



Submitted photo

**KELSE HEGGE**, left, and **McKenzie Hegge** are ready to show off their chickens and coop during the Tour de Coop event, taking place June 6.

## 'Tour de Coop' coming June 6

Tour de Coop — a tour of Hood River chicken coops, most on the Westside — takes place this Saturday, June 6. Coops will be open from 11-2 p.m. (except for that at Ted James' place, which will be open until 3 p.m.). The tour is a fundraiser for Valley Critters 4H Club and is the seventh

such event.

Coops can be toured in any order. Maps are \$3 and available at Little Bit Ranch Supply, Gorge Grown Food Network, and the OSU Extension office.

The highlight is the unusual coops, from small to large, but also features goats, rabbits, pigs, geese and kids.



Photo by Kirby Neumann-Rea

## FIRST FRIDAY RIBBON CUTTING

Friday's ribbon cutting at the new city restroom and bicycle hub at Third and State celebrates the conclusion of the downtown State Street Urban Renewal Project. The event starts at 4:30 p.m. and entails a ribbon cutting followed by a barbecue hosted by the city and contractors. The community is invited. Past and current Urban Renewal Agency officials will be on hand, and a plaque will be unveiled.

## EVENTS

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lege and a new robot challenge called the "Andrew's Pizza Challenge" will also be featured. In the pizza challenge, student-built robots are guided in the process of placing "pizza" ingredients on a wooden "dough" disk, with points for speed and the most ingredients. Condiments include rings, squares, and mini-baskets filled with objects.

First Friday also means the opening of "Best of the Gorge" art show at Columbia Center for the Arts, Third and Cascade streets. In addition to the artists' reception at 6 p.m., musician Kay Floria will perform.

See pages A3 and A12 for details on this and many other First Friday events.

A new attraction for First Friday will be the start of the Emporium pop-up gallery at Butler Bank Building, 301 Oak St. Emporium will happen at Butler Bank each First Friday through summer, for 21 and over. Numerous local artisans will display and sell their creations, and there will be live music and beverages for sale, from 5-8 p.m.

### Also on June 5-7:

Tour de Coop returns Saturday — see page A9.

Hood River Saturday Market starts its 25th year, at a new location, the Oak Street Pub (formerly Horse and Hound), 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. — see page A6.

Emporium will be open for all ages from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday.

The Moth Lounge (formerly Pint Shack) hosts a grand opening June 5, with a dunk tank, DJ Elive and more.

June 7: a unique opportunity to learn from one of the Gorge's astronomy experts, Paul Kuiper of Mosier. His class, "Our Solar System and Our Galaxy," happens at 7 p.m. Sunday at Coe Building, with later classes in the series moving to Goldendale observatory. Cost is \$50 per person and \$60 per family. For details call Community Education at 541-386-2055 or go to hrcommunityed.org (page 5 in the printed catalog).

For the second year in a row, Hood River Valley High School students are bringing an Engineering Fair to the June First Friday. Student organizer Victoria Kohner-Flanahan said,

"The Fair an opportunity to let kids engage with STEM Programs in the Gorge." STEM stands for science, technology, engineering and math. "There's so much going on here that the community still doesn't know about, or they're wondering how to get their kids involved," said Flanahan, a junior. "The Fair will share information and get everyone engaged."

The Engineering Fair will take place as part of First Friday in a closed block of Oak Street between First and Second Streets from 5 to 7 p.m. Students will demonstrate projects from the robotics, engineering and electric car classes at the high school. Hexicopters and even a robotic submarine will be on display.

First Technology Challenge robotics teams from

around the region have been invited to a scrimmage and spectators are welcome to show their skills driving a robot for a chance to win prizes donated by downtown businesses.

Flanahan and the rest of the HRVHS students credit the City of Hood River, Hood River Hotel, Northwest Graphic Works and downtown businesses for contributing to the event and the Gorge Tech Alliance for helping promote the event. "The science, technology, engineering and math programs in our schools are providing amazing opportunities for students like me," Flanahan said. "We feel so grateful to be growing up here and wanted to give back." For more information, contact the Gorge Tech Alliance at 541-296-2266.

The fair is a way to help

give the Engineering program momentum toward the 2015-16 school year.

"Especially for kids planning on advancing to awards in the First Technology Challenge, outreach opportunities like this are really important," said Flanahan.

"It's good practice, and you get to take the elements you learned and incorporate it to your robot next year," she said.

"Our main goal is to inspire kids to continue with STEM throughout high school by showing them how much fun it can be."

Flanahan noted that while seniors might not be able to attend the fair, due to graduation, their presence will be felt.

"Our seniors have been working with underclassmen and their projects will be shown," she said.

## CENTER

Continued from Page A1

job for a few months, and figured out exactly where we stand financially and paid all our debts," Thomsen said. "She has been working really hard since January."

This executive directorship is similar to her previous experience, VanOrman said, although the two programs — Head Start and the Adult Center — are different.

"In terms of administration, it's similar, but in terms of programs, it's quite different," she said. "With the Mid-Columbia Children's Council, I ex-

panded it from three counties to five counties and we had almost 100 employees — here, we have two and a half."

An added bonus, said Thomsen, is VanOrman's experience with "feeding children, working with the FDA, and with state and federal money." The center's Meals on Wheels program follows USDA guidelines, of which she's familiar with.

Her work the past six months has been "going through things and seeing what we have and what we don't have," VanOrman said. Thomsen said that VanOrman has had to rewrite many of the center's policies and procedures, including personnel, financial management, and

investment policies.

It's all in an effort to capitalize on the center's full potential.

"The center has a lot of potential to be much bigger than we are and offer more programs, to expand our existing programs," said Thomsen. "We really do want to expand Meals on Wheels and the people who come to the center for lunches... We do have plans to expand — there are other services we think we can provide."

But more than that, it's an effort to make sure all volunteers and patrons are comfortable with the changeover in administration.

"Everybody is clicking along pretty well and we're always looking for ways to

improve or do it better," said Thomsen. "We're seeing the light at the end of the tunnel, but we have a lot of work to do ..."

"Suzanne is going to be an excellent executive director. She's organized, and she's had years of experience writing policies and procedures, in finance, in working with USDA programs. We're in good hands."

The board is currently looking for new members to join Thomsen, secretary Debra Laraway, and treasurer Paul Zastrow. Three new board members have recently joined — Beth Peters, Mooreen Morris and Felipe Castaneda — but more are always needed.



Photo by Kirby Neumann-Rea

## NICHOLS PROJECT UNDERWAY

Crews are doing trenching and other groundwork at the future site of the Naito hotel and commercial building project at Nichols Boat Basin on the Hood River waterfront. In the background is the Valero service station at the base of Second Street.

## Hood River Weather Forecast

Date	Forecast	Daytime / Overnight High / Low (°F)
Today June 3	Sunny	68° / 54°
Thurs. June 4	Sunny	77° / 56°
Fri. June 5	Mostly Sunny	89° / 60°
Sat. June 6	Partly Cloudy	94° / 65°
Sun. June 7	Partly Cloudy	96° / 66°
Mon. June 8	Partly Cloudy	90° / 64°
Tues. June 9	Mostly Cloudy	84° / 59°

## Oregon Weather Map



### This week's Forecast

Mostly sunny and warm, with a high of 96 degrees and an overnight low of 54. Chance of precipitation is slight.

Humidity 70%  
Wind Speed NW 15 mph  
Barometer 30.02 inches  
Dewpoint 46°F  
Visibility 10 miles  
Last update June 2, 7:38 am PDT

### Actual High / Low

AGRIMET HOOD RIVER OR  
Lat: 45.6842 Long: -121.5181 Elev: 510  
<http://uspest.org>

May 25 - 69/54  
May 26 - 69/48  
May 27 - 79/48  
May 28 - 88/52  
May 29 - 85/57  
May 30 - 80/58  
May 31 - 83/57

Updated Tuesday, June 2  
at 7:41 a.m. PST  
Data from [www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com)



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