 months of planning and renovation of a former downtown motel.

The Bethlehem Inn, formerly the Greenway Motel, is located at 517 NW Birch. It is the first transitional shelter in Redmond for people facing homelessness. Nearly 90 people can be sheltered and fed each night on the property.

A number of county commissioners, city councilors and community members were on hand for the grand opening.

“It wouldn’t have happened without all of you,” said Gwenn Wysling, executive director of the Bethlehem Inn.

The shelter is the local result of Project Turnkey, a state program mechanism focused on turning old motels and hotels into shelters for those experiencing homelessness. A \$2.7 million state grant funded the purchase of the motel and the renovation.

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Nick Rosenberger/The Spokesman

Supporters gather in front of the Bethlehem Inn in Redmond on June 24 for the official opening of the city’s first transitional homeless shelter.



A rock sculpture at the Petersen Rock Garden south of Redmond.

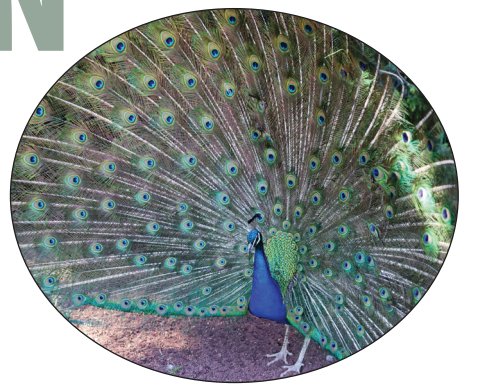
Dean Guernsey photos/The Bulletin



ABOVE LEFT: Visitors follow a peacock as it crosses a small bridge Monday at the Petersen Rock Garden. ABOVE RIGHT: A rock sculpture in a pond at the Petersen Rock Garden near Redmond.



## PETERSEN ROCK GARDEN



### up for sale as current owner plans to retire

BY JOE SIESS • CO Media Group

Susan Caward spent most of her life living on her family’s property near Redmond where her grandfather, a Danish immigrant named Rasmus Petersen, turned a love of rocks and his own labor into a roadside attraction known around the world.

The Petersen Rock Garden, a 12-acre property on SW 77 Street, is known for the numerous rock structures Petersen built with his own two hands in the 1930s and ‘40s. They have a weathered look to them and the landscaping today is rough around the edges, but the displays still inspire visitors. There are small rock structures, stone paths, a bridge decorated with rocks, a grotto, ponds and a small replica of the Statue of Liberty.

And peacocks that roam the property unrestricted. But time has caught up with the 57-year-old Caward, who suffered a serious back injury in her 20s and now struggles to care for her grandfather’s creations. Caward gets around with a walking stick and has trouble walking or

standing for long periods of time. Sometimes, her legs go numb. It’s all a sign, she said, that it is time for her to retire.

So Caward is working with her real estate agent to sell the property, which is listed for \$825,000. In addition to all the art and rocks, the price also includes the peacocks.

She doesn’t want to sell the property to just anybody. Her hope is to find a suitable buyer who will maintain her grandfather’s creations. “I just want to kind of retire, come here every once in a while and see what the new people are doing with it,” Caward said.

Caward said she wants to be clear that she is not retiring because she is no longer interested in the rock garden. The rock garden and the surrounding property is her home and very important to her, she said, but because of her declining health, she simply is unable to continue doing what it takes to maintain the rock garden.

“It’s not that I don’t want to do it. It’s just that my body can’t do it,” Caward said. “My doctor has been cautioning me, ‘You’ve got to retire.’”

Caward sat at a picnic table amid enchanting stone structures, as peacocks shrieked, cats pranced and her dog Hellboy sniffed around, and told the story of how she broke her back. Caward broke her back in three places after a ram living on the family farm attacked her. If it were not for her dog Sheba — an English herder and Blue Heeler mix — Caward is convinced she would be dead.

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## Redmond police shoot three aggressive dogs, kill one

*Dogs were unleashed, at least one ‘aggressive,’ police department says*

Spokesman staff

While investigating reports of a stolen trailer on June 21, Redmond Police officers shot two unleashed dogs, killing and burying one of them.

The incident occurred on a property east of 17th Street in Redmond around 8 p.m. Detectives were attempting to contact occupants of a camp near the location where the reported stolen property was located, according to a news release from the Redmond Police Department.

The dogs approached the detectives. One of the detectives was unable to separate himself from the dogs, and

fired shots at one of the dogs. One of the animals later died. Jesse Peterson, a spokesperson for the Redmond Police Department, reported that the breed was unknown.

After the initial shots, a third unleashed and aggressive dog ran toward the detective. The dog’s owner and another person attempted to gain control of the dog without success. The detective shot at the dog, which ran away.

The status of this dog was not known, according to the police report.

The stolen trailer was recovered said Peterson. Approximately \$20,000 worth of tools and personal property are still missing.

Neither of the detectives was bitten or injured during the incident, said Peterson. Officers remained on the scene and buried the dead dog for the owner.

The Spokesman uses recycled newsprint

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Volume 112, No. 43  
USPS 778-040

