

KAREN

Continued from Page A1

“Overall, we see more women, but there are a lot of dads involved. It’s refreshing and neat to see how involved the dads are.”

A day at the preschool — Gass teaches Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, with Courtney Milliken teaching Tuesdays and Thursdays — looks something like this: The morning starts with circle time and includes songs, finger plays, special activities, a book and sharing. Next comes free play, snack and art, followed by a second circle time consisting of an enrichment activity.

“On Mondays, they do some sort of science activity, on Wednesday, they make a book of some sort — writing and art — and on Friday, it’s animal discovery (where) I introduce a new animal and talk about the habitat,” she said. The children also explore monthly themes; this month’s is transportation.

Gass has a dual degree from Michigan State, in education and recreational therapy. After graduating from college, she moved to Denver, Colo., where she worked with asthmatic children at National Jewish Hospital. To teach, she would have had to be recertified in Colorado and “at that time, I could make more money working at the hospital,” she said.

When she and husband John had their sons — Bran-

don, now 25, of Portland, and Sean, 23, of Hood River — she stayed at home with the children.

“My second child is special needs, so I wanted to be home with him,” she said.

The family moved to Hood River when the boys were 4 and 2, and she stayed home another year before deciding she’d like to work part time. And that’s when she found the position at Little Feet. Having worked with children her entire career, it was a perfect fit.

“It allowed me to have lots of time to still do things with my boys, especially my younger one,” she said. “Preschool worked out great for me, to be part of his life.”

Her enthusiasm for teaching is matched only by her enthusiasm for hiking and, with summer’s off, she’s been working on hiking the entire Pacific Crest Trail in sections with friend Betsy Frazier for the past six years. So far, they’ve hiked about two-thirds of the trail in yearly 3-week chunks.

“I love working with kids — after 20 years, I’m still not tired of it. I love my job,” she said. “Same thing with hiking — I love hiking, I love being out. With teaching, there’s a creative sense to it. Hiking is more endurance and saying ‘I’ve done it,’ an accomplishment.”

“They say that ‘life is about finding balance,’ and I am convinced that somehow these two passions feed off of and nurture each other,

which gives her such an ability to be present in the moment in whatever endeavor she takes on,” said husband John. “The older I become, the more I appreciate just how rare it is to find this quality in a person.”

For their first route, the two women decided to keep closer to home, traveling from Crater Lake to Cascade Locks. Last year, they hiked the section from Mammoth Lake to Mt. Whitney. They’ve completed almost all of the Oregon and Washington parts of the trail, with the biggest portion left to go in Southern California.

The two are planning this year’s excursion based on snowfall.

“If we don’t get tons of snow in Washington, we’ve got Stevens Pass up to Canada, but if we get a lot of snow, we may just go Crater Lake south to wherever three weeks brings us,” Gass said.

“It’s amazing how many sections you can do in a week,” she added. “We run into a fair amount of sec-

tion hikers when we’re out there — typically, section hikers are older and can’t take 5 months out of life, but want to be on the trail and accomplish a goal.

“We’ve had so much fun, the experiences and stuff we’ve seen — it’s well worth doing it. I don’t think I could do the whole through hiking and spend five months of my life on the trail, but section hiking is well worth the experience.”

Gass sees herself teaching and hiking for a long, long time.

“They both are the love of my life,” she said. “I really enjoy doing both. I can see myself not retiring and just working for a long, long time at the preschool. Same with hiking; as long as my legs can go and carry my body, I’ll be out there doing it.”

■
Know someone you’d like to see featured in the Saturday Spotlight? Email your recommendations to twalker@hoodrivernews.com or call 541-386-1234.

GEM group holds annual meeting

Gorge Ecumenical Ministries will hold its annual community assembly from 5 to 7 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 25 at the Asbury/Our Redeemer partnership congregation on Tucker Road in Hood River. Susannah Morgan, Chief Executive Officer of the Oregon Food Bank since November 2012, will be the featured speaker. Morgan will talk about ways of addressing the challenge of food security in the Gorge and in Oregon.



Susannah Morgan

The community assembly will also recognize volunteers involved in GEM’s several community ministries, including the Hood River

Warming Shelter and the Emergency Voucher Program. GEM officers for 2015 will be introduced, and participating faith communities will also be recognized. The 2015 Inspired Service and Action Award will be presented to the FISH Building Committee, which is nearing completion of the new facility at the Asbury/Our Redeemer site.

The assembly, which begins with a potluck supper, is open to all members and friends of GEM faith communities. An offering will be received for food programs in the central Gorge.

This Week at HRVHS

Monday, Jan. 26

No school, teacher work day; no activities scheduled

Tuesday, Jan. 27

First day of the second semester

Wednesday, Jan. 28

Varsity Wrestling vs Hermiston 6 p.m. at HRVHS

Varsity Wrestling vs Hermiston 7 p.m. at HRVHS

Thursday, Jan. 29

JV Girls Basketball vs Hermiston 5:1 p.m. at HRVHS

Varsity Girls Basketball vs Hermiston 7 p.m. at HRVHS

Friday, Jan. 30

Novice/JV Wrestling vs Mtn View 6 p.m. at HRVHS

Varsity Wrestling vs Mtn View 7 p.m. at HRVHS

Saturday, Jan. 31

JV Wrestling Tourney (16 teams!) 9 a.m. at HRVHS

Varsity Wrestling Tourney (16 teams!) 10 a.m. at HRVHS

All games and activities (home and away) can be found at www.HRVHS.com

Harmony of the Gorge singers hosts ‘Girls’ Night Out’ Jan. 27

Singers are invited to come and see what being a Sweet Adeline is all about on Jan. 27. Spend an evening with the Harmony of the Gorge Chorus, having fun as women learn new music under the direction of Judy Beckman. Singing is proven to be good for your physical and mental health. Harmony of the Gorge Chorus is a chapter of Sweet Adelines International, an organization of nearly 25,000 women worldwide who sing four-part a cappella harmony, barbershop style.

Women singers are invited to the special Girls’ Night Out Jan. 27, starting at 6 p.m. at Hood River Valley Christian Church, 975 Indian Creek Rd. If you love to sing, come see what Harmony of the Gorge and Sweet Adelines is

all about. If you can’t make it this Tuesday, please come visit any Tuesday evening. If you have any questions, call 541-645-0172 or 509-493-2006.

Sweet Adelines International is a musical force in the United States and around the world. The organization is headquartered in Tulsa, Okla., where it was founded in 1945. This nonprofit music education organization is one of the world’s largest singing organizations for women encompassing 1,200 registered quartets and 600 choruses in most of the fifty United States, Australia, Canada, England, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Japan, New Zealand, Scotland, Sweden, The Netherlands and Wales. It’s a great time to be a Sweet Adeline.

Pool closed Jan. 23, offers \$1 swim on Jan. 26

The Hood River Aquatic Center will be closed all day Saturday, Jan. 24, for the Hood River Valley High School Invitational. The pool will reopen at 10 a.m. on Sunday, Jan. 25.

The Hood River Aquatic Center will host a no school open swim from 1-3:30 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 26. Admission is \$1. The slide, rope swing, mats and basketball hoop will be open, and the party room is available for rental. The pool is located at 17th and May

Streets in Hood River. (Students get the day off so teachers can take a day for report card preparation.)

HOOD RIVER NEWS (ISSN 07465823) is published twice weekly, every Wednesday and Saturday. Subscription rates: \$42 per year prepaid (\$36 for senior citizens, 65 and over) in Hood River County and western Wasco County, Oregon; and Klickitat and Skamania counties, Washington. Elsewhere, \$68 prepaid per year. Known office of publication, 419 State Ave., Hood River, OR 97031-2031. Periodicals postage paid at Hood River, Oregon. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to HOOD RIVER NEWS, P.O. Box 390, Hood River, OR 97031-0103.

Mortgage Advice
5¢

Jeff
IS IN

Need some Mortgage Advice?
Call Jeff

Home Purchases • Refinances • Equity Lines

Jeff Scahill
Sr. Mortgage Specialist
NMLS 140302, MLC 140302

(541) 436.2662 Office
806.1556 Cell

DIRECTORS
Mortgage

Mortgage Advice does not cost 5 cents and this image is used for advertisement purposes only. Mortgage advice is free to all interested borrowers. This is not a commitment to lend. Information deemed reliable but subject to change without notice. Call for details. Consumer Loan License NMLS 5240, CI-3240

WORSHIP DIRECTORY

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

RIVER OF LIFE ASSEMBLY

Pastor Terry Abbott
979 Tucker Rd.
Hood River, OR 97031
541-386-3656

www.river-of-life-assembly.org

For details check the current bulletin on our website riveroflifeassembly@gmail.com

Service Schedule

Sunday

8:30 a.m. Early Worship Celebration

10:00 a.m. Coffee, Conversation & Refreshments

10:30 a.m. Worship Celebration & KidzChurch, K-6th*

6:00 p.m. Discipleship Classes (choose from three topics)*

Wednesday

6:30 p.m. Royal Rangers & Impact Girls Club (K-6th)*
Connect Groups for Adults (several groups to choose from)

Thursday

6:30 p.m. Youth Group 7-12th
7:00 p.m. Connect Group Upper Valley

*Childcare provided at the church for those attending

BAPTIST

1st BAPTIST CHURCH of ODELL

3081 Odell Hwy, 541-490-3171
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Service 11 a.m.
Evening Service 6 p.m.
Wednesday Service 7 p.m.

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

1280 W. Jewett • White Salmon
Worship Service 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School 10:45 a.m.
Jr/Sr. High Youth • Small Groups (call for times & location)
Pastor Mark Hoeffner (509) 493-2597
www.gracews.org

BELMONT DRIVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

4200 Belmont Road
541-386-4201
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Sunday evening Bible study 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday evening Bible study 6:00 p.m.

PARKDALE BAPTIST

6310 Dee Hwy., 541-352-6515
Bobby Joe Beauchamp, Pastor
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship, 11 a.m.
Evening Worship, 6 p.m.
Wednesday Study, 6 p.m.

TUCKER ROAD BAPTIST

Pastor Dean E. Kelly, Jr.
1455 Tucker Road
Hood River, OR 97031
541-386-1049

— Sundays —
Bible Study, All Ages, 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship 6 p.m.

— Wednesdays —
Prayer Meeting 6 p.m.

CATHOLIC

ST. MARY’S CATHOLIC CHURCH

1501 Belmont, Hood River
Saturday Sacrament of Reconciliation in English/Spanish 4-5 p.m.
Sunday
Mass in English 5:30 p.m.
Mass in Spanish 7 p.m.

Sunday
Mass in Spanish 8 a.m.
Mass in English 10 a.m.
Mass in Spanish 1 p.m.
Holiday Masses

EPISCOPAL

ST. MARK THE EVANGELIST

11th & Eugene
Rev. Anna Carmichael
Sunday Holy Eucharist at 8 and 10 a.m.
Child Care at 10 a.m.
Wednesday Holy Eucharist at 11:30 a.m.
Everyone is welcome.
For more information, call: St. Mark’s Office 541-386-2077

7 a.m., 12:10 p.m., 7 p.m.
Daily Mass 7:30 a.m.
Father Ronald M. Maag, Pastor, 541-386-3373

CHRISTIAN & MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

HOOD RIVER ALLIANCE

“You’re Always Welcome!”
2650 W. Montello St.
541-386-2812
www.hoodriveralliance.org
Steve Grace, Senior Pastor
John Blosser, Associate Pastor
Tina Graves, Youth Pastor
Emily Blosser, Worship Pastor

Sunday Morning

2 Worship Services
9 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

Monday Night

Senior Youth Group

Tuesday Night

Celebrate Recovery Group,
6:15 p.m. (Contact Person: John Blosser 507-820-0871)

Wednesday Night

Junior Youth Group

Nightly Activities

Small group Bible studies through the week.

La Iglesia Esperanza Y Vida

Sabado 6 p.m.
Spanish Service Saturday at 6 p.m.
Tony Estey, Pastor
Llame para un oratorio completo 541-806-2691

CHRISTIAN SCIENTIST

701 Washington St.
The Dalles, OR 97058
Sunday Service 10 a.m.
Wednesday Service 7 p.m.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

HOOD RIVER CHURCH OF CHRIST
1512 Tucker Road
Cody Singleton - Minister
9:45 Bible Classes
10:45 Services
541-386-2782
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

ODELL CHURCH OF CHRIST

3784 Summit Drive
Worship 10:30 a.m.
541-354-3127

COVENANT CHRISTIAN

COVENANT HOOD RIVER
Pastor Fritz Stranz
Temporary service location
8th and Pacific (Horizon School)
Sunday service at 5pm
Wednesday Youth and KIDZ- call 541.386.8805 for location
covenanthr.org

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

HOOD RIVER VALLEY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Interim Pastor Myrna Phillips
975 Indian Creek Road
541-386-2608
hoodrivervalleychristianchurch.com
— Sunday —
9:30 a.m. Classes for all ages
10:30 a.m. Worship & Children Worship & Wonder
5:00 p.m. Youth meetings
Call for information on other programs for children, youth and adults
Childcare provided for all activities

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

Senior Center
2010 Sterling Place
Sundays 10 a.m.
“Love Jesus, Love People”
For more information contact
John: 541-354-2495
or Don: 541-231-3482
www.hoodriver-biblefellowship.org

FAITH BIBLE CHURCH

1889 Belmont, 541-386-3557
www.fbchoodriver.org

LDS

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

18th & May, Hood River
ALL ARE WELCOME!
Hood River Ward

Sacrament Meeting 10 a.m.
Sunday School 11:20 a.m.
Priesthood/Relief Society 12:10 p.m.

Grupo en Español

Hora Sacramental (Traducida) 10 a.m.
Escuela Dominical (Clase en Español) 11:20 a.m.
Sacerdocio y Sociedad de Socorro (En Ingles) 12:10 p.m.

LUTHERAN

CONCORDIA EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELS

Evangelical Lutheran Synod
11th & Pine • Hood River
541-386-4004 or 541-298-8385
Pastor Jesse Jacobsen
Sunday School & Bible Class 8:00 a.m.

Divine Service 9:00 a.m.
Office Hours: Wednesday
www.concordiahoodriver.org

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

305 9th St. 386-3046
Pastor Jeff Mueller
www.immanuelhr.org

Sunday Morning Schedule

Adult Bible Class 8:45 a.m.
Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
Children’s Church 10:00 a.m.
Nursery Care 9:45 a.m.–11:15 a.m.

Small Groups All Week

Check our web page above for all the details

Sr. High Youth Group

Saturdays @ 6:30 p.m.

Middle School Youth Group

Fridays @ 3:30 p.m.

“It’s all about RELATIONSHIPS!”
Please join us!

METHODIST/LUTHERAN

ASBURY OUR REDEEMER PARTNERSHIP

Pastor David King
1140 Tucker Road
541-386-3993

9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
10:10:30 a.m. Fellowship
Time 10:30 a.m. Celebration
Worship
10:30 a.m. Christian Education
Everyone is welcome!

NAZARENE

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Joel & Mindy Alsworth, pastors
2168 Belmont Drive
Church Office: 541-386-2604
Fax: 541-386-2064
9 a.m.-Noon

Church Web site: www.hrnaz.org

Sunday

Worship Service – 9:30 a.m.
Christian Education/Sunday School (for all ages) – 11 a.m.

Monday-Thursday

Home Group Studies
Tuesday: 6:30 a.m.
Men’s Prayer Time
8 a.m. Ladies Breakfast
Downtown
6:30 p.m. Youth Group

PARKDALE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

4th & Van Nuys
(by grade school)
Services
Carl Casey, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 a.m.
Evening Worship 6 p.m.
Ladies’ Bible Study, Mon. 9:30 a.m.
Call 541-352-6913
or 541-490-6673
for further details.

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

Senior Center
2010 Sterling Place
Sundays 10 a.m.
“Love Jesus, Love People”
For more information contact
John: 541-354-2495
or Don: 541-231-3482
www.hoodriver-biblefellowship.org

FAITH BIBLE CHURCH

1889 Belmont, 541-386-3557
www.fbchoodriver.org

Pastor Bruce Parker

— Sunday —
Sunday School (all ages)
9:15-10:15 a.m.

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.-12:00
Nursery provided 10:30 a.m.-12:00

— Weekdays —

We offer various Home Groups, Bible studies, and other activities.

SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY BIBLE CHURCH

8th & Pacific, Hood River
Tommy Moon, Pastor
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
svbchr.org

PRESBYTERIAN

PARKDALE COMMUNITY CHURCH

4910 Baseline Drive
541-352-7747
Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship, 10:45 a.m.
Rev. Mark N. Willems, Pastor

QUAKER