Mural brightens building in downtown Redmond

BY LEO BAUDHUIN
Redmond Spokesman

Bend artist Evan Namkung had just started filling in the eyes on his great horned owl mural when a man walked up to him. So Namkung put his paint down for a second to chat.

It wasn't a rare occurrence for Namkung as he worked on the project.

"Doing it on such a busy street and having people walking by — it's just really fun," he said. "It's more fun than sitting alone in a room and painting by yourself. You've got people to talk to. You've got people to interact with."

He had been stationed on the sidewalk of SW Evergreen Ave. since July 9 and planned to work on the project through July 17. Instead, he ended up working long hours and through the weekend to finish on July 13 — four days ahead of schedule.

Namkung's mural is the second recent artwork to go up near the intersection of Evergreen Ave. and Sixth Street. The two pieces — Namkung's great horned owl and a "Greetings from Redmond Oregon" postcard-style mural across the street — mark a new era in Redmond's public art scene.

"It's exposing people to art when they least expect it," said Jackie Abslag, programs coordinator with Redmond's community development department. "I think it adds a really pretty aspect to downtown."

Namkung described his style as detailed focused and street-inspired — something he attributed to growing up in Oakland, California. He's normally drawn to painting people and nature, he said.

For the Redmond mural project, Namkung wanted to showcase an animal from the area. He thought about painting a pronghorn, among a couple other ideas, but said he settled on an owl "because I thought it'd be really dynamic to have it flying."

He also opted out of a smaller mural in favor of decorating the entire side of the building.

Leo Baudhuin/Spokesman

Muralist Evan Namkung on July 13 completed his great horned owl painting on the corner of Southwest Evergreen Avenue. & Southwest Sixth Street.

Photo by Nick Rosenberger/Spokesman

The building on Southwest Evergreen Avenue before the mural.

"I wanted to use as much of the space as possible," Namkung said. "Make it bright and colorful and really tie it into some of the local wildlife and landscape around the area here."

Abslag said the Redmond Commission for Art in Public Places worked for three years on the code to allow murals in town, before city council passed it in June 2021.

RCAPP chair Dan Mooney said the commission wanted to create a mural in Redmond. It held a competition to determine who would get to paint the piece. RCAPP offered a $10,000 prize for the winner. Larry and Debra Peterson — owners of the Printing Post, where the mural was painted — threw in another $2,500 to cover costs.

"We absolutely thought it would be a great idea," Debra Peterson said, "and it's a great addition to downtown." She said contributing money to the project felt like a way to give back to the Redmond community, especially as the owner of a company that had received grant funding from the city.

The competition garnered roughly 20 submissions, according to Mooney. RCAPP narrowed the field across three meetings.

When he cast his vote, Mooney said he was specifically looking for color, a design that would fill up a large portion of the wall, and a landscape or nature design. Eventually, he and a majority of RCAPP sided with Namkung, who had experience painting another mural in downtown Bend.

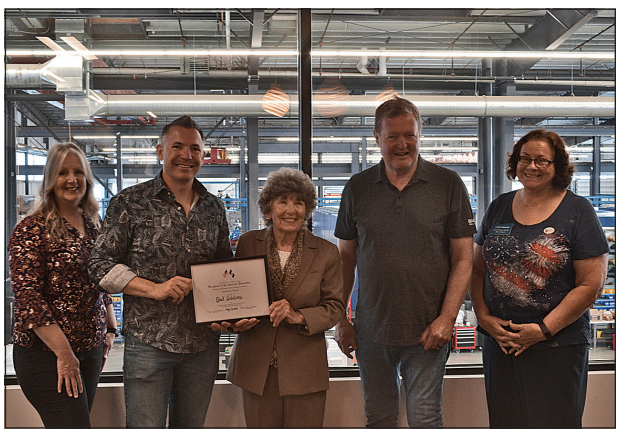
Mooney said he's happy with the result. He said the new mural brings color to downtown Redmond, replacing what used to be a bland, gray wall.

As he painted, Namkung said he noticed people stopping at the postcard mural across the street and taking pictures, which he appreciated.

"Public art, whether it's murals or sculptures or whatever it is, it's a gathering place," he said. "It draws people in. It creates some identity for a town or city."

Namkung showcases his art on his Instagram @evan.namkung and on his website evannamkung.com.

■ *Reporter: lbaudhuin@*



Nick Rosenberger

BasX Solutions were presented with an award from the Daughters of the American Revolution for their patriotism on Thursday, July 14, at their headquarters in Redmond.

BasX presented with award for flying the American flag

Daughters of the American Revolution reward company's patriotism

BY NICK ROSENBERGER
Redmond Spokesman

Drive along Highway 97 into Redmond and you can't miss the American flag flapping in the wind in front of BasX Solutions. For those driving from Bend or further south, it's the first sign they've entered Flag City, USA.

And, on Thursday, July 14, BasX Solutions was recognized for this patriotism by members of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

"It's such a special thing they do," said Theresa Pitman, the second vice-regent for the Bend chapter of DAR. "It's important what they do for the community."

A service organization comprised of women who are direct descendants of those who fought in the revolutionary war, Daughters of the American Revolution has 185,000 members with the mission to "promote historic preservation, education and patriotism."

Pitman and DAR also presented Peterson Cat of Redmond and Prineville's Band of Brothers honor guard with an award for patriotic presentation of the flag.

Founded by Matt Tobolski, Ph.D, and Dave Benson, BasX Solutions is one of the largest employers in Redmond, according to Redmond Economic Development, Inc. The company manufactures and produces HVAC systems for industrial, commercial and government facilities as well as manufacturing cleanroom environments and cooling systems for data centers.

■ *Reporter: nrosenberger@redmondspokesman.com*

Dermatology clinic expands in Redmond

BY TIM TRAINOR
Redmond Spokesman

The Bend Dermatology Clinic will build a new office in Redmond, with plans to break ground on a new building at 440 NW Maple Ave.

Delgado

Construction is expected to begin this fall, with the new location slated to open in 2023. Once finished, the clinic will have triple the capacity of its current Redmond location.

Starting Aug. 1, the practice will temporarily relocate to an interim office at 111 NW Larch Ave. There, six dermatology providers — including four board-certified dermatologists and two advanced practitioners — will serve patients for medical dermatology conditions.

The clinic currently employs 70 people throughout its multiple locations.

"It's been our privilege to care for the dermatological needs of this community since 1980. Our investment in a new, modern medical facility to better serve the greater Redmond community further solidifies our commitment to the region," said Dr. William Delgado, medical director.

For more information, visit Bendderm.com or call 541-382-2605.

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REDMOND

National Night Out set for August 2

Spokesman staff

The Redmond Police Department will host a National Night Out community event on Tuesday, August 2 from 6-8 p.m. at Centennial Park.

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign, the goal of which is to promote police-community partnerships and camaraderie. The August 2 event is free to attend and will include family-friendly activities, drinks and a barbecue while supplies last.

There will be K-9 demos, Dunk-a-Cop tank, face painting, activities for all ages, live music, bouncy houses, emergency service vehicles on display and much more.

RPD community partners will host information and activity booths and there will even be a doughnut eating contest, so come prepared to take on the department's finest.

"This is a wonderful opportunity to meet the dedicated men and women of your Police Department who proudly serve Redmond," said Mayor George Endicott in a release. "The safety of our community depends on a strong partnership between law enforcement and its neighbors, and events like National Night Out solidifies those relationships."

For additional event information visit www.redmondoregon.gov/NationalNightOut. To get involved, contact Lieutenant Jesse Petersen at 541-504-3473 or jesse.petersen@redmondoregon.gov.

■ *Reporter: ttrainor@redmondspokesman.com*

Photo courtesy Redmond Police

Redmond Police Department will host a National Night Out on August 2. The community event include family-friendly activities, drinks and a barbecue.

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