



Photo by Kirby Neumann-Rea



Photo by Patrick Mulvihill

STREET WORK

Summer time usually means street maintenance work of all varieties. Above, an Oregon Department of Transportation crew member applies a fresh coat of black pavement Monday to the innermost lanes of 12th Street on the Heights, between the stoplights at Pacific Avenue and Brookside Drive. Traffic was diverted to single lanes, north and southbound. Crews arrived at 6 a.m. and worked through to the afternoon. The overlay project healed the old asphalt that had been showing signs of stress. At left, City of Hood River public works crew members Vic Snyder, left, and Dave Ouzounian paint new stop lines at Eighth and Montello streets on the Heights, part of an ongoing safety project in residential and commercial areas in that part of town.

ON THE AGENDA

These are the regular meeting times of governing bodies for these agencies:

Cascade Locks

Cascade Locks City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 140 W. WaNaPa St., second and fourth Mondays of the month.

Cascade Locks Planning Commission, 7 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 140 W. WaNaPa St., second Thursday of the month.

Cascade Locks Port Com-

mission, 6 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 140 W. WaNaPa St., first and third Thursdays of the month.

Hood River

City of Hood River Planning Commission meeting, 5:30 p.m., Hood River City Hall Council Chambers, 211 Second St., generally the first and third Mondays of the month. Place and dates subject to change.

Hood River Port Commission, 5 p.m., 100 E. Port Marina Drive, board room, first

and third Tuesdays of the month.

Hood River City Council, 6 p.m., Hood River City Hall Council Chambers, 211 Second St., second and fourth Mondays of the month.

Hood River Valley Parks and Recreation District, 6 p.m., Aquatic Center, 1601 May St., third Wednesday of the month. Place subject to change.

Hood River County

Hood River Soil and Water

Conservation District Board of Directors meeting, 4 p.m., OSU Extension Service Building, 2990 Experiment Station Road, first Thursday of the month.

Hood River County Board of Commissioners regular session, 6 p.m., 601 State St., first floor conference room, third Monday of the month. Time subject to change.

Library District Board meeting, 7 p.m., 502 State St., conference room, third Tuesday of the month.

Hood River County Plan-

ning Commission meeting, 7 p.m., 601 State St., first floor, generally second and fourth Wednesdays of the month.

Hood River County Water Planning Group, 2 p.m., 601 State St., first floor conference room, generally first Wednesday of the month.

Hood River County Commission on Children and Families Board meeting, 5:15 p.m., Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital boardroom, generally first Tuesday of the month.

Hood River County School Board, 6:30 p.m., meets at schools and district facilities on a rotating schedule (visit hoodriver.k12.or.us for location), second and fourth Wednesdays of the month unless school vacations or other holidays interrupt the schedule.

Hood River County Transportation District, 9 a.m., Hood River County Transportation District Board Room, 224 Wasco Loop, second Wednesday of the month.

ROUND TABLE

Summer morning surprise: A tale of two tails

BY TRISHA WALKER

News staff writer

It was Tuesday evening. Or maybe it's Wednesday now, because it's 1:45 a.m. It's hot. Well, of course it's hot. We've got the windows open in our bedroom, and I'm awake because something as of yet unidentified has woken me up.

I can hear a bit of traffic noise and the gentle squeak of the sprinklers watering the flower garden, and I'm just about to drift off again when I hear a louder squeak that appears to be coming from inside the house.

But it quickly goes away. My ears can only detect the sprinklers and the rustling noise Skilly, our cat, makes as he comes to my pillow for a pat on the head. In a flash, he's jumping over my body and I hear that loud squeak again. I'm tired and still kind of in denial, so it takes a minute to realize what is actually going on.

Which is: Skilly has brought a live mouse to bed.

When it clicks, I am required to yell a bit as my feet hit the floor, because MOUSE IN THE BED. This wakes up my husband, which is kind of the point.

Eric gets up and turns on the light, and there, snuggled in the folds of our quilt, is a rather adorable brown mouse. Except it's vermin and it's in my bed, so my



Photo by Trisha Walker

SKILLY ENJOYING a quiet moment at home.

sympathy is limited.

Now that the two of us are up, Skilly has completely lost interest. We point and encourage, but he will not even look at the mouse. Eric resorts to getting the dustpan and broom to scoop the thing up, and I help by opening the screen door and shouting some more while flailing around a bit.

Those are really the only skills I am able to bring to a situation such as this.

Excitement over, we crawl back into bed and turn off the lights, jumping every single time Skilly decides to attack a non-existent mouse in the folds of the new quilt covering us. He's completely clueless about the disappear-

ance of his mouse, and, given that it is now 2 a.m., his confusion is not as cute as it would be at, say, 8:30.

This isn't the first time that Skilly has brought a mouse to bed. That incident occurred in June, and the mouse was dead — no squeaks to wake us up, just Skilly's repeated dropping of the thing on our sleeping forms until we finally got the point.

The scars still linger from this second occurrence; it's hard not to think the worst when Skilly leaps up on the bed. My hopes are not high that we will not repeat this game in the near future. Mice — and Skilly's joy in finding and playing with them — are

just opportunity cost of living where we do.

It's a good thing he's cute ...

Trisha Walker hates mice and isn't all that fond of spiders, either; but is kind of enchanted with the skunk family that comes around to live under her daughters' playhouse for a week or two each summer. Because skunks eat mice; she has no idea what their view on spiders might be.

Ideas for fun in the upper Hood River valley

Five upper valley churches will hold Vacation Bible School titled "Outrigger Island" the week of Aug. 3-7 starting at 5:30 p.m. at Parkdale Community Church.

Children ages pre-K through fifth grade are invited to learn about Jesus through songs, Bible stories and crafts and families are welcome to gather at the church at 5 p.m. and enjoy a light meal beforehand.

For more information contact Pastor Mark at Parkdale Community Church at 541-352-7747 or 541-490-4511.

Every Thursday night this summer is "Family Library Night" at the Parkdale Elementary School Library from 5-7 p.m. Students can check out books, enjoy activities and free books, and a Popsicle, but must be accompanied by an adult.

Sunday, Aug. 30, is the date of this year's annual Joint Churches Sunday at Toll Bridge Park presented by Parkdale Community Church, Parkdale Church of the Nazarene, Parkdale Baptist Church, Valley Worship Center and Pillar Bible Church.

The combined service will be held at 11 a.m. and a friendly neighbor potluck lunch will follow.



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CALLING ALL SOFTBALL PLAYERS

12U ASA Tryouts for the *NEW* Gorge Softball team will be held August 1st at 6pm on the softball field on Nix Drive in Hood River.

To Register or for information Contact Tonya at (541)705-7217 or gorgeshadows@gmail.com

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