

## Pawsitive

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Cascade Lakes released a Pawsitive Pale Ale for the fundraiser in 2021, bringing in about \$800, along with money from raffles at the release party.

Between events from Cascade Lakes and other community support for its capital campaign, BrightSide has raised enough to replace all of its outdoor kennels — and to build structures for a couple new ones. This means “all of our dogs can be outside in the sunshine every day,” Bowling said, as long as the weather cooperates.

Cascade Lakes hopes to help BrightSide even more with this year’s launch party, an event that also celebrates Cascade Lakes’ new patio. “We just opened this patio a few weeks ago,” Rhine said. “We’re really excited about it.”

He said Cascade Lakes plans on installing roll-down drapes and heaters and is looking at putting in a couple TVs to “make it a really great outdoor

dining experience.”

And in the meantime, the patio will serve as a home for Pups on the Patio and Cascade Lakes’ new Pawsitive IPA. Rhine said this year’s brew is “a west coast-style IPA, really clean, fresh and an easy drink for the summer.”

Even prior to the brewing collaboration, BrightSide has hosted weekly Thursday night bingo at Cascade Lakes’ Redmond location since 2016.

“They’re wonderful,” Bowling said of Cascade Lakes. “It’s people like that — really longtime supporters, constant support that we can depend on, we know they’re there for us. That’s what keeps us going.”

For Bowling and Rhine, the event is also a way to give back to the people who have supported them over the years.

“Supporting and taking care of our community is incredibly important to us,” Rhine said. “Any give-back opportunity that we can afford to do is something that we’re going to try to do.”

■ Reporter: lbaudhuin@redmondspokesman.com



Photo by Leo Baudhuin/Spokesman

Cascade Lakes in Redmond will host the “Pups on the Patio” event July 15.

## Bond

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The facility would be built on land already purchased by RAPRD in 2009 while the annexation would link the building to city utilities and connections.

According to Matt Gilman, the chairman of the RAPRD Board of Directors, the current rec center was not designed to serve the number of residents now clamoring for its services. Swim lessons are at capacity — and a long waitlist means many residents miss out.

RAPRD is severely lacking in pool space, gym space, soccer fields, pickleball courts, workout areas and fitness classes, Gilman said.

In the past, RAPRD was able to use the activity center at Odem Medo and Canal to offer activities such as Zumba, basketball, yoga, racquetball and weightlifting. In 2020, however, the center was forced to close after the city of Redmond decided to demolish it to move a road through the prop-

erty.

Currently, RAPRD is running these programs in “tiny rooms” at the Redmond Senior Center, according to Gilman, where the max class size is just 10 participants.

“The thirst for programming and more activities is obvious from the community,” he said. “People want these things.”

The bond would cost taxpayers \$23.35 per \$500,000 of assessed property value each month. The levy, meanwhile, would cost \$12 per \$500,000 of assessed property per month — about \$54 a year for its five-year duration.

While RAPRD recognizes this is a large ask for taxpayers, it’s what they found the community wanted during their months-long public outreach program. Much of the feedback they received was “to build something that was usable for our community for the next 20 years,” Hammer said.

The \$49 million price tag will fulfill this wish.

“We have a real plan in place,” Gilman said, “of what people actually want.”

Recreation district residents would receive a 30% discount on facility use, classes and more. There will also be options for punch cards as well as monthly and annual passes for repeat visitors.

City councilor Cliff Evelyn noted that it’s important to have a safe place for local youth to play and have fun — especially in the dark winter months. Currently, he said, if you have a child between the ages of 11 and 17, there’s not much for them to do in Redmond.

“I think it’s important,” Evelyn said Tuesday night. “The time is now. I don’t know why it took this long to even have an athletic center, but now the time is here so let’s try to do the best we can to move this forward.”

Councilor Krisanna Clark-Endicott said the facility could bring outside dollars and knock-on investment to Redmond.

“It’s something that can be quite lucrative in bringing people to our area,” she said.

After failing to pass in 2008 and 2019, this will be the third time

a bond has been proposed to expand recreational offerings in the district. The first two failed to convince a majority of voters. In 2019 a \$40 million bond and levy garnered roughly 45 percent of the vote.

Gilman said that the district has learned from past defeats. The last time a facility went to voters, they did not have a location picked out or produced renderings for the public. This time, Gilman said they are more prepared and have done extensive community outreach.

“This year we’re doing things different,” said Gilman.

And, members of the city council are hoping these different tactics will pay off.

“Let’s hope the third time’s the charm,” said Mayor George Endicott.

Current plans call for keeping the Cascade Swim Center in operation if the bond and levy pass in November. If it passes, the bond would have a duration of 20 years.

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## Housing

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Councilor Cliff Evelyn noted concern about the lack of public transportation that would connect the development to downtown and other parts of the city.

Joe Bessman, traffic engineer at Transight Consulting, noted that the development would tax current city infrastructure in the area, noting there may be a need for improvements to Maple Avenue and its intersections at 9th and 19th streets.

Councilors passed along some ideas to Hayden staff, who said they would take them under consideration before coming back to council for annexation approval.

“We’re committed to trying to get to an agreement to enable them to move forward,” said deputy city manager John Roberts. He said that could be finished by mid-August.

In other city council news:

— Heard proposal from the Redmond Area Park and Recreation District about plans for a November bond and levy to fund a new recreation center in Redmond.

— Council underwent review and discussion of the blasting regulations in the city.

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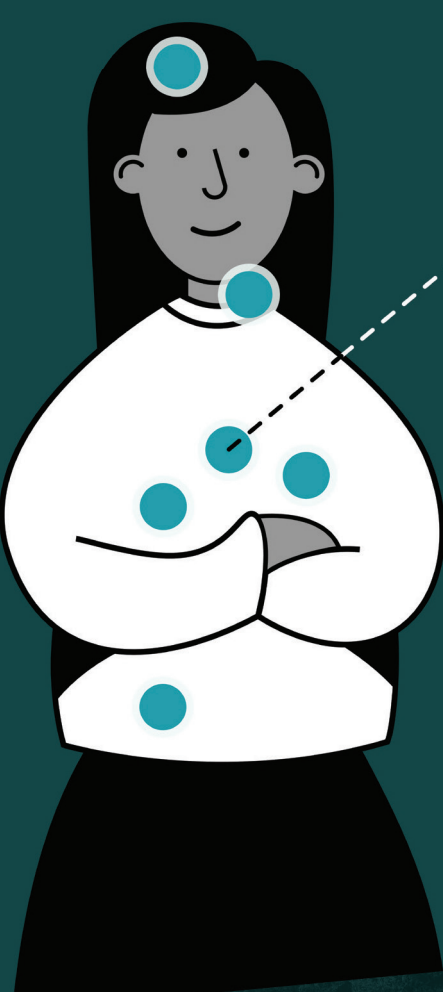
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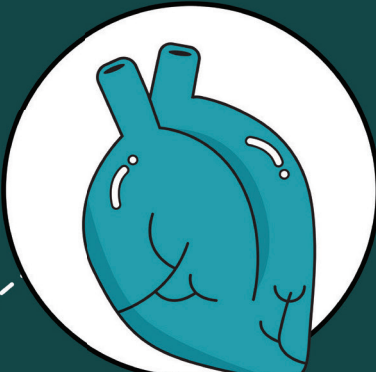


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