

From left, Ellie Brewer, Nia Marinos, Charley Brewer, and Sydney Brewer pose with their dogs on the new bench at the Evergreen dam mural. With money from the Evergreen Legacy Fund and the Evergreen Metro District, and help from the Evergreen Garden Club, a new stone bench, steps and flowers were recently added at the Evergreen dam garden mural.

PHOTO BY MARY BEST

## Evergreen Legacy Fund & metro district fund enhancements at Evergreen dam mural

Newest additions put finishing touches on community mural created in 2022

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The Evergreen Legacy Fund and Evergreen Metro District added a touch more beauty to the community recently. A new stone bench, steps and flowers recently popped up at the Evergreen dam garden mural, courtesy of funding from both ELF and the Evergreen Metro District, with a little help from the Evergreen Garden Club.

"It is really beautiful and perfect for photographs," said Gail Riley, owner of Highland Haven Creekside Inn and an ELF member. "Now thousands of people will be sitting underneath that pink flower taking photographs."

Johnny Castillo carved the stone bench and steps, and contributed funding to the project. The Garden Club added flowers and vegetation around it.

ELF funded the addition of the mural, created in 2022 by Evergreen High School Mural Club students with guidance from artist Bobby Ma-Gee Lopez. It decorates two sides of the Evergreen Metro Building below the Evergreen Lake dam.

ELF provides seed money for projects to preserve the area's mountain culture and the Evergreen community from infrastructure over-use and under-repair. ELF funds are also used to improve community safety as well as improve the overall beauty and amenities of our special mountain community.

Its most recent project is the construction of new sidewalks near Wilmot Elementary, which started the day after school ended. As part of that work, the blinking light will be moved to the intersection of Buffalo Park Road and Hatch Drive; and new crosswalks installed.

It's the first part of a three-phase project aimed at improving pedestrian safety on the busy stretch of road that runs from the elementary school to the Evergreen Library.