

Bigfoot footprint approved in KRP



The Keizer City Council approved the placement of a wood-carved Sasquatch in Keizer Rapids Park Monday, June 7.

The approval of the project that started with the Keizer Public Art Commission is part of a greater effort to create spaces for "Insta Art," or artwork that attracts those looking for selfies to post on social media.

Cost of the piece is approximately \$2,000. The Art Commission raises money through private donations and grants to fund its projects.

Councilors approved a site east of the Keizer Rotary Amphitheater patio as the location. A foundation will need to be poured to secure the statue and it will need annual preservation treatments.

The carving was created by James Lukinich, a McNary High School graduate. Lukinich also carved the second story pole in front of the Keizer Civic Center. Lukinich left Oregon for Alaska shortly after graduating and began working

as an arborist. Almost immediately, he began carving in his spare time.

"There was never a shortage of chainsaws or trees," Lukinich told the *Keizertimes* before he started the story pole in 2020. Lukinich and his wife turned the hobby into his full-time job about five years ago.

A second Insta Art project was up for consideration at the Keizer Parks Advisory Board Tuesday, June 8. Keizerite Bella Biondi would like to paint a mural on the side of the new(ish) restrooms inside Keizer Rapids Park.

The mural would feature three sets of wings for visitors to stand in front of for photos. She asked the parks board for a \$200 matching grant to help cover the cost of materials.

Keizerite Ron Christopher with a carved Sasquatch destined for Keizer Rapids Park. Submitted photo



Photo honors awarded at Keizer Art Assoc.

The Keizer Art Association recently announced the winners of its virtual Photography Show.

Janice Christman took first place for *Wheels*; *Blown in the Wind* by Karen Aiello placed second; and *Burrowing Owl* by Michelle McAdams won third place.

Leaves, Limbs, and Lichen won Best of Show honors and *Whidbey Woods* by Karen Saleen earned the Juror's Merit Award.

All the show entries are available for viewing at keizerarts.org.

The association's July Show will be the Celebrate America Virtual Show, featuring images and work inspired by the beauty of the United States. Art in any medium is welcome. Art will be accepted through June 30. More information on how to enter and associated fees are available at the website.



Janice Christman took first place for *Wheels* in the annual photography show put on by the Keizer Art Association. All entries and the award winners can be viewed at keizerarts.org. Submitted photo