

BBBS holds first golf event; Scouts convene Court of Honor



Submitted photo

SCOUT of the Year Michael Caldwell, District Executive Rick Denis, and Scoutmaster of the Year Jeff McCaw, at Court of Honor.

Indian Creek Golf Course hosted Big Brothers Big Sisters' first ever golf clinic on Saturday, May 16. Justine Ziegler of Big Brothers Big Sister writes, "Mark Gradin, Director of Instruction and Player Development, and a few volunteers from the Hood River Valley girls and boys golf teams generously presented the event.

"On a windy but beautiful day on the course, approximately 20 program participants, including Bigs and Littles from Hood River, Klickitat, and Wasco counties, attended the event, where they learned the health benefits of golf, as well as putting and driving techniques.

"Little Brother Zach said he loves playing golf, but he's never had the opportunity to play at such a nice facility as Indian Creek. Walt Notter, Zach's Big Brother of almost seven years, watched proudly as Zach improved his accuracy on his puts and follow through on his drives."

Big Brothers Big Sisters, a program of The Next Door, is actively seeking adult volunteer mentors for the children on the waitlist (ages 6 to 14). If you would enjoy spending about eight hours a month being a friend to a child, contact Big Brothers Big Sisters staff to apply. In Hood River and Klickitat Counties, call Ziegler at 541-490-9979. In Wasco County, call Courtney Reyes at 541-993-9022.

Scouts District Court of Honor

On May 21, Scouters, their families and representatives gathered at the St. Mary's Academy in The Dalles to honor their past year's outstanding participants.

Mid-Columbia District Chairman John Pereira welcomed everyone and announced the presentation of the colors which was led by the Order of the Arrow: Joshua Barringer, Sam Lemly and Joey Slover. District Executive Rick Denis gave the invocation before the dinner catered by Kari and Jeff

Croke.

The ceremony proceeded with many awards to deserving individuals such as this year's outstanding...

Pack of the Year - P395 The Dalles; Cub master of the Year- Jeff Kiser, P398 The Dalles; Troop of the Year - Troop 282 Hood River;

Scoutmaster of the Year...Jeff McCaw, Troop 282; Cub Scout of the Year - Austin Keene, Pack 398;

Boy Scout of the Year - Michael Caldwell, Troop 282; Commissioner of the Year - Katherine Arbon;

Spark Plug Award - Mark Lemley, Troop 282, Kari Croke, Pack 282, Kathy Lamoreaux, Pack 395, Sandie Fuwell, Pack 395, Lisa Gabriel, Pack 282;

Boy Scout Family of the Year - Michael and Meg Becker, Troop 282

Cub Scout Family of the Year - Leif and Jesse Fox, Pack 392 Stevenson

Twilight Camp 2014 - Sara Lavino, Pack 282

Membership Award: High-

est increase in membership - Pack 395, Troop 357, Team 352 and Crew 352

District Award of Merit - Dave Barringer, Troop 282, Michael Becker, Crew 282

Silver Beaver Presentation...Mildred E. Lykens replaced lost award from Southern Oregon's Roaring Rogue District.

National Outdoor Challenge Award - Troop 398, Anthony Pereira Scoutmaster

Scoutmaster Key - Anthony Pereira, Tr398

Key Three - District's Executive Rick Denis, Chairman John Pereira and Commissioner Gary Hesselink.

Friends of Scouting... A large Silver Eagle Statue awarded to Cascade Pacific Council for highest percentage of family participation in fundraising in 2015. FOS committee: Anthony Pereira, Chairman and members: John Pereira, Nick Kirby, Jeff McCaw, Gary Hesselink, and Rick Denis

Special thanks for years of service: Carolyn Kirby, Outgoing District Advancement Chairman; Ray and Elsa Weiss for being Roundtable Commissioners; and Dave Griffith for hosting the first Eagle Alumni / Silver Beaver reception.

Steven Sliwa, PhD has been awarded the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award upon nomination by the Cascade Pacific Council, Hood River and the Boy Scouts of America. This award is granted to Eagle Scouts who, after 25 years, have distinguished themselves in their life work and who have shared their talents with their communities on a voluntary basis.

Sliwa has been a member of the Boy Scouts of America, since Feb. 4, 1969; and achieved Eagle Scout. He has continued to serve God, his country, and other people by following the principles of the Scout Oath and Scout Law. Through his career as founder and CEO of Insitu, he has met all standards of aforementioned principals and continues to volunteer to his community. (Details in the June 6 edition.)

'GORGE' BOOK RELEASED

Linda and John Hardham of Cook, Wash., meet writer Janet Cook, seated at left, and photographer Peter Marbach at Wednesday's book release event and photo presentation at Columbia Center for the Arts, attended by about 40 people. The "Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area" book is now on sale at Waucoma Bookstore and Hood River News. Cook, who is The Gorge magazine editor and long-time Hood River News staff writer and contributor, and Marbach, renowned Gorge photographer, have co-produced four other books, but this is the first book published by Columbia Gorge Press with its enhanced full-color printing capabilities.



Photo by Kirby Neumann-Rea

GLOBAL

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Abdelhosen of Egypt, who grew up on the fertile Nile River delta. "I feel embarrassed a little for my heritage," as Randolph suggested planting a cucumber start deeper in the ground.

In visiting FISH food bank's new facility and its supporting garden, the group learned about new and ongoing efforts to connect people to the source of food, if not the soil itself.

All food grown in the garden will be given away at the food bank, and the garden will be a resource to teach people how to grow food.

"It's 100 percent for the food bank, and we can help show people healthy food choices," said FISH volunteer Debby Chenoweth in giving the group a tour.

The visitors saw the coolers where FISH now has the means to store locally-grown pears and apples - year-round fruits and vegetables being integral to FISH and its partner Gorge Grown Food Networks' efforts to encourage diabetes prevention. They toured the new warehouse and food distribution center, along with the educational kitchen that is in final stages of construction and will be used soon for classes for a variety of community



Photo by Kirby Neumann-Rea

FISH VOLUNTEER Debby Chenoweth gives a tour of the FISH kitchen facility, still under construction.

groups.

Chenoweth told the group that the kitchen will be available at no charge "to anyone who is associated with dealing with hunger," and will be used by other groups as well.

"The kitchen is set up so we can teach about eating nutritionally," she said. FISH in Hood River County serves 400 families each month.

Todd Dierker, Gorge Grown's food access manager, told the visitors his organization has just unveiled a "Vegetable Prescription" program that he said provides produce vouchers "for people who are struggling with food security and health." Health care providers, agency nutritionists or the Food Bank will identify families "that can really use some more produce,

and give them a coupon book," for farmers markets in the summer and at participating grocery stores other times of year. Gorge Grown serves five mid-Columbia counties with a total population of 75,000.

"This way they can get produce year-round and come to a facility like this and not only receive produce but have the cooking facilities to learn what to do with kale," Dierker said, "or if they need pots and pans, we can help with that, and get at the root of what is the reason they are not eating more fruits and vegetables."

FISH

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churches, and now we have a really strong volunteer group, and we are working to bring in volunteers from organizations and partnering with schools," Randolph said. Hood River Middle School students grew starts of beans, squash and other vegetables in the school greenhouse, and students from the alternative school Klahre House, located nearby at The Next Door Inc., have created a "salsa garden," with all the onions, peppers, tomatoes and other ingredients needed for the popular condiment; come

harvest time, Gorge Grown will teach hands-on workshops on how to create salsa from these fresh ingredients.

"It's like the link in the puzzle where we're working to connect people more directly to their food sources, and part of that means growing food on site, so they can literally walk out of the food bank into the garden, see where the vegetables are being grown, and help in the garden if they want to," Randolph said. "In this way we encourage the clients to get involved in the garden and learn about how they can maybe give back."

Randolph was hired half-time to manage volunteers at the FISH garden, whose mission is "to grow healthy, organic produce for the FISH

Food Bank this season and connect needy members of our community more directly with their food sources."

"The way I've been functioning is I have a board of advisors and I call them together, and ask things such as 'what should we do in this area?' or 'I have these seeds, where best to use them?' And they give me advice and I try to go out and spread it out to the volunteers and make it happen. I'm pretty reliant on other people who have good advice," Randolph said.

"I spend the rest of my time living and working on Rahane Farm, which is an off-the-grid community of naturalists and agriculturalists cooperatively caring for a tract of land near Kingsley Reservoir."

Camp for free on June 6

State parks throughout Oregon invite the public to camp and play for free the weekend of June 6-7 in celebration of State Parks Day and Free Fishing Week.

Camping is free the night of June 6 in traditional sites - full hookup (sewer, electricity and water), electrical hookup (electricity and water), and tent sites. Yurts, cabins and tepees are available at regular price. Parking will also be free June 6-7 at the 26 parks that charge a day-use parking fee.

Campsite reservations may be made by calling 800-452-5687 before 5 p.m. June 5. Or,

reserve online at www.oregonstateparks.org. Of the 52 state park campgrounds, 40 take reservations. Visitors will also be able to fish, crab and clam without a license June 6-7 for Oregon's Free Fishing Weekend, hosted by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). ODFW will provide the gear, bait and instructions at some state parks, including Champoeg, Detroit Lake, Jessie Honeyman and parks in the Columbia River Gorge. All events are listed at dfw.state.or.us/education/angling/free_fishing.

Recycle Tips

BATTERIES

-Recycle any/all batteries at our free hazardous waste events.
-Hazardous ingredients may include: mercury, lithium, nickel or cadmium.
- Alkaline batteries are recycled into rebar in Seattle area.
-Go to our website for schedule of hazardous waste events.

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