

Hood River News

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Spring Ahead

— and get alarmed

March 8 marks the beginning of Daylight Saving Time and serves as a good reminder for Oregonians to test their smoke alarms. The Office of State Fire Marshal is urging residents to test their smoke alarms before automatically changing the batteries.

Smoke alarm technology has advanced and many now come with 10-year batteries and some are tamper-resistant, said State Fire Marshal Jim Walker. Residents are encouraged to test their alarms before changing the battery.

Oregon law requires ionization-only smoke alarms that are solely battery powered to come equipped with a hush feature and a 10-year battery. Because of this technology, the national slogan “Change your clock, Change your battery” may not apply to Oregon residents who have these ionization-only smoke alarms.

Other types of alarms are also being sold with either a 10-year battery or a standard-life battery.

“Ensuring you have working smoke alarms in your home is the single most important step you can take to increase your family’s safety from a home fire,” adds Walker. “Also, be sure to replace any smoke alarm that is 10 years old or older.”

To test your alarm properly:

Push the test button to be sure the battery is working; when replacing batteries, follow the manufacturer’s instructions for the correct battery to use; always retest alarms after installing new batteries; replace any alarm that fails to operate after installing a new battery; inspect your alarms to determine if they are 10 years old or older, and replace any smoke alarm 10 years old or older.

(Look for a date on the back of the alarm. If there is no date, your alarm is more than 10 years old and should be replaced.)

Finally, follow the manufacturer’s instructions on regularly cleaning your alarms of dust and cobwebs.

Budget help needed

This is budget crunch time — as in people are needed to serve on local budget committees.

The deadline for elected special district positions is March 19, but the budget jobs are appointed, and seasonal — April through June. If you’ve ever wanted a foot-in-the-door means of doing public service, contact Columbia Gorge Community College (details on page A1) and City of Hood River cityof-hoodriver.com, about applying for the budget jobs.

The city is set to fill two positions on its Landmark Review Board, which meets Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. at City Hall and features an overview of historic buildings and the differences between remodeling, renovating, rehabilitating and restoring, by historic preservationist Sally Donovan, one of the community’s keenest experts on the subject.

WHERE TO WRITE

President — Barack Obama, White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington D.C., 20500

E-mail: president@whitehouse.gov

U.S. Senators — Jeff Merkley, SDB-40B, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington D.C., 20510. Phone: 202-224-3753; E-mail: oregon@merkley.senate.gov; Ron Wyden, 717 Hart Office Building, Washington D.C., 20510. Phone: 202-224-5244.

Web address: www.senate.gov/member/or/wyden/general/

Our readers write

Meet Rob Brostoff

I’d like to introduce myself to the Hood River community, especially the West Side school community. My name is Rob Brostoff and I’ve been representing Cascade Locks as its ex-officio member on our Hood River school board for nearly three years.

I’d like to represent the West Side School and community as well, so I’m running for the school board to represent both. I’ve been a county resident for nearly two decades and have held public office here in Cascade Locks as a city councilman, a planning commissioner, and as a member of both the port and city budget committees.

Some of the challenges I see ahead for our schools are the state budget, which underfunds education, it’s gone from 45 percent of the budget down to 39 percent, slowly reducing operating revenues over many years. We also face local challenges in raising our graduation rates from 81 percent to having all students ready for employment or prepared for entry to college.

Class sizes and days of instruction per year are also issues. We also are challenged to bring grade equity for all students no matter what their background or financial situation.

On the positive side, did you know our high school was ranked by a major newsmagazine at number 11 in the state? That’s out of over 260 high schools. We have outstanding students doing incredible things, excellent award winning robotics teams, state champs in soccer, and placing well above average in graduation rates in the state.

Please vote and consider me when you do so.

Rob Brostoff
Cascade Locks

Tell it to the UN

It doesn’t matter if you agree with Obama’s Iranian nuclear policy or not. How dare some foreigner come into my house and tell me what to do! Into my country, my capitol, my Congress. Save it for the floor of the UN or your own country where it belongs.

Jerry Giarraputo
Hood River

Climate change deniers

Climate change deniers have an icon they look up to with reverence and unshakable faith. Their deity is Wei-Hock Soon. Soon, who is not a climate scientist but a physicist, has made a career and a living out of denying any human activity effecting the earth’s climate change — it is all the fault of “changes in variations in the sun’s energy.” But Soon’s much quoted “climate research” was paid by Exxon Mobil, Southern Company, the American Petroleum Institute and the Charles G. Koch Charitable Foundation,

ON THE AGENDA

March 11 — Hood River County School board meets at 6:30 p.m. at May Street Elementary

March 9 — Cascade Locks City Council meets at 7 p.m. and the Hood River Council at 6 p.m. at their respective city halls.

These are the regular meeting times of governing bodies for these agencies:

Cascade Locks

Cascade Locks City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 140 W. WaNaPa St., second and fourth Mondays of the month.

Cascade Locks Planning Commission, 7 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 140 W. WaNaPa St., second Thursday of the month.

Cascade Locks Port Commission, 6 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 140 W. WaNaPa St., first and third Thursdays of the month.

Hood River

City of Hood River Planning Commission meeting, 5:30 p.m., Hood River City Hall Council Chambers, 211 Second St., general-

groups with a strong financial stake in denying man’s influence on climate change. He was \$1.2 million for “deliverable” results. The conflict of interest here is staggering.

Dr. Don Rose (letter “A non-solution,” Feb. 28) must be an avid follower of Mr. Soon. The science of climate change was settled decades ago, what remains is a warring debate between culture and ideology, not science. Yes, the sun shines on this planet, without it no life would exist. But the sun’s energy must pass through the earth’s atmosphere. It is what is in that atmosphere that sunlight must pass through that effects a planet’s climate. Carbon dioxide in the atmosphere does have a profound effect on planetary surface temperatures. Venus has an atmosphere that is mostly CO2 with a small amount of Nitrogen. Venus’s surface temperature is 825 degrees Fahrenheit. The more CO2 human activity releases into the earth’s atmosphere, the higher our surface temperatures will be. No ifs ands or buts!

Gary Fields
Hood River

plored many techniques for relief, surface and intaglio printing, such as monotype, linocut, dry point and solar-plate etching. The printmaking class offers a wonderful opportunity to work alongside local artists, learn a valuable new skill, and create something that you can display and be proud of forever. The class is collaborative as the students share everything starting with the inking table and printing press, as well as the sharing of ideas and images, creating a real sense of community. There is a mixture of degree seeking students, and also people who enroll just wanting to try their hand at something new and interesting.

We will be having an open house exhibition displaying the work created this winter term on Tuesday, March 17, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the main lobby of the CGCC Hood River campus across from Rosauers. The course will be offered again spring term — Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 to 11:50 a.m. — at the Hood River Indian Creek campus. Stop by and see what you are missing out on.

John Stewart
Hood River

See CGCC art students’ works

Sometime near the end of the 2014 Columbia Gorge Community College spring term — as I was leaving published author Tim Schell’s Writing 121 class — I stopped to admire some art that was being exhibited by the students of Abby Merickel’s printmaking class. There were informative displays, pictures of the students creating prints, actual linoleum blocks carved by the students that I could pick up and study, as well as the tools used to make them, along with a wide array of very interesting hand-pulled prints to look at. I was so impressed by the quality of art that was being shown and equally intrigued in the difference processes being used that I decided it was a class I needed to take.

I enrolled in Art 270 Printmaking for winter term, and it has been a fantastic experience thus far. As the term draws to a close, we have ex-

Good time to enroll at CGCC

Please consider taking a class with Columbia Gorge Community College. So many wonderful learning opportunities to enrich your life are available right here in the Gorge. The spring schedule is available now and registration just started this week, so now is a good time to consider taking that class that you have been putting off taking. Statewide, community college enrollment is down 20 percent. The good side to this is smaller class sizes and more one on one student to instructor attention. Please take a look at the offerings and consider a new adventure in your life of learning. Schedules are available at the college locations in Hood River and The Dalles, or online. Classes will be starting March 30.

Elizabeth Anderson
Hood River

Q: IF ELECTED, WOULD YOURS BE A TRANSPARENT ADMINISTRATION?



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ly the first and third Mondays of the month. Place and dates subject to change.

Hood River Port Commission, 5 p.m., 100 E. Port Marina Drive, board room, first and third Tuesdays of the month.

Hood River City Council, 6 p.m., Hood River City Hall Council Chambers, 211 Second St., second and fourth Mondays of the month.

Hood River Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Directors meeting, 4 p.m., OSU Extension Service Building, 2990 Experiment Station Road, first Thursday of the month.

Hood River Valley Parks and Recreation District, 6 p.m., Aquatic Center, 1601 May St., third Wednesday of the month. Place subject to change.

Hood River County

Hood River County Board of Commissioners regular session, 6 p.m., 601 State St., first floor conference room, third Monday of the month. Time subject to change.

Library District Board meeting, 7

p.m., 502 State St., conference room, third Tuesday of the month.

Hood River County Planning Commission meeting, 7 p.m., 601 State St., first floor, generally second and fourth Wednesdays of the month.

Hood River County Water Planning Group, 2 p.m., 601 State St., first floor conference room, generally first Wednesday of the month.

Hood River County Commission on Children and Families Board meeting, 5:15 p.m., Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital boardroom, generally first Tuesday of the month.

Hood River County School Board, 6:30 p.m., meets at schools and district facilities on a rotating schedule (visit hoodriver.k12.or.us for location), second and fourth Wednesdays of the month unless school vacations or other holidays interrupt the schedule.

Hood River County Transportation District, 9 a.m., Hood River County Transportation District Board Room, 224 Wasco Loop, second Wednesday of the month.



Hood River News
Founded in 1905

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