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Jackson Park

History of a gathering place — B1

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Elderly Long-Term Care

Ombudsman training a first for the Gorge

By TRISHA WALKER
News staff writer

Gretchen Jordan, Coordinator of Volunteers, Oregon Long Term Care Ombudsman, has an opportunity that hasn't been seen before in Hood River or Wasco counties: A volunteer training to be held in The Dalles Aug. 12-13, Aug. 26-27 and Sept. 10, at a location to be announced.

More critical is that there are currently no ombudsman volunteers in either county, which are currently being covered by a staff member who lives in Bend every other month.

"We've never had a training in Hood River or Wasco counties before," said Jordan. "We know people don't like to travel to Portland for training ... so if we can do it in

the community, people appreciate that."

Training will include an overview of rules and regulations, how to find and apply information, the types of facilities visited, residents' rights, how to resolve cases, how to work with other agencies, and how to recognize and report abuse.

Not many have heard of the Ore-

gon Long Term Care Ombudsman program, Jordan said, until they are in need of the service themselves, or for a friend or family member living any licensed long-term care facility.

"This isn't a comfortable topic as most people don't want to address aging issues until they have to — and even then they don't," she said.

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Photo by Ben Mitchell

GOAT TO FAIR! Animals of all sizes await visitors this week.

County adopts oil train resolution, approves 911 improvements

By PATRICK MULVIHILL
News staff writer

The Hood River County Board of Commissioners signed multiple resolutions into action at a regular meeting Monday night — most notably, one declared tighter enforcement on oil trains rolling through the Gorge, and one reallocated \$7,000 to the County 911 Emergency Dispatch radio system, which police and emergency officials have called "poor to non-existent" in some areas.

The County's July 20 oil train resolution resembles a similar dec-

laration made by the City in December — it calls attention to the risk of fiery derailments of crude oil rail cars rolling through the Gorge and urges for tighter safety enforcement — however, the County's declaration does not call for the outright banning of oil train traffic.

In their declaration, the County urged Oregon Governor Kate Brown to encourage federal rules regarding transportation of crude oil by rails. They requested that the state and federal government be more coordinated and prepared for

potential disasters resulting from derailments.

The most vehement provision calls on the state to place the responsibility of derailments in the hands of rail owners and operators. The document urges the state to "require owners and operators transporting crude oil by rail to assume all risk and to be sufficiently bonded and insured against the risk of catastrophic fire and explosion, loss of life and property, environmental destruction and damage and any other harm connected with a derailment or accident."

Unlike the City declaration, the County's declaration does not include provisions regarding coal train traffic.

Hood River County Administrator Dave Meriwether asked commissioners if the resolution was suitable, or if they would prefer "a more forceful statement."

Commissioners agreed that the current resolution would convey the County's concerns regarding the risk of fiery derailments in the Gorge without being "extreme."

"We're not standing on the train

See COUNTY, Page A11

Fair opens today

Fun comes in many forms, from carnival rides to cake contests, at Hood River County Fair, July 22-25.

New features this year include not one but two golf carts that will run fair attendees to parking areas and barns and display areas, and demonstrations on Saturday by Big Winds. Thursday is Senior Day, and also Oregon State University Day at the fair. The 2043rd Army Band will perform that night.

Turn to page A6-7 for full fair details. Fair books, listing every event down the quarter-hour, are available at businesses throughout the county.

Ride bracelets are available for \$17 until 5 p.m. today; the price goes up to \$22 after that.

Other fair highlights include headliners Gloriana, with Ben Bonham trio opening, Saturday on the football field stage, and Friday's 4-H/FFA livestock auction at 4:30 p.m. (new time).

Thursday brings another new fair event, the 50-Plus Expo, all af-

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Punchbowl granted OPRD awards funding for park at falls

By PATRICK MULVIHILL
News staff writer

Oregon Parks and Recreation District has awarded Hood River County a \$470,000 grant to acquire and develop a park at Punchbowl Falls, a waterfall near Dee.

The grant will allow the county to buy the 103-acre property along the Hood River from Western Rivers Conservancy, a Portland conservation non-profit, in order to

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At Relay For Life



Photos by Kirby Neumann-Rea

SURVIVORS AND SUPPORTERS THERE 'TO HELP'

Hot weather was little deterrent Saturday for the all-day Relay for Life of the Columbia Gorge at Hood River County Fairgrounds, a new location for the fundraiser for American Cancer Society. Allen Oliva, 8, of Hood River, a brain cancer survivor, said he likes Relay "To help!" and gets help with his sash from a Celilo Cancer Center volunteer. At top left, walkers raise glow sticks during the Luminaria ceremony. Below: walkers applaud survivors in the opening lap. They include Libby Mongue-Wymore of Fairview, right, featured speaker, who said the true heroes in anyone's fight against cancer are the caregivers. Coordinator Veronica Moline said donations have passed \$40,000 and will probably reach \$50,000. About 150 people on 20 teams participated.

Four To Go

'Lady Washington' comes to the Gorge

The brig Lady Washington, the official tall ship of Washington State, visits Hood River and The Dalles on the following dates:

- July 22-23: Hood River
- July 25-27: The Dalles

Walk-on tours are self-guided and hosted by crew in period costumes. A \$3 donation per person is appreciate. Tickets for Adventure Sales, Evenings Sales and Battle Sails can be purchased at www.historicalseaport.org or by calling 1-800-200-5239. Early reservations are recommended.

For a complete schedule, visit historicalseaport.org/2015.

Sale benefits Meals on Wheels

The Hood River Valley Adult Center's Thrift Store is holding a giant half-price sale July 25 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. All proceeds from the sale will benefit the center's Meals on Wheels program.

The center is located at 2010 Sterling Drive; for more information, call 541-386-2060.

Care Center seeks birdseed, volunteers

The Family Council at the Hood River Care Center has decided to disband, but its birdfeeder project will continue. Activities Director Christine Shannon will accept birdseed donations, and volunteers will continue to fill residents' feeders each Monday.

For more information on volunteering at the care center, call Shannon at 541-386-2688 ext. 4621.

Creativity Camps offered

New Leaf Gallery, on Seventh Street just north of Oak, offers Creativity Camps this month for students aged 11-17.

Build or decorate creations using found objects, paper mache and repurposed wood.

Sessions are July 21-23 and July 28-30, 1 to 4:30 p.m., and cost \$60.

Sign up at www.communityedhr.org, or call 541-386-2055.



Submitted photo

NEW LEAF Gallery is a non-profit gallery founded by HRVHS student Keenan Collins.



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