

Music

Continued from A1

as a “nerdy skater kid who grew up in the suburbs,” never felt like she fit in and channeled much of her anxiety into playing guitar. She started playing 20 years ago but has slowly been building music into a full-time career over the last 13 or 14 years. “I feel like I’m just getting started in a new phase and chapter in my life,” she said, adding that she’s “peeling back the layers of who I am.” “This is a new chapter,” Kiah said. “A lot of new things happening.” This seems to be the case for both

Kiah and Redmond. Cotton, who helped organize the series and is the director of Open Sky Radio, thinks there’s sky-high potential for High Desert Music Hall and the future of music in Redmond and Central Oregon. “[High Desert Music Hall] could be a nationally known venue with help from the community,” Cotton said. “There’s a strong base of music lovers in the area,” he said, adding that he thinks High Desert is the nicest theater of its kind in the region.

With the plethora of live music at area breweries and 52-show lineup at Hayden Homes Amphitheater, including artists such as Bob Dylan and Jack Johnson, Cotton believes “we are in the midst of what I would predict is a record-setting season for live music in Central Oregon.” Tower Theater and Hayden Homes Amphitheater in Bend may have their own advantages, High Desert Music Hall has a unique edge — which can attract higher profile acts and larger crowds.

» The High Desert Music Hall will host Cascades Radio Hour’s music series.
Ryan Brennecke/CO Media Group file



The owner of Petersen Rock Garden is reviewing an offer to purchase the roadside attraction south of Redmond, her real estate broker said.

Petersen

Continued from A1

At this point, Brannon said, the potential buyers will have to engage in their own due diligence and research into the property, a process that could take months. Brannon said while the deal is not closed and the possible buyers have yet to actually buy the property, the seller is accepting backup offers to be considered in case the current potential buyers pull out of the deal. Annette Perry, co-chair of

the Petersen Rock Garden Preservation Association, a newly formed nonprofit organization whose mission is to preserve the rock garden, said the association is both pleased to hear there is a potential private buyer and ready to help the new buyer in any way. “We almost feel it is a blessing that there is an outside buyer,” Perry said. “Because just starting out as a new nonprofit, and us knowing the property and us having experience in a lot of different areas...we know this is a huge task, and having a pri-

vate buyer will allow our group to step in and focus on what our mission is.” At this point, Perry said the preservation association hopes to hear from the prospective new owners of the rock garden and is willing to lend a hand in any way it can. “We are staying true to our mission,” Perry added. “We would love to help whoever owns it. We can’t wait to hopefully meet them at some point when they are ready to talk to people and find out what assets ... we can help them with.”

Fourth of July parade winners announced

The Fort, Alpine K9 LLC and Jeep Girls Connect among those celebrated

BY NICK ROSENBERGER
Redmond Spokesman

On July 5, the Redmond Chamber of Commerce & Visitors’ Bureau announced all first, second and third place winners of the 2022 Redmond Fourth of July Parade. Five judges inspected and selected each winner by category including commercial, children’s, animal/mounted, organization and individual category winners.

“With patriotic colors, flags and decor,” said Amanda Joe Luelling, the events director for the Chamber of Commerce in a release. “It was obvious the love for our country and our freedom runs deep in our community.”

The following is a list of winners announced by the Chamber of Commerce:



Participants wave and celebrate Independence Day at the Redmond Fourth of July Parade 2022 in downtown Redmond.

winners are:

- 1st — The Fort Services
- 2nd — Vernam Crane
- 3rd — Mid Oregon Credit Union
- Children’s category winners are:
 - 1st — Queen Karsyn West
 - 2nd — Katie Pineda
 - 3rd — Diamond Dance Academy
- Animal/Mounted category winners are:
 - 1st — Alpine K9 LLC
 - 2nd — Megan Caldwell

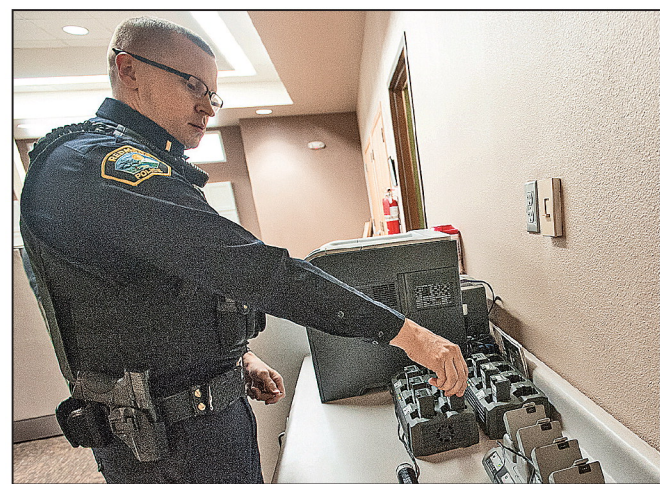
- 3rd — Sheriff’s Mounted Posse
- Organization category winners are:
 - 1st — Jeep Girls Connect
 - 2nd — PCC Schlosser
 - 3rd — Deschutes County Fair & Rodeo
- Individual category winners are:
 - 1st — Lena Berry
 - 2nd — Michael Jette
 - 3rd — Aziz Crew Barber Shop

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Growth

Continued from A1

“Our goal right now is to put personnel first,” he said. Currently, Redmond Fire & Rescue only has about two firefighters per fire engine in each shift, below the national standard of three firefighters per engine. Mooney hopes to eventually exceed that mark and have four firefighters per engine at all times. Currently, Redmond Fire & Rescue employs 54 people who fill round-the-clock shifts. Many currently work 48 hours on followed by 96 hours off.



Lt. Curtis Chambers places a body camera into a docking station at the Redmond Police Department in 2019.

But, with the lack of staffing, the department has been asking employees to pick up overtime shifts. If no one volunteers for the extra hours, they can become mandatory — forcing overtaxed employees to come in on scheduled days off. “Right now we do have some mandates that are coming out,” Mooney said. “We’re trying to address that.” It has been hard just to attract applicants. In the past, Mooney said that 1,000 people would apply for one firefighter position. Now, it’s more like 30.

Those pros and cons of the job are true for police officers, too. The Redmond Police Department has also had a difficult time matching the number of police officers required for the ever-increasing number of Redmond residents. “Everyone’s feeling the growth,” said Police Chief Devin Lewis. Currently, the department is short two positions. According to Lieutenant Jesse Petersen, a spokesperson for the department, they will need to

add employees according to the city budget and as the city grows.

Another issue holding them back from adding personnel is the lack of adequate office space. Currently, 64 employees are crammed into a space of 13,000 square feet. But with the passing of a May bond to build a new police station, Chief Lewis is hopeful about increasing the number of department staff. St. Charles, one of the largest employers in Redmond, is also seeing shortages in its emergency room staff. The hospital has 11 open positions in Redmond alone, 10 of which are for registered nurses and one for an emergency room technician. “We have to stay staffed 24/7,” said Hillary Forrest, St. Charles’ director of human resources. “So we’ve been us-

ing nurses from other departments as well as travel nurses.” That staffing shortage comes after the Bend-based company announced in May that it would lay off 105 people and eliminate 76 vacant positions throughout its hospital system. A search of the St. Charles online career portal still shows 404 open positions throughout the company — positions that have been difficult to fill since COVID-19 arrived on scene. “We’ve definitely seen a drop-off [in applications] through the pandemic,” Forrest said. But, she added, they are al-

ways going to have vacancies as people leave or retire. To combat this, the hospital system has been running a recruitment campaign for months using radio, billboards and digital methods inside and outside the region. According to Lisa Goodman, a spokeswoman for the hospital, they’ve been trying to increase the footprint of their facilities — including opening a new ICU tower that added 33 beds — to accommodate some of that growth. “We’ve just been growing along with the community,” Forrest said.

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The fire service used to be super competitive, Mooney said. But, there’s been a shift in the last five to six years. “It’s hard to say why,” he said. Salaries and government pensions continue to increase, but so do training requirements and the daily drain of the job can be taxing both physically and emotionally.

SOLUTION
Sudoku on A2

8	6	1	5	9	3	7	2	4
4	9	7	1	6	2	8	5	3
3	2	5	4	7	8	6	1	9
7	5	8	6	2	4	3	9	1
9	4	2	3	8	1	5	6	7
1	3	6	9	5	7	4	8	2
2	8	3	7	1	6	9	4	5
6	7	9	2	4	5	1	3	8
5	1	4	8	3	9	2	7	6

SOLUTION
Crossword on A2

L	A	I	S	S	E	Z	C	A	T	A	L	O	G	
E	C	L	I	P	S	E	A	D	R	I	A	N	A	
T	H	E	R	E	P	R	E	S	S	E	D	H	U	B
S	E	A	C	I	O	N	S	P	E	R	S	E		
	S	T	E	D	E	L	I	S						
P	E	T	A	R	D	S	R	O	D	C	O	T		
A	R	E	N	A	H	O	O	D	P	O	U	R		
C	R	A	D	L	E	O	F	L	I	B	E	R	T	Y
T	O	R	Y	C	U	T	E	R	E	A	D	S		
S	L	Y	C	U	L	S	H	A	L	L	O	T		
	G	L	A	D	E	I	N	S						
A	G	R	E	E	M	E	N	D	R	T	E			
B	E	A	N	F	O	R	B	A	D	E	T	O	W	N
B	R	I	T	T	L	E	S	E	I	S	M	I	C	
A	M	A	S	S	E	D	E	R	S	K	I	N	E	

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High Desert Music Hall