### Wednesday, May 5, 2021 **B1**

## **Protect Our** Parks brings tee-pads to Morrison Park

■ By Tracey Tomashpol For Protect Our Parks

HOOD RIVER — Protect Our Parks Hood River, a non-profit parks advocacy group, is building tee-pads and removing invasive species to make Morrison Park a better place for disc golfers and others who enjoy the park.

With donations from several local businesses and a lot of sweat equity, primary builders Devin Carroll, Josh Sceva, and James Ropner have built the first four concrete tee-pads for

the disc golf course, with help from Jim Klaas and others.
Disc golf is played like golf, using a plastic disc with players attempting to reach the target in the fewest throws. The tee pad is the designated area where the first throw for each hole

Before POP's efforts, the park's tee-pads consisted of compacted dirt. The group got the green light to build tee-pads for the nine-hole disc golf course in September 2020 from the City of Hood River and the Hood River Valley Parks and Recreation District.

With the new construction, the tee-pads' concrete pavers give golfers a safe surface for their initial disc launch. The tee-pads installed by POP Hood River also reduce wear and tear on surrounding soil and will require little future maintenance. POP Hood River expects to finish the remaining five tee-pads by summer.

Disc golf participation has grown during the pandemic because players can maintain 6-feet of social distance while being outside with others. The cost to begin is minimal, with discs available for under \$10, making it an ideal sport for

people of any age or economic status.

The sport is particularly compatible with the unique characteristics of Morrison Park, one of the city's only urban forests. Miko Ruhlen, wildlife biologist and owner of Hood River Hobbies, appreciates the fact that "disc golf is a fairly low impact activity for wildlife." She also pointed out that



Devin Carroll and James Ropner pausing while working on Tee-Pad No. 4. POP expects to have all tee-pads installed by this summer. **Tracey Tomashpol photo** 

the disc golf course is integrated with the forest and riparian elements in the park, which "provide much better habitat for

wildlife than large expanses of monoculture lawn."

The park still has invasive species like blackberries and poison oak. A long-time park activist and POP board member, Carroll has removed many blackberry bushes and hauled pounds of trash away. "Every time I visit the park, I take out blackberries and trash," he said.

Hood River resident and POP Board Member Linda Maddox said, "Morrison is a sort of 'buffer park." With new housing types providing almost no green space, areas like Morrison Park provide accessible outdoor recreation, including disc golf and nature watching, all within easy walking distance of many homes.

POP welcomes volunteers to help build the remaining tee pads. Contributors and native plant experts willing to help can get contact details on the group's webpage at www. protectourparkshoodriver.com.

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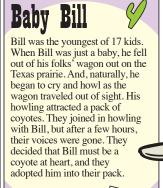


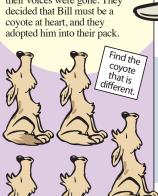
COMMUNITY











How many cactus plants can you find on this page? Bill and the It was said Bill could ride anything. No

mountain lion once. So when

horse could throw him. He even rode a

the biggest cyclone anyone had ever seen blew into town one day. Pecos Bill jumped right on it, riding it for days and days. The cyclone got frustrated and started crying big, salty tears around Utah. Today that



MEXICO



Lots of cowboys know how to make a lasso out

of a rope. But Pecos Bill invented the first lasso and he did not use a rope. Lasso every other letter to see what he used.

RDAPTYTNLGECSBNZATKPE

pool of tears is known as the:

Soggy Solution drought, Pecos Bill needed to get water to his \_\_\_\_\_. There wasn't a cloud in the sky, so he got himself a big ol' stick the Texas desert to the Gulf of that's how the called the Rio Grande

was born!

words. **Extra!** Create a

the missing

Tall Tale

The fun of a tall tale. like Pecos Bill, is that he story gets a little taller and more outrageous with each telling. Find a sports story in the newspaper and start

larger-than-life details to it to create a new tall tale. Standards Link: Writing Applications: Write stories with a setting, main characters, beginning, middle and end.

adding silly, strange and

Puzzier 🕊 Widowmaker was no ordinary horse. Instead of apples or carrots, he used to chomp on this unusual treat that Pecos Bill gave him. Cross out every other apple to reveal it.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written direction

#### Double Word Search WIDOWMAKER Find the words in the puzzle

How many of them can you **PECOS** find on this page? **COWBOY**  $E\ T\ A\ R\ E\ G\ G\ A\ X\ E$ DROUGHT 4 CYCLONE U RSAXETDWHY **TEARS** IAPLTHLDOC RANCH 🔱 HOIECGIBWP **HORSE** OWANCUWBLA **EXAGGERATE** RRAENOLCYC **TEXAS** SROYCRSBIK PACK WONDERS ELSREDNOWL WILD REKAMWODIW

Lesson Library

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns

#### Action Language Read today's newspaper and highlight each of

HOWL

**RAIN** 

the following examples of active writing: • A sentence that commands or directs action

- One or more exciting verbs
- The shortest sentence you can find
- Standards Link: Grammar: Identify different kinds of sentences.

# All About Mom

Write about a special day or a special experience you had with your mom (or a special lady in your life).



Have a friend give you each type of word to fill in the blanks. Then read the story aloud!

Pecos Bill once traveled to NAME OF STATE to help build

People came from miles around ADJECTIVE cowboy in person.

Bill picked up a huge stack of PLUBAL NOUN

and got to PLURAL NOUN right to work. Widowmaker carried ADJECTIVE

PLURAL NOUN At lunchtime, Pecos Bill poured

PLURAL NOUN pepper on his chili. Suddenly, he felt a sneeze coming on, so everyone began to \_\_

Pecos Bill sneezed so hard that ended up in PLURAL NOUN

NAME OF STATE Houses rolled like tumbleweeds, and a large

landed in a \_\_\_ NOUN It took Pecos Bill more than a

year to \_\_\_\_\_ everything

back to where it belonged. Standards Link: Grammar: Use nouns, adjectives and verbs correctly in writing; understand the meaning of words from context clues.

Complete the grid by using all the letters in the word PECOS in each vertical and horizontal row. Each letter should only

be used once in each row. Some spaces have been filled in for you 0 0