

THE Porch

From the Chamber: The first annual Blossom Time window decorating contest is here! Judging will take place April 10, and to qualify, the theme of blossoms or springtime must be represented. All member businesses are invited to compete, and the winner will receive \$500, courtesy of the Chamber. (We look forward to the return, in 2016, of the second annual contest.)

SCENE and Heard: A woman parks against traffic next to a "No Parking This Side of Street" sign, runs around the back of the house while holding a shoe in each hand ... "Garage Sale" signs illegally attached to utility and street poles ... A young woman pushes a stroller with two kids in it, singing as she goes, "I wanna be like you-oo-hoo-hoo ..." (Is Louis Prima making a comeback? Or is "Jungle Book" (1967!) one of her kids' favorite DVDs?)

WELL SAID: "I'd rather live with a good question than a bad answer." — Aryeh Frimer

SATURDAY MORNING ECLIPSE

This is an important – can we say "skymark?" – lunar eclipse weekend, and our astronomer friends Paul and Diana Kuiper of Wasco County sent along this: "The lunar eclipse is expected to occur in the western sky shortly before dawn. It is one of four eclipses in the space of a year (April 15 and Oct. 7 in 2014, and another on Sept. 28, 2015); such a close grouping of eclipses is a rare event in celestial mechanics and often coincides with major events in world history." Paul Kuiper took a series of photos over a two-hour period April 14, 2014, on a simple digital camera. Paul will present an astronomy class through Community Education running June 6 through July 7 – find it on page 5 of the new catalog, or go to hrcommunityed.org.

According to CNN: Starting at 3:16 a.m. Pacific Daylight Time, the moon will begin moving into Earth's shadow. For the next hour and 45 minutes, that shadow will move across the moon and engulf it at 4:58 a.m. Pacific Time.



News Kids Campaign winner donates to dog shelter



Photo by Patrick Mulvihill.

CALEB TRUMBULL, left, and Judy Dutcher, board president of Adopt A Dog, speak to the Hood River Rotary Club at Hood River Inn Thursday.

By **PATRICK MULVIHILL**
News staff writer

For Caleb Trumbull, victory and charity are a combined mission. When the seventh grader took first place in the Hood River News Kids Campaign in March, he made a point to donate half his winnings to the local animal shelter, Hood River Adopt A Dog. Combined with \$217 in contributions he gleaned from the Hood River Rotary Club Thursday, Trumbull has donated a total of \$1,167 to the shelter.

The family tradition of competing in the Kids Campaign and then donating half the winnings began four years ago with Caleb's sister, Lauren, when she was in 6th grade.

"She kind of passed the imaginary baton," said Caleb.

Last year, Caleb won second place; this year he took first, selling the most subscriptions of Hood River News locally.

So far, the Trumbull kids have stacked up over \$3,500 for Adopt

A Dog in their four year subscription-selling dynasty. According to Judy Dutcher, Adopt A Dog board president, the shelter lets the kids name a dog each year in celebration of the donation.

The Trumbulls are dog lovers, with two of their own at home.

Caleb described himself as a competitive person. He's involved in football, lacrosse and mountain biking at Hood River Middle School. In March, he took first place in the Red 2 Red biking competition in Echo. His division was ages 10 to 14 but his time also outstripped competitors in the 15 to 19 division.

As an eighth grader next year, Caleb will have his last chance to compete in the Kids Campaign again, before he moves past the age cutoff.

However, Caleb will be able to channel his competitive spirit into high school athletics. "I'm pretty excited to go into high school," said Caleb.

BEAR

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us continue our growth and strengthen the many long term relationships we've built with our friends in the Cascade Locks community," said Bear Mountain chairman Bob Sourek.

The companies buy Douglas Fir and Western Red Cedar sawdust from

sawmills across Oregon and Washington, then transform them into usable products, distributed around the nation.

"The expansion opportunity with Bear Mountain is a great step forward for this community," said Port Commission President Jess Groves. "The deal says a lot about the value of working together to help existing businesses expand."

The Port will hold dollars

from the property deal in a development fund, created in the Port's 2014-15 budget, for the purpose of developing infrastructure to make adjacent properties "shovel ready" for business development.

The Port is budgeting for an immediate investment of \$1.2 million to build adequately sized water, sewer and power lines into the business park.

The Port is also negotiat-

ing with three other businesses for properties in the business park, ranging from three to 25 acres in size.

One of the businesses is Puff Factory, which is interested in purchasing four acres to create a plant dedicated to transforming local orchardists' fruit into freeze-dried fruit snacks. The Port is also negotiating the lease of an industrial "flex" building that Puff Factory has been eyeing.



Photo by Kirby Neumann-Rea

NICHOLS TRAIL WORK

Crestline crews are busy grading the west side of Nichols Boat basin to make way for trails, lawns and landscaping, and a new beach as part of the Port of Hood River pedestrian access project. A new seawall, with railings, is the next major phase of the project. Target completion date is June. The new trail will connect pedestrian paths at the Event Site to a forthcoming trail section on the south end of the boat basin, which will happen with the Nichols Landing hotel project planned by Naito Corp.

BLOOM

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"The other is that if we have cool and wet conditions like the last week or so, that can result in russetting of the fruit," Castagnoli said. Russetting is the brown or yellowish spots or streaks that, while having limited impact on the flavor of the fruit, can reduce their marketability.

Castagnoli added that pears and apples appear to have experienced little damage from the single-digit early freeze in November 2014, though the abnormally-cold temperatures spelled disaster for cherry growers in Wasco and Hood River counties.

Despite the early bloom, Castagnoli predicted the overall fruit maturation and

harvest periods as "pretty much business as usual."

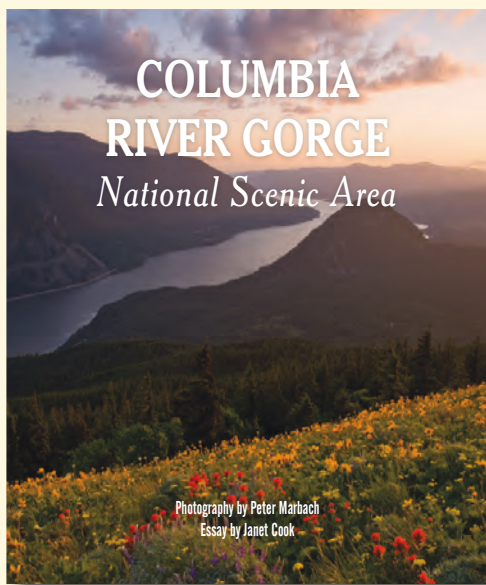
"I think other than having to scramble a little bit more because things started earlier, this is always a busy time; they're (orchardists) doing their usual attention to weather forecasts," he said Thursday.

"At this stage, with more warm, dry weather, that would be fine," Castagnoli said, adding that the fruit growers are prepared.

"The weather conditions are not anything they don't deal with on a year to year basis," he said.

Temperatures dropped Thursday night/Friday morning, but Castagnoli said, "It's been pretty warm but the last week of cooler weather, because of cloud cover, wind, and some rain, that combo doesn't really contribute to frost."

BOOK SIGNING / EVENING LECTURE



Photography by Peter Marbach
Essay by Janet Cook

Join photographer Peter Marbach and author Janet Cook for the unveiling of their new book:

COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE NATIONAL SCENIC AREA

April 15 at Columbia Center for the Arts

Book signing starts at 6:30, public program "Wild at Heart in the Columbia River Gorge" starts at 7PM

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Garage Sale & Auction Preview
Friday, April 10, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Auction Saturday, April 11
10 a.m. (Doors open 8 a.m.)

Randy & Sheryl Graves
4300 Chamberlin Drive, Hood River

FULL SAIL APRIL BREWMASTER DINNER

Thai Flare
THURSDAY, APRIL 9TH

First Course
FRIED VERMICELLI WRAPPED SHRIMP
Vermicelli wrapped prawn served over green papaya salad topped with a sweet ginger Thai sauce.
PAIRED WITH SESSION EXPORT

Second Course
FISH SAUCE CHICKEN WING
Sweet yet savory sauce played down with fried garlic.
PAIRED WITH FULL SAIL AMBER

Intermezzo
Coconut, mango, and lime zest.

Third Course
DUCK PAD PRIK KING
Duck confit served over classic Thai Pad Prik King served with steamed jasmine rice.
PAIRED WITH FULL SAIL IPA

Fourth Course
MANGO STICKY RICE
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