

# Horizon scientists excel at fair

Horizon Christian School students Brennan Drach, sixth grader, and Marisa Rigert, fifth grader, recently traveled to the ACSI Regional Science Fair.

They won top achievements in the science fair at Horizon and earned the right to travel to Eugene to present their projects at the ACSI Regional Science Fair. Marisa and Brennan then went on to achieve the highest honors at the regional fair called superior.

Marisa's project was called "Fighting Back Against Weeds" and highlighted various ways to get rid of weeds using house-

hold products. Brennan had a very different project called "Propeller Performance", which was based on battery power produced from "X" amount of RPMs.

Horizon's sixth grade teacher, Sheila Sletmoe, center, accompanied them. She noted the students really understand the scientific process and are very thorough in their work.

Marisa and Brennan had to write up reports and create presentation boards about their projects. They then gave presentations clearly represent their projects at both sciences fairs.



HORIZON CHRISTIAN School students Marisa Rigert, left, and Brennan Drach, with teacher Sheila Sletmoe.

# DGCC wind program open house May 11

Ribbon cutting, tours available

Columbia Gorge Community College's Renewable Energy Technology (RET) program will host an open house on May 11 from 5 to 7 p.m. at its new home in the Fort Dalles Readiness & Workforce Innovations Center on The Dalles campus.

Ribbon cutting will take place at 5:30 p.m.

Tours of the state-of-the-art learning facility, hands-on demonstrations of equipment, and light refreshments and food will be offered.

The nationally-recognized RET program prepares students for technical positions in a variety of industries including renewable energy, advanced manufacturing, and engineering.

The center meets Silver certification standards of the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED).

The goal is to be a "net-zero" structure, ultimately producing as much energy as it consumes over the course of a year.

Design features include geothermal wells, natural materials for sound and thermal insulation, solar capacity, a "green roof," and LED lighting for the workforce training area.

The RET program is accepting applications for Fall 2015. To learn more about the program and take a virtual tour, visit [www.cgcc/ret](http://www.cgcc/ret).

# About Dementia Series offered May 2

OSU Extension Office, Oregon Geriatric Education Center and Providence Home Services, Mid-Columbia Senior Center and Hood River Valley Adult Center present "About Dementia Series" on May 2. The series begins at the Mid-Columbia Senior Center, 1112 W. Ninth, The Dalles, from 10 a.m. to noon, and moves to the Hood River Valley Adult Center,

2010 Sterling Drive, from 2-4 p.m.

The workshops will be presented by Vicki Schmall, Extension Gerontology Specialist Emeritus, Oregon State University.

The first in the series, "The Challenging Behaviors of Dementia," will cover the management of behavior in persons with Alzheimer's diseases or a related demen-

tia and will provide an understanding of how brain changes resulting from a dementia affect a person's perceptions and behavior; why challenging behaviors occur; what to do to minimize such behaviors and intervene when the behaviors do occur; and the adaptations caregivers must make as dementia progresses.

The second, "Packing Your

'Caregiving Basket' for Self-Care," addresses the challenges family caregivers face is taking care of themselves while providing care to another person. It's important for caregivers to thrive while caregiving, not just survive, but the reality is that some caregivers do not even survive — they become a "second victim" of their family member's medical condition.



Submitted photos

# GARDEN SYMPOSIUM SCENES

ON APRIL 21, more than 100 Gorge-area high school students met at Hood River Valley High School for the third annual Garden Symposium. The group gathers, above, at the HRVHS Land Lab, scene of extensive hands-on learning, which the HRVHS program shared with students from throughout the Gorge. Students and interested community members learned about school gardens, attending workshops and sharing information. At right, Austyn Polzel, a 2014 HRVHS graduate who now attends Oregon State University, spoke of his involvement with Hood River Valley FFA and Gorge Grown Food Network, and the valuable skills he learned at both.

**Children's BOOK WEEK**

Children's Book Week is celebrated May 4-10, 2015. It's a week to think about the books you love and to enjoy new books.

The first Book Week was celebrated in 1919. How many years ago was that?

In 1921, a Book Week poster was designed to encourage children to read. A new poster has been designed every year since then.

This year's poster was created by Grace Lee. She was born in Taiwan and grew up in Los Angeles. She is currently working as a storybook artist at Disney Publishing Worldwide.

Use the code to find out the slogan for the first Children's Book Week Poster.

**Design a Poster**

Imagine you could design a National Children's Book Week poster. What would your slogan be? What kind of picture would you put on your poster? Design your own Book Week poster.

**SECRET DECODER**

What if you couldn't read? If you couldn't read, the words on important signs might look like this. Learning to read is like finding a marvelous secret code. Use the decoder to find out what each sign says.

Help Bert Bookworm find his way to the library.

**Kid Scoop Puzzler**

Check it Out @ Your Library!

This telling of the legend in comic book style begins with the birth of King Arthur and moves swiftly along as he frees the sword from the stone, is tutored by Merlin, befriends Lancelot, marries Guinevere, seeks the Holy Grail and battles Mordred.

Fill in the missing vowels in the title of this book. Then, check it out at your library this summer!

**Double Double Word Search**

Find the words in the puzzle. Then look for each word in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

**FROM THE LESSON LIBRARY**

**House Your Favorite Character**

Imagine your favorite book character's house was going to be sold in the classified ad section of the newspaper. Write the classified ad for the house.

**Write On!**

**My Book**

Imagine you could write a book for kids. What would be your topic? Who would be your main character? What would make other kids want to read your book?

AN INTERVIEW with **Jeff Kinney**

Kid Scoop readers had some questions for Jeff Kinney, creator of the popular *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* book series.

**Q: Did you always want to be a writer when you were a kid?**

A: I didn't! I wanted to be a newspaper cartoonist, and that dream didn't come through for me. I also wanted to be a computer programmer, and that dream did come true ... I created *Poptropica*, a virtual world for kids.

**Q: As a kid, what was your favorite book?**

A: I liked *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing* by Judy Blume.

**Q: Have you always enjoyed reading?**

A: I have. Especially in the bathroom. Okay, that's embarrassing.

**Q: What inspired you to write the Wimpy Kid series?**

A: My failure to become a newspaper cartoonist! I knew I had to get my cartoons seen, but I just needed to get them in another form.

**Q: Did you enjoy middle school?**

A: I didn't! For me, it was scary. I think things have gotten better for kids.

**Q: Did you think that the first Wimpy Kid book would get so popular that you would have to write more?**

A: I never thought the first book would even get published!

**Q: What are your hobbies outside of writing?**

A: I like going to Boston Celtics games with my kids. Does that count as a hobby?

**Q: Are you thinking of writing another series?**

A: I am! I hope I can come up with a good idea!