

## Hood River begins to reimagine marina

By Emily Harris and Leanne Hogie  
Courtesy of UpLift Local

The Port of Hood River is taking early steps to redevelop a section of land on the south side of the Marina Boat Basin. It's an effort to find new sources of funding, plus bring in amenities that would attract more people to the waterfront.

And there is some urgency to the task. Starting July 1, tolls collected from the Hood River-White Salmon bridge, which the Port owns, will stop going to support Port operations. Instead, they will be redirected to the project to replace that bridge.

"As a result, the Port must increasingly rely on revenue generated from its real estate and waterfront properties to sustain public amenities, recreational facilities and long-term stewardship of the waterfront," a request for developer interest the Port put out in February explained.

This call for conceptual ideas doesn't commit the Hood River Port to any development.



CMLK Development courtesy illustration | Skamania County Pioneer

**A conceptual rendering illustrating the character of possible development along the Hood River Marina.**

The property the port wants to re-develop is on the south side of the Marina Boat Basin, just west of the bridge. Right now, Oregon's Department of Motor Vehicles rents one of the two buildings on the property, and Columbia River Acupuncture has space in the other. Leases for both

organizations run out at the end of this year.

Just one group submitted ideas to remake the area by the April 23 deadline. CMLK, a Hood River firm headed by Claudia Munk-von Flotow, joined with GBD Architects to offer three concepts: a hotel, a public market

with event spaces and a combination – a smaller hotel with a food court and public amenities to encourage waterfront use, such as sauna and gear storage facilities. All three approaches would widen the area between buildings and the water, creating a pedestrian

promenade connected to the waterfront trail.

CMLK prefers the hybrid option, although the company projects that concept would bring the Port some \$25,000 a year less than the hotel alone might. The company's submission to Port officials called the

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## News Briefs

### Upcoming road work may cause some traffic delays

Skamania County Road Department will soon be working to reseal Cascade Street. During the week of July 6-10. Crews will be working on installing chip seal starting at the Russell/Cascade intersection, heading east towards the boat launch. The bulk of this work is expected to take place on July 8 or 9. The county's work will focus on completing only the driving lanes, and working on one lane at a time, to minimize impacts and disturbances.

During this time, drivers can expect temporary road closures, flagging operations, and loose gravel. The loose gravel is expected to remain in the construction zone for a period after construction is over. Crews will be actively sweeping the road for several days to weeks after the project to ensure any loose rock is removed. Once that is complete, the County will return to apply a seal coat on the new chipseal.

Please use caution when traveling through the project area. Loose gravel may be present until sweeping operations are complete. Reduced speeds can help minimize flying rocks and improve safety for all.

Access may be limited at times in work zones, so please plan ahead and allow for extra time. Please avoid parking on the roadway during the construction operations.

County work crews appreciate motorists' patience as they work to improve the local streets. Please drive with caution and follow all posted signage for your safety, and the safety of the crews.

For questions or concerns, reach out to Cody Rosander at 509-427-5970.

Source: Stevenson Public Works Department

### Online tools available to be prepared for fire season

Fire season is upon here once again and Skamania County Department of Emergency Management wants residents to be prepared.

There are a number of helpful resources. Residents can sign up online to receive emergency alerts at [tinyurl.com/Skamania-emergency-alerts](https://tinyurl.com/Skamania-emergency-alerts), see a Skamania County evacuation route map online at [SkamaniaPrepares.com](https://SkamaniaPrepares.com) and ready-set-go evacuation tips for families, **Continued on p. 6**



Monica Masco courtesy photos | Skamania County Pioneer

## Brass and glass clean-up

The Joan Mason "Bronze Sun Glass Ball" Kinetic Sculpture by Seattle-based artist Andrew Carson installed in 2008 on the south side of the Hegewald Building was cleaned and repaired by Stevenson resident Jeff Paul on Tuesday, June 23. Paul volunteered his time for the cleaning and repairs. The sculpture was commissioned and donated by the Masco family in memory of Joan (Joanie) Mason, a long time Skamania County resident and advocate of the Skamania County Fair. A kinetic wind sculpture by the same artist can be found at Teo Park on the Port of Skamania County's property on Cascade Avenue.

## Wineries part of Food for All ninth annual fundraiser

AniChe Cellars and Washington Gorge Action Programs (WAGAP) invite the community to the ninth annual Food for All fundraiser, 4:30 p.m., on Friday, Aug. 14, at AniChe Cellars in Underwood. The evening will bring together food, wine, music and art in support of the WAGAP Food Bank Network, which serves thousands of individuals and families across Klickitat and Skamania counties each year.

Hosted by AniChe Cellars and sponsored by Riverview Bank, First Interstate Bank and local wineries including AniChe Cellars, Willow Wine Cellars, Loop de Loop and Inconnu Wine, the event highlights the generosity and collaboration that help strengthen the community.

Guests will enjoy a thoughtfully prepared dinner celebrating the immigrant and Indigenous roots of the Columbia Gorge, paired with local wines. The evening will also feature live music by Isabeau Waia'u Walker, a collaborative live art project by WAGAP's Education & Engagement Coordinator Chris Cazares, and an ancestor art installation by Gracen Bookmyer.

"We look forward to sharing a wonderful night of great food, music and giving back!" said Anaïs Mera, winemaker and Family owner of AniChe Cellars. "AniChe and my family's ethos is all about being part of something bigger than ourselves and giving back where and when we can. We have a deep

appreciation for how the WAGAP food bank supports our neighbors in need, and we want to help their team have the resources they need to continue their mission. Food for ALL!"

This year's musical guest is Oregon-based singer-songwriter Isabeau Waia'u Walker, whose music weaves together storytelling, culture and lived experience. Originally from Hawai'i and now based in the Pacific Northwest, Walker's powerful voice and heartfelt songs explore identity, belonging and connection. Her acclaimed albums and performances have earned recognition across the region, and her music provides a meaningful backdrop for an evening **Continued on p. 2**

## Long-term care ombudsmen: Independent advocates for residents and families

When a loved one lives in a nursing home, assisted living community and receives care assistance, or adult family home, family caregivers often become the bridge between the resident and the care system. Questions about care quality, communication, safety or residents' rights can feel overwhelming. One valuable – and often underused – resource is the Long-Term Care Ombudsman program.

### What is a long-term care ombudsman?

A long-term care ombudsman (or Ombuds) is an independent advocate for people living in long-term care settings. Ombuds help

protect residents' rights, address concerns and support families in resolving problems related to care and quality of life. The services of an Ombuds are free and confidential and the Ombuds will need to have consent to speak with other parties.

The program is authorized under the federal Older Americans Act and exists in every state. Ombuds typically work through regional agencies and may include trained staff and volunteers.

### What can an Ombuds help with?

Ombuds assist residents and families with concerns such as: Poor communi-

cation from facility staff; questions about residents' rights; problems with meals, hygiene or daily care; medication concerns; discharge or transfer issues; conflicts with staff or other residents; lack of activities or social engagement and concerns about neglect, abuse or dignity.

Their goal is usually to resolve issues collaboratively while centering the wishes and preferences of the resident.

### A resident-centered approach

One important aspect of the Ombuds program is that the resident's voice comes first. Ombuds advocate **Continued on p. 2**



### America250 celebration

Celebrate America 250 at the Stevenson Farmers Market 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, July 4, Public reading of the Declaration of Independence, festive and patriotic music, apple pie giveaways, all your favorite market vendors and more located at 140 SW Cascade Ave., in Stevenson.

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### This day in history

- 1863 The Battle of Gettysburg begins.
- 1867 Canada established as a self-governing state.
- 1916 Battle of the Somme begins.
- 1963 U.S. Post Office introduces zip codes
- 1984 PG-13 rating debuts leading into *Red Dawn's* release later that year.
- 1997 Hong Kong returned to China from Britain after peaceful agreements