

Literacy efforts fill pages — B1



SPORTS
Ski Teams Win State — A7

MIDWEEK EDITION 75 cents
Vol. 109, No. 20 2 Sections, 24 Pages



Hood River News

Official Newspaper, City of Hood River and Hood River County

HOOD RIVER, OREGON ■ WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2015

www.hoodrivernews.com

DOUSE, AND REPEAT



FIREFIGHTER RYAN WILLIS knocks out hotspots in bales of hay lost in Friday afternoon's barn fire on Whiskey Flat Road near Odell, one of three fires in four days apparently connected to permitted burns. "Hay is notorious," for hidden combustibility, Willis said. Firefighters from Wy'east District and neighboring agencies prevented the fire from spreading to a nearby home. Dry conditions led fire officials to issue cautions about safe practices in carrying out burn permits. See page A11 for details. Local fire officials said they are considering moving up the restricted fire season to earlier than May 1 because of continued dry conditions throughout the Gorge.

Put a price on carbon, council votes

By **KIRBY NEUMANN-REA**
News editor

Hood River became the second city in Oregon to adopt a resolution calling on the Oregon Legislature to enact laws creating a price on carbon as a means to stem global warming.

"It's a good statement, and it's important, but we have been ignoring it," said councilor Kate McBride, prior to Monday night's vote during the regular Council meeting.

The resolution passed 5-1, with councilor Laurent Picard dissenting. Mayor Paul Blackburn joined councilors Peter Cornelison, Becky Brun, Mark Zanmiller, and McBride in supporting the resolution, a non-binding one that urged the State Legislature to adopt laws putting a price on emissions by business and industry, while creating funds to offset the impact to consumers.

The council had put out a call for public comment and heard from five people, including two representatives of Mt. Hood Meadows, the county's largest employer, who said the firm stands behind the resolution.

"We support responsible climate action, including advocacy toward curbing carbon emis-



Laurent Picard



Peter Cornelison

"We have to make our voice count where it really matters," councilor Laurent Picard, top. "This initiative is to change behavior," stated councilor Peter Cornelison.

See CITY, Page A11



HEARTS of Gold recipients Dr. Paul Hamada, left, and Don Benton.

Providence honors men of big Hearts

More than 170 people, many in tears, stood to applaud Dr. Paul Hamada and Don Benton, the Hearts of Gold recipients for 2014, in Saturday's event at Hood River Best Western Inn, according to Susan Frost of the Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital Foundation, which each year honors a community member and a health care professional "whose golden hearts shine brightly."

The annual Hearts of Gold Celebration benefits an expansion of cancer services offered at Providence. In addition to honoring Benton and Hamada, over \$50,000 was raised on Saturday.

Benton is well known in the Columbia Gorge for volunteering his time. After 26 years in the Navy and 10 years working civilian jobs, he

decided to continue working — just not for money. He joined his first non-profit board in 2001 and now is a member of more than a dozen non-profit boards and advisory committees for such organizations as The Next Door, Inc., Opportunity Connections, Helping Hands Against Violence and United Way. He truly gives his time, talent and treasure to improve the quality of life for individuals in our community.

Dr. Hamada changed the lives of people in our community through more than 40 years of service as a physician in Hood River. In 1970, he was one of just eight physicians practicing in our area. There are now more than 100. He helped establish an emergency room, intensive care unit and other services.

Police Department 'grunt' earns Legion award

By **KIRBY NEUMANN-REA**
News editor

Juan Pulido gives himself labels that, on the surface, seem unflattering.

Grunt.

Busybody.

The guy that gets complaints.

But the Hood River Police officer wears the labels as proudly as the badge itself, and they contributed to his award last week as Officer of the Year, from the Hood River American Legion Auxiliary.

Pulido gratefully, but modestly, accepted.

"I don't think I deserve it any more than anyone else," Pulido said. "We have a great department of guys and we all have our roles.

"I just love my job and the enjoyable experiences," said Pulido, an eight-year veteran of the department whose roles go beyond his prolific record as patrol officer.

In 2014 Pulido led the department in criminal citations, calls for service, and officer produc-



Submitted photo

AUXILIARY president Judy Osbourn gives the award to Officer Juan Pulido. At left is Chief Neal Holste.

tivity, according to Chief Neal Holste.

"It's been my job description to be the busybody," Pulido said, "to get involved in peoples' business

when they don't want us there, you know, to question the questionable. If someone is jogging down the street at 2 a.m. are they actual jog-

See PULIDO, Page A11



Photo by Kirby Neumann-Rea

KYLE ZUERCHER take the oath Monday.

Kyle Zuercher joins Hood River PD

Kyle Zuercher's family was on hand Monday to see the 2004 HRVHS graduate sworn in as the city's newest police officer.

With Chief Neal Holste at his side, Zuercher took the oath from Mayor Paul Blackburn.

Zuercher, an Air Force veteran, served in police and security capacities while in the service. He is

nearly done with his Bachelor's degree in psychology and criminology at Portland State University. Zuercher replaces Jake Ferrer, who spent the past four years with the department and was recently hired by Oregon State Patrol.

Zuercher's parents, Lannie and Cindy, did the honor of pinning on his badge.

Four To Go

WAAAM hosts 'nose art' author

Join the Western Antique Aeroplane & Automobile Museum Saturday for author Andretta Schellinger's talks on the cultural influences behind airplane nose art. The 11 a.m. talk will be about how comics and cartoons influenced airplane nose artwork. The 1 p.m. talk will be more about the wide range of cultural influences, such as movies, TV, and fashion, that impacted airplane nose artwork. Schellinger will also be giving away promotional material for her forthcoming book "Nose Art on Military Aircraft" which is a continuation on her original work "From Knights to Skulls: The Cultural Evolution of Nose Artwork."

In addition to the two talks, the restoration shop will be open for a tour at noon for visitors to see the progress on the WAAAM 1938 Rearwin Speedster. The museum will have its airplanes and automobiles out and about.



Rooster Rock meeting cancelled

A public meeting for Rooster Rock State Park is scheduled for March 18 has been cancelled. It will be rescheduled for a later date. Park staff with Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) are working on options for the park that include improving the park entrance and developing an accessible walking path along the Columbia River, while maintaining existing park features.

Prom dress project needs donations

Yesenia Castro, Next Door, Inc Community Health Worker, has taken on the "Dress For Less" prom dress project started by Christine Keith several years ago.

Castro now needs dress donations. The current dress drop off location is at The Next Door Inc, on Tucker Road in Hood River.

For more information go to : gorgepromdressproj.wix.com/prom-dress-project

Kids' Campaign ends March 14

The 52nd annual Kids Subscription Campaign is winding down but there is still time to get in on the drawing for a \$100 grocery gift card. Subscribers who open or renew the Hood River News will be eligible. It's also a way to support your entrepreneurs, who get cash for every new subscription or renewal. Turn to page B12 for details.