

# Summer 2009 Waterfront Events & Activities

## JULY

- July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 **Hood River Yacht Club Summer Race Series**, Hood River Marina, [www.hoodriveryachtclub.org](http://www.hoodriveryachtclub.org)
- July 4 **Fireworks** sponsored by Hood River Eyeopeners Lions Club. **The Spit closed to public July 3-4 all day, reopening noon July 5**
- July 6-August 14 **Community Youth Sailing courses**, Marina floatplane dock, [www.hrcommunityed.org](http://www.hrcommunityed.org)
- July 11 **Gorge Cup Race Series**, Event Site, [www.vmgevents.com](http://www.vmgevents.com)
- July 18-19 **Gorge Blowout**, Stevenson to Hood River, [www.vmgevents.com](http://www.vmgevents.com)
- July 23-25 **Windsurfing National Championships & Techno 293 National Championships**, Event Site, [www.vmgevents.com](http://www.vmgevents.com)



## AUGUST

- August 1-2 **Gorge Cup Race Series**, Event Site, [www.vmgevents.com](http://www.vmgevents.com)
- August 5, 12, 19, 26 **Hood River Yacht Club Summer/Fall Race Series**, Hood River Marina, [www.hoodriveryachtclub.org](http://www.hoodriveryachtclub.org)
- August 8-9 **Kiteboarding for Cancer**, Event Site, [www.kb4c.org](http://www.kb4c.org)
- August 8 **King of The Hook**, The Hook, [www.cgwa.net](http://www.cgwa.net)
- August 8 **"Double Dammed" Sailboat Race** from Cascade Locks to The Dalles, [www.hoodriveryachtclub.org](http://www.hoodriveryachtclub.org)

## SEPTEMBER

- September 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 **Hood River Yacht Club Fall Race Series**, Hood River Marina, [www.hoodriveryachtclub.org](http://www.hoodriveryachtclub.org)
- September 11-13 **Hood River Fly-In**, Ken Jernstedt Airfield, [www.waaamuseum.org](http://www.waaamuseum.org)
- September 17-20 **AWSI Wind Industries Summit & Demo Event** (trade only event), [www.awsivindsports.org](http://www.awsivindsports.org)

## PORT OF HOOD RIVER

1000 E. Port Marina Drive  
Hood River, OR 97031



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Schneider Equipment will upgrade the wastewater treatment plant, the first priority. The company will construct a cover for the treatment plant's primary clarifier, and build a biofilter. Combined, these improvements should greatly reduce odors emanating from the plant, a prerequisite for further waterfront development. The project will commence in early July, with planned completion in September.

The Port and City will share the \$580,000 cost of the wastewater treatment plant improvements, to be repaid with tax increment financing. New property taxes created from investments on the waterfront will be diverted to pay off these loans.

**The Port of Hood River's new waterfront trail segments connect the Hook and the Event Site to Waterfront Park**

## PORT MEETINGS

Regular Port Commission meetings are held on the **1st and 3rd Tuesday** of each month in its **Boardroom at Marina Center Building** (1000 E. Port Marina Drive). The Port welcomes your questions, comments and suggestions.

## PORT DIRECTORY

### Commissioners

Fred Duckwall Jon Davies Kathy Watson  
Sherry Bohn Hoby Streich

**Executive Director** - Michael McElwee

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## Civic Purpose

by Michael McElwee,  
Port Executive Director



Michael McElwee

The Fourth of July provides an opportunity to reflect upon the principles upon which our country was founded and the American spirit. That spirit

shines in the civic contributions of individuals and groups that enrich our lives and our community. Two local contributions are especially notable on this Fourth of July 2009.

**Lions Club Fourth of July Fireworks** — As they have for many years, the Hood River Eyeopeners Lions Club will be putting on a fireworks display on the waterfront. This annual event provides a spectacular show for Hood River Valley residents and guests. The fireworks are launched from the end of the Spit. The Spit will be closed from Friday, July 3, until noon on July 5. During this time, it will be unavailable for public access to the Sandbar. For safety reasons, the Lions must provide a secure, 100-foot perimeter around the Spit and ensure that the Columbia River water level is high by dusk on July 4th. Kiteboarders may access the Sandbar from the Event Site, although it may not be used for launching or landing. Other locations in the Gorge should also be considered for Fourth of July weekend.

We should all recognize the tremendous amount of volunteer time and energy that the Lions contribute to the Fourth of July fireworks. As always, the paramount

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## Halyard Building design work moves forward



Schematic designs of the Halyard Building were developed by Richard Brown/Architect. View other renderings at [www.portofhoodriver.com](http://www.portofhoodriver.com)

Planning continues for the Halyard Building, a new light industrial building at waterfront industrial park. Richard Brown/Architect presented schematic designs to the Port Commission in June that incorporated interests from a spring public meeting.

Schematic designs are the second in a four-part sequence of design phases, following conceptual design. The schematic phase offers more detailed sketches, material specifications, and cost estimates. At this point, modifications may be made to the design to correlate cost estimates with the proposed limited budget. Once any modifications are made, the schematic design phase is complete. The next step would be design development that finalizes design details and cost estimates in preparation for financial project planning, and the final phase, construction documents. Construction documents can then be used for permitting, contractor selection, and finally, construction.

The 1.22 acre site of the Halyard Building lies at the corner of North 8th and Portway Avenue, a prominent

location across the street from the new Waterfront Park. The proposed new building is a 20,000 square foot "flex-use" for light industrial/office use, being designed by Richard Brown/Architect (RB/A) of Portland.

In RB/A's proposal, Brown identified challenges of this project, including relating the building to its riverfront site, its potential to set standards for future waterfront development, the potential of incorporating sustainable features given the limited budget, and ultimately the ability for the Port to lease the building at competitive rates.

According to Brown, the Halyard Building is designed to respond to these challenges. Wood-clad canopies, recessed entries, and storefront windows are designed to appeal to vehicular traffic and pedestrian views from the north. The east and west ends of the building feature storefront windows to the north and secondary tenant entries to the south.

A band of clerestory windows on north, east and west sides offer diffused lighting and views from the mezzanine level,

which may serve as office space. The building's south side offers shipping and receiving area and access.

As the first new building at the waterfront industrial park in 25 years, the Halyard Building has a unique opportunity to set standards for future development. One consideration is sustainability and the goal of meeting LEED silver certification. LEED is the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design green building rating system that provides standards for environmentally sustainable construction.

RB/A has designed many features of this core and shell building to demonstrate sustainable objectives that, among other things, include creation of a durable, efficient, insulated shell that incorporates strategies for natural ventilation in the form of louvers and rooftop turbine ventilators, skylights for daylighting, photovoltaic panels for energy production, and a cistern for rainwater harvesting to be used for irrigation. The complete Schematic Design Narrative is available at [www.portofhoodriver.com](http://www.portofhoodriver.com).

## Waterfront development continues with multiple projects



Port Executive Director Michael McElwee describes upcoming waterfront development projects at an April 29th public meeting

Two new trail segments joining recreation sites to Waterfront Park are the latest additions to the waterfront. Soon, a new industrial road and improvements to the City's wastewater treatment plant will also enhance the Port's waterfront development.

Crestline Construction constructed waterfront trail segments from the Hook and the Event Site to the City's new Waterfront Park. The trails incorporate native plantings, benches and bollard lights along asphalt paths. The project was made possible by a State of Oregon Parks grant, a contribution from Hood River Valley Parks and Recreation District, and the balance paid by the Port.

"These new trails will help tie our highly used recreation sites together for users and pedestrians, and should make a more cohesive recreation zone north of Portway Avenue," says Port Operations Manager Laurie Borton.

Other pending projects on the waterfront this summer include upgrades to the City's wastewater treatment plant and construction of Anchor Way, a new road in the industrial zone.

The Port of Hood River and the City's Urban Renewal Agency have entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement to finance prioritized capital improvement projects that should encourage private investment and economic development.

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OPERATIONS



Mellissa Halseth

New Office Specialist Mellissa Halseth began May 4 at the Port of Hood River. Halseth provides office administration, clerical and project support.

“Mellissa is someone who will keep the front office running smoothly so the rest of us can concentrate on tasks

at hand,” says Port Operations Manager Laurie Borton. “Customer service has grown so much with BreezeBy and she’s been a terrific help.”

Halseth, a resident of Hood River for 16 years, most recently worked at AmeriTitle. She is married to Ben Halseth, and has a nine-year-old daughter, Samantha.

Recession did not impact the Port of Hood River much in Fiscal Year 2008-09, reported Port Finance Manager Linda Shames during the Port’s Spring Planning Work Session. The Port was within two percent of its budgeted revenue. Building occupancy was 69 percent, slightly lower than the 72 percent for the same time last year. Parking receipts last year were also down slightly, but the Marina continues to be at 100 percent occupancy with a waiting list. The Port anticipates flat or slightly lower revenue in Fiscal Year 2009-10 due to the economy.

TRANSPORTATION

Hanel Development Co. won the contract for construction of the grass runway planned at the Ken Jernstedt Airfield. The grass landing strip, preferred over asphalt runways by “tail-dragger” airplane pilots, will be approximately 1,500 feet long and 100 feet wide. Port maintenance staff will install an irrigation system, and another firm will be hired for hydroseeding. “Our hope is to complete construction by August 14 in order to seed grass for runway use by the Fly-In September 11-13,” explains Port Marketing Manager Mike Doke. “Whether planes can land on the new runway later this year will depend on how the grass takes.”

RECREATION

A new food concessionaire is operating the Sandbar Café, now open on the lower cruise ship dock near the Event Site. Christa Scheer is the owner of Sandbar Café, and has signed a three-year contract with the Port to operate June through September.

Menu items include burgers and dogs but also pesto tortellini. “So far it’s been really well-received,” commented employee Jackie Lage.



Sandbar Café employees Jackie Lage and Moe Ruiz.

Hood River Yacht Club offers dry storage in its Marina yard. According to Yacht Club Secretary Doug Archbald, the space allows sailboats to keep their mast up while in storage and provides easy access to the launch ramps. “Sail or power boats are welcome,” Archbald says. Contact the Doug Archbald at 541-490-7846 or info@hoodriveryachtclub.org.

The Port of Hood River Commission approved changes to policy to allow kite pumping, drying and carrying inflated kites from May 1 to September 30 at a designated area on the east end of the Event Site. Previously this activity was only allowed October 1 to April 30. Evaluation of this policy change will occur in August.



Improvements of ten launch ramps at The Hook took place this spring, a joint project of the Columbia Gorge Windsurfing Association and the Port of Hood River.

Port Commission welcomes new board member



Fred Duckwall

The May 19 election saw two Port Commissioners, Fred Duckwall and Kathy Watson, re-elected, and the addition of one new Commissioner to the board. Jon Davies replaces Don Hosford in Position #2 on the Port of Hood River beginning July 1.

Fred Duckwall was re-elected to Position #1 for a third term. He became

a Port Commissioner in 2001. Duckwall was born and raised in Hood River, and is President of Duckwall Fruit Company, a fresh pear packing business at which he has worked since 1971.

Kathy Watson was appointed to the Port’s Position #3 in October, 2004, elected in 2005, and re-elected in 2009. She owns Nora’s Table with her husband Stu Watson. Watson has lived in Oregon since 1974, and in Hood River for nine years.



Kathy Watson

Jon Davies became involved with the Port of Hood River last fall when he collaborated to bring together the Columbia Gorge Windsurfing Association (CGWA) and the Port in an effort to improve ramps at the Hook. “What I found, and frankly I was a bit surprised, was that the Port was very enthusiastic and supportive,”

Davies recalled. “I appreciate that kind of attitude and it sparked my broader interest in the Port.”

This past January, Davies applied for an open position on the Port Budget Committee, and served in that capacity this spring as the Port finalized its 2009-10 fiscal year budget.

“I researched Port operations before the election and I was struck by two things,” Jon noted. “The first was that the Port has a broad array of interests and affects our community in many ways. The second was that Port staff,



Jon Davies

development issues, including the community learn-to-windsurf program at the Hook. As a result, Jon was nominated and elected to a board position of the American Windsurfing Industries Association, where he served as treasurer for three years.

He’s also served as treasurer and vice president of the Hood River Downtown Business Association, which effectively merged with the Hood River County Chamber of Commerce June 1. He is serving his second three-year term on the board of Central Cascade Credit Union.

Davies has worked with Columbia River Insurance since 2005. Previously he owned and operated Windsurfing Hawaii, a supplier of windsurfing accessories, with his brother. They sold the company in 2002.

Jon grew up in Colorado and holds a degree in Business Administration from the University of San Diego. He moved to Hood River 14 years ago. He and his wife, Adrienne have three daughters: Samantha, 11; Claire, 9; and Sarah, 4.

Although Davies ran for Port Commission with no particular agenda, “cooperation” was a theme of his campaign. “We can work with organizations on projects that are in everyone’s interest,” he expounded. “I’d like to see continued improvements in our recreation areas, but the most important project is development of the waterfront land south of Portway Avenue. The bigger picture for the Port is to promote business and jobs in Hood River, but that is easier said than done. It will take teamwork and effort to effectively make a difference in our local economy.”

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concern is safety—for volunteers and the viewing public. The Port is a strong supporter of this event and we applaud the Lions Club for their efforts. The contributions made by the Hood River Eyeopeners Lions Club throughout the year are laudable. The positive memories this group makes in the life and tradition of our community through the annual July 4th fireworks display is remarkable. They set a high standard for civic contribution and purpose.

Don Hosford “Hoss” — Civic purpose is also marked by the personal dedication and commitment of individuals. June 30 marks the end of Commissioner Don

Don Hosford retires from Port Commission



Don Hosford’s Port Commission term expired June 30, after twelve years service on the board. Hosford chose not to run for re-election after serving for three consecutive four-year terms, beginning in 1997. He held tenure as the longest sitting board member.

“Twelve years is long enough, it’s about time!” Hosford kids. “There are some really important things going on right now, and it feels good to leave during this positive momentum. I like Jon Davies, and he’ll do a good job,” he says of his replacement for Position #2.

Fred Duckwall, who was elected to Position #1 in 2001, has worked with Hosford longest. “I have appreciated Hoss’s active participation on the Port Commission. He has been a strident voice for new development on the waterfront and in encouraging the Port to keep the focus on job creation,” Duckwall reflects. “Hoss has been very supportive of the staff and complimentary of their work. I, however, will not miss Hoss’s wardrobe which consists primarily of anything yellow and green,” he kids.

Hosford and his wife Virginia have lived in Hood River for over 50 years, with only one three-year lapse when he resided in Gresham as head football Coach at Gresham Union High School. Prior to that he taught biology and was head football coach at Wy’east High School in Odell. He moved back to Hood River in 1965 and opened the local State Farm Insurance agency, which he operated until his retirement in 1995.

Since his retirement, his community involvement has mostly been for the Port of Hood River. In the past, he served as Hood River Rotary President, Exalted Ruler of the local Elks Lodge, president of Wy’East Booster Club, and 14-year member of Columbia Gorge Center board of directors.

Hosford’s tenure after three terms on the Port of Hood River Commission.

I have had the honor and privilege of working with Hoss for the last three years. He has been an extremely valuable and hardworking member of the Commission. There are few individuals that can exceed the sense of honor and integrity that Hoss has brought to his years of public service. The Port of Hood River District extends from the Columbia River waterfront to well south of Parkdale. Residents throughout the District have been well served by Commissioner Hosford. His civic contribution has been significant and he will be sorely missed by staff and the Port of Hood River Board.