

# Lacrosse takes the Cup

# Finale for '15

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# Hood River News

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Photo by Ben Mitchell

**HRV BASEBALL COACH** Erich Harjo lifts the OSAA 5A State Championship trophy high as he and the Eagles ride atop a fire truck in a victory parade Saturday evening through downtown Hood River. Earlier that day, No. 7 HRV defeated No. 1 Liberty, 2-0, in the title game in Keizer. The game concluded HRV's phenomenal playoff run, in which the team shut out every one of its opponents. For coverage of the game, turn to Sports on page A9.



Photo by Kirby Neumann-Rea

**AT THIRD AND STATE**, Mayor Paul Blackburn shakes hands with Stoner Bell of Bell Construction, after cutting the ribbon on the Urban Renewal Project. At right center is Hood River resident Eric Kerr of Crestline Construction, and Hood River City Manager Steve Wheeler. Below: a 2013 photo of a century-old stairwell that had been located at center in photo above.

## The 'Reset' on State Street

### City celebrates Urban Renewal completion

By **KIRBY NEUMANN-REA**  
News editor

The new street trees added needed shade as the City of Hood River formally dedicated the 18-month State Street Urban Renewal Project on the warm evening of June 5.

Crestline Construction and Bell Design Company, lead contractors on the \$5.4 million project, provided free barbecue as well as the plaque that is in place at Second and State streets on the wall of the new elevated sidewalk between Second and First streets.

The ribbon cutting by the Chamber of Commerce was just one part of a busy First Friday in downtown Hood River.

"We are here to celebrate the fact that millions of dollars of work

have been accomplished here in the core of our city," Mayor Paul Blackburn said to the crowd of about 50 people assembled at the restroom/bike plaza at Third and State streets.

"From the computers all the way to the asphalt they made it happen, they did the 'think three times, measure twice, and cut once,'" Blackburn said. The redevelopment brought new streets and wider sidewalks, benches and amenities, and undergrounded utilities on State from Sixth to Front and on Front Street and Oak Street from Front to First streets.

"I'd like to give a huge shout out to State Street businesses," Blackburn said. "That wasn't fun for us when we had a couple of winters of dirt roads. It felt like we were back in the old west. When you're digging up the main street of town it takes a while, you have to fill it back in, and it was tough and we



made it through and look at what we have."

Blackburn recognized "the army of orange shirts," present on Friday, the employees of Peterson Brothers Concrete, and Schuep-

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## Preschool options expand in Odell and Pine Grove

By **TRISHA WALKER**  
News staff writer

Whether it's a new school in an old location or an old program with a new teacher, preschool options have expanded in the middle valley.

Longtime Mid Valley Bilingual Preschool teacher Socci Galvez will open Blossoms Bilingual Preschool in the Pine Grove Elementary building — home to Hood River County School District's Early Intervention program — with classes beginning this summer. Jovita Robledo of Little Learners Preschool, located at Hood River Valley High, will become the new director and teacher at Mid Valley Bilingual this fall.

Robledo was a part time teacher at Mid Valley Bilingual during the 2013-2014 school year, moving to Little Learners as a full time teacher for 2014-2015. She plans to keep the school's extended hours, but is waiting on enrollment numbers and parent suggestions before setting the schedule. The school's general structure will not change, and there will be no lag in instruction, with the first day of school coinciding with the Hood River County School District start date of Sept. 8.

The school will be fully bilin-

gual, with all instruction, stories, etc., spoken in both English and Spanish.

"Kids who don't know English will learn English, and vice versa," she said. "Fully bilingual is a challenge ... because you continuously go back and forth, but I like a good challenge."

The curriculum will be similar to that at Little Learners and focus on social and academic learning.

Robledo will host an open house in late August; details will be announced closer to the date.

Mid Valley Bilingual Preschool follows the Hood River County School District schedule. For more information or to enroll, contact Klein at 541-387-5723 or angela.klein@hoodriver.k12.or.us.

"I'm going to miss Angela and

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Socci Galvez



Jovita Robledo

### Four To Go

#### GO! Green Drinks June 10

Gorge Owned (GO!) Green Drinks happens June 10 from 5:30-7 p.m. at Trellis Fresh Flowers and Gifts, 165 E Jewett Blvd., White Salmon, and will be co-hosted by Neff Designs. Browse Trellis' inventory of home furnishing and gifts, and learn tips for summer home and garden decorating. Beer from Everybody's, wine from Major Creek Cellars, and food from Pioneer Pizza. Green Drinks is a monthly networking event that aims to raise awareness of environmentally-friendly business practices while providing a quality networking opportunity for members of the community. Cost is a \$5 suggested donation and free to GO! members.



#### Community Action offers energy assistance

The Mid-Columbia Community Action has received additional funding for LI-HEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program). Even though these funds have come very late in the heating assistance season, the agency would like to help more households with energy assistance. Funds are available for all three of service area counties, Hood River, Sherman and Wasco. People who have not received assistance yet this year are invited to call The Dalles office at 541-298-5131 or Hood River at 541-386-4027 to schedule an appointment.

#### Parkhurst Place plans honorary bench

Parkhurst Place on West May Avenue will unveil a combination bench and community library on June 25 with a free breakfast for the community. The Gene Lease and Ken Jernstedt families are sponsoring the bench. If you would like a veteran's name inscribed on the bench, call Terri Hansen at Parkhurst, 541-387-4660.

#### Gorge magazine ready for reading

The resurgence of paragliding, the growth of Gorge distilling, and the 'high tech boom' of the region are just three of the features found in the Summer 2015 edition of The Gorge magazine, available at Hood River News and at local businesses. Last week, the Summer edition of the debut publication Savor The Gorge also hit the newsstands.

