



Entrepreneur opens Anderson cafe next to his music club

By David Benda

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Photos by Greg Barnette / Record Searchlight

Raymond Randle has opened Copadouro, a coffeehouse in downtown Anderson that serves Brazilian coffee. The coffee shop is next door to Club 49, which Randle also owns.



Copadouro coffeehouse in Anderson is part of Randle's plan to help revitalize Anderson's downtown core.

Raymond Randle likes a challenge.

So Randle, who grew up in Oakland, is in the middle of reviving a corner in downtown Anderson.



"If you tell me I can't do something, I'll do it," said Randle, who lives in Anderson.

The first phase of Randle's vision opened in March - Copadouro, a coffeehouse that gets its beans from a 650-acre plantation in Brazil that Randle owns. Randle just returned from a trip to Brazil in late April.

Copadouro sits next to Club 49 - the two businesses share a doorway - at the corner of Ferry and Freeman streets.

Bottom line

What: Copadouro coffeehouse.
Where: Anderson, corner of Ferry and Freeman streets.
Owner: Raymond Randle.
Established: 2008.
Phone: 365-9700.
Hours: 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday.

Randle also owns Club 49 and has turned it into a jazz club. He envisions weekend nights at Club 49 highlighted by live jazz played by an array of locals and San Francisco Bay area musicians. Randle, who plays the saxophone, also will chime in.

"I want to create a venue that is different, something other than your typical small-town social environment," Randle said of Club 49. "I want to create a positive environment for adults; they can come in and enjoy good music in a nice, quiet environment."

Why Anderson?

Randle loves to fish. That's how he discovered the north state. He bought property in Tehama County about 13 years ago and also knew people in Anderson.

"It's a nice, quiet place; I like the people," Randle said.

When Randle purchased the Copadouro and the Club 49 building four years ago, he remembers walking into the historic bar, looking up at the ceiling and seeing the sky. The building is 12,000 square feet and was built in 1886.

Randle, a general contractor, oversaw the reconstruction. About \$800,000 of Randle's own money was spent on the transformation.

The project included replacing virtually everything and bringing the building to code. About the only thing that's original is the bar - and a wooden door behind the bar that leads into a storage room. The door, which is dotted with brands burned into the wood, is a reminder of Club 49's cowboy heydays.

Randle, 62, has been traveling to Brazil for more than 20 years. He met coffee grower and plantation owner Alex Grega on one of his trips, and the two became friends. Grega eventually helped Randle purchase land near Grega's coffee plantation so he could farm his own beans. Copadouro will donate 25 cents from every cup or pound of coffee sold to an orphanage outside Rio de Janeiro that the Roman Catholic Church runs. Photos at Copadouro show children at the orphanage thanking coffee purchasers by name.

In addition to coffee and other caffeine specialty drinks, Randle's coffee shop will serve fresh pastries, deli sandwiches and salads.

"I can't overstate what a great opportunity this development offers for the city of Anderson," City Councilman Phil Barnett said in a release.

Randle worked with the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at Shasta College, which assists startups and existing businesses improve their bottom line.

"The reason we are here is for people like Raymond, the entrepreneurs of the world," said SBDC Executive Director Keli Anthis. "You hear so much about the economy and how business is bad, but that is not always true."

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