

HR Watershed Group plans meetings to look at conserving water

Hood River Watershed Group will hold its next meeting June 23 at 6 p.m. at the OSU Extension Meeting Room, 2990 Experiment Station Drive.

In light of the low snow pack, Jordan Kim of the Hood River Soil and Water Conservation District will share the best methods for residential outdoor water conservation. John Buckley of East Fork Irrigation District and Leonard Aubert of Mt. Hood Irrigation District will present a demonstration on good and bad irrigation equipment (hint: throw out those butterfly sprinklers!).

On July 7, from 1-4 p.m., OSU Extension and Hood River Watershed Group will host an orchard irrigation management workshop and tour hosted by Adam McCarthy of Evans Creek Orchard in Parkdale. Highlights include look-

ing at the farm's centralized filtration system, hanging micro-sprinklers on trellised trees, and an established pear orchard that's been successfully irrigated using drip for many years. Participants will also discuss using an online irrigation scheduler developed by Washington State University, soil moisture monitoring and the potential for automated systems.

Representatives from Nelson Irrigation, Bryant Pipe & Supply, Wilson Orchard & Vineyard Supply, Irrinet, and Measure Tek will share information on the latest equipment and services. RSVP to Steve Castagnoli at steve.castagnoli@oregonstate.edu.

For more information, contact Cindy Thieman at 541-386-6063 or cindy@hoodriverswcd.org.



Photo by Kirby Neumann-Rea

PARKDALE FARMER Ronny Tannenbaum seems to be providing a greeting and gesture of blessing as he talks with clients about radishes he grew at his Nature's Finest farm, and sells at Gorge Grown Farmers Market.

'Veggie Prescriptions' now at Gorge Grown Farmers' Markets

Gorge Grown and its community partners will launch the Veggie Prescription (or Veggie Rx) program in summer 2015.

The Veggie Rx program will work to address food insecurity in the region by providing vouchers to low-income community members that can be redeemed at local farmers' markets and select grocery stores for fresh fruits and vegetables. Under

the program, healthcare and social service providers will identify patients who suffer from food insecurity through a questionnaire.

The providers will then write a prescription that patients will fill at farmers' markets and grocery stores throughout the Gorge for fresh foods.

Gorge Grown Food Network is the recipient of a \$20,000 grant from the

Jerome S. and Barbara Bischoff Discretionary Subfund of The Oregon Community Foundation to fund a new Veggie Prescription pilot program in the Columbia River Gorge.

Several local healthcare providers are providing matching funds specifically for the fresh produce (vouchers), including Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital, Mid-Columbia Medical

Center, Skyline Hospital and the Columbia Gorge Health Council. The Tofurky Company is also providing funding support. That's over \$30,000 for direct purchase of local fruits and vegetables by voucher recipients. Gorge Grown will partner with Oregon State University to provide nutrition and cooking classes to participants of the program.



Submitted photo

OREGON Community Foundation's Roberto Franco (middle) presents a check for \$15,000 to Gabriel Muro and Jody O'Connor from The Next Door's Promoting Prosperity/Promoviendo Prosperidad program.

Next Door receives grant to help expand its circles

The Oregon Community Foundation awarded a grant of \$15,000 to The Next Door for the Promoting Prosperity Program. This project enrolls participants in Lending Circles to improve their credit ratings and access to loans.

In addition, classes will help Latino small-business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs improve their business skills. Three separate funds supported the grant: the Arthur H. Klug Fund, the Jack and Kate Mills Fund and the Redtail Fund.

"This project not only helps individuals and fami-

lies; the businesses that are created have the potential to provide real economic development in our area by creating jobs," said Executive Director Janet Hamada.

The Next Door is a Columbia Gorge nonprofit whose mission is opening doors to new possibilities by strengthening children and families and improving communities.

Staff members in over two dozen programs work with thousands of people who are struggling to grow up strong, to stay out of trouble, and improve parenting and family skills.



LIONS SCHOLARS

Hood River Lions presented \$15,000 in scholarships to 20 recipients this year. They gathered recently at China Gorge restaurant. Awardees shown are Michaela Bisbee, Alyssa Weseman, Brandon Campos, Nancy Funez, Willie Ishizaka, Hannah Simons, Mason Romero, Lulu Rodriguez, Kayla McCafferty, Cristina Garcia, Malia Schneider and Caitlyn Fick. Not shown are Amy White, Monique Lara, Ilette Sanchez Mexicano, Diana Pinon, Kameron Walker, Joe Bell, Ruby Tostado and Steven Swafford. Submitted photo

Bi-Coastal Media gears up 'Wheels of Hope' campaign

The radio stations of Bi-coastal Media, Mid-Columbia Medical Center, and Griffith Motors are teaming up to help a Columbia Gorge family in need. Wheels Of Hope will provide a deserving family lacking transportation options a vehicle to help them meet their daily needs, along with other appropriate gifts to offer a hand up.

Nominations of worthy families and cash donations can be made at special Wheels Of Hope vehicle stops throughout the summer, starting at Griffith Motors in The Dalles on Saturday, June 27 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Those attending the vehicle stops and making a donation will have the opportunity to autograph the vehicle. Nomination forms and other information will also be available online at Gorgerradio.com, kihramfm.com, 935kaci.com, [\[diokaci.com\]\(http://diokaci.com\), \[km-swricks.com\]\(http://km-swricks.com\), and \[kcg-bfm.com\]\(http://kcg-bfm.com\). A panel of judges made up of representatives from Bicoastal Media, Mid-Columbia Medical Center, Griffith Motors, and representatives of agencies involved in helping families will select the family to re-](http://newsra-</p>
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ceive the vehicle, which will be awarded on Saturday, Sept. 12. Along with Bi-coastal Media, Mid-Columbia Medical Center, and Griffith Motors, Wheels Of Hope is also supported by Infinite Graphix, Maupin's Stoves and Spas, Fix Auto, The Dalles Fruit Company, An-

drew's Pizza, A Kidz Dental Zone, McCoy Holliston Insurance in Stevenson, Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital, Crestline Construction, Grocery Outlet, Cascade Eye Center, Ideal Homes, Emtech, NAPA Auto Parts in The Dalles, and Cascade Square Merchants.



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Sam Lee graduates from Brown

Sam Lee, a 2011 Hood River Valley High School alumnus, graduated from Brown University with a bachelor of science in Civil Engineering on May 24, 2015.

Lee has accepted an engineering job at GZA Geo Environmental Inc. in Providence, R.I.