

Adventure | Design | Food | Real Estate | Trends

Favorite Spot: Hammock

TRISHA WALKER Hood River News

Everyone has a favorite spot, and Matthew Hilla's just happens to be in his hammock.

It probably helps that it's tucked into a corner of his yard next to Indian Creek.

"From this yantage spot. I can watch the world go by one day at a time:

"From this vantage spot, I can watch the world go by one day at a time; sitting one direction, I see the creek and the wooded areas behind my house, (and) turning around I get a magnificent picture of our garden and home," he said.

"I consider myself extremely fortunate to have found this property, and have Indian Creek running right through my back yard, as it creates the perfect atmosphere of sound, and environment to just kick back and relax after a long work day," he added. "The creek is always different one day to the next — after a hard rain it may be a torrent of rapids and noise. Conversely, at mid-summer, it will just run lazily along, exposing the rocks and boulders within with many small aquatic fish swimming about."

More photos page 2.

Do you have a garden shed, playhouse, small room, chicken coop, or just a favorite place to sit? Send photos and a brief description to Trisha Walker, twalker@ hoodrivernews.com, to be featured in an upcoming issue of Home and Garden.

Photos by Matthew Hilla





Carol@DonNunamaker.com



\$670,000

Own your own ski lodge!

Exceptional views of the upper valley, Mt. Hood, Mt. Adams & Mt. Rainier! Solid Cedar Chalet w/ 3 levels, 3 bedrooms, 3 baths perched on a 1.43 acre parcel. Full wraparound deck, 2 car oversized garage. Located on a dead end road for peace & quiet.

RMLS 17627518



\$1,325,000 Spectacular Mt. Adams view from this 3BR, 3BA, 4223 sqft Custom home on 21.31 acres. Brazilian cherry floors in living, dining & kitchen. Quartz countertops, vaulted ceilings, wood fireplace insert, 7 & 8 foot solid knotty alder doors. Approx. 2,400 feet of White Salmon River frontage. Large 40 x 40 steel shop/garage. It's a must see! RMLS 17124236



\$579,000 Lovely home in a great neighborhood! Incredibly landscaped backyard w/ koi pond, waterfall, tea house & ornamental trees & shrubs. 3BR, 2.5BA, 2552 sqft on .16 acre lot. Open floorplan w/great room, dining & kitchen also library & utility on main. Gas fireplace, Brazilian cherry floor, granite & SS appliances RMLS 17199501



\$785,000
One level custom ranch with a nice view of Mt. Adams, hills of Mosier and a peek of the Columbia River.
2BR (office/tv room can be converted to BR), 3BA, 2597 sqft on 8.55 acres of forest for a peaceful setting from your stamped concrete patio.
Granite, heated floors, gas appliances, concrete tile roof, generator

in case of power outage. **RMLS 17588725**



OR & WA Broker

CLEANING SIMPLIFIED

Homemade, natural cleaners eliminate harmful chemicals, packaging

TRISHA WALKER News staff writer

Once upon a time, I had a whole cupboard of specialty. chemical-laden cleaners — separate bottles for the toilet, shower, tile, wood floor, countertop, sink and stove, not to mention several in each category, ranging in cleaning power from light to super-strength, some even coming with cautionary warnings on the labels urging me to only use in a well-ventilated area.

It's been a couple of years now since I've switched to homemade, all-purpose cleaners, and I've been much happier with the results — how they clean, how they smell, and how they reduce the amount of packaging in my cabinet (not to mention a reduced environmental impact).

Tri-County Recycle, a partnership between Hood River, Wasco and Sherman counties, also recommends homemade, all-purpose cleaners and even has a printable recipe sheet on its website, www.tricountyrecycle.com

(click the "waste prevention at home"

tab for a link). "You can reduce vour family's exposure to harmful chemicals at home and protect the environment by purchasing fewer household cleaning

products, and choosing less hazardous products," reads the website. "Use a multi-purpose cleaner rather than buying multiple specialty cleaners ... Use single-ingredient products that can serve several functions, such as baking soda, white vinegar, lemon juice and salt ... Make your own homemade cleaners using inexpensive ingredients."

Tri-County Recycle lists "your basic green clean kit ingredients" as baking soda (cleans, deodorizes, softens water and scours), liquid soap (sometimes referred to as castile soap and found in most health food stores), white vinegar (removes soap scum, grease and mineral deposits, and acts as a deodorizor), and washing soda (cuts grease, removes stains, soften water and cleans - but don't use it on wax floors, fiberglass or aluminum), among others.

What follows is a few of the program's recommended recipes; more can be found on the Tri-County Recycle

Window and mirror

Put ½ cup vinegar in a spray bottle and fill with water. Spray on surface and rub dry with a lint-free rag, crumpled newspaper or squeegee.

All-purpose cleaner

In a spray bottle, mix 2 tablespoons vinegar, 1 teaspoon washing soda, 2 cups hot water and 1/4 cup liquid vegetable soap.

Tub, sink and toilet cleaner

Sprinkle baking soda on the surface and rub with a wet rag; add a few drops of liquid soap for extra cleaning power. Rinse well.

Oven cleaner

Mix 1 cup baking soda with enough water to make a paste. Apply to oven surfaces and let stand; use a scouring pad to wipe up.

Favorite Spot, cont.

Photos by Matthew Hilla







Stamp the Earth LLC

Specializing in decorative stamped and artistic design, we are your local source for concrete. We provide concrete solutions tailored to your style.

Design, installation and maintenance.

Locally owned and operated

541-716-1094

www.stamptheearth.com www.facebook.com/stamptheearth WA:STAMPEL841KU CCB: 210688





PEOPLE REALLY HAVE AN APPETITE FOR NATURAL GAS HOMES.

EFFICIENT, AFFORDABLE, BLUE,





SHOP LOCAL (even for home loans)

Easy Online Application • Low Origination Fee • Local Service

♠ NMLS #421709

pnwfcu.org | 800.444.5858





jsacre@directorsmortgage.net



541,490,2897

Sr. Mortgage Specialist 253.468.7848 vhillyer@directorsmortgage.net swolf@directorsmortgage.net

VIRGINIA HILLYER

Looking to purchase the home of your dreams? We can help! **Home Purchases**

Refinances **Jumbo Loans VA Loans Construction & Rehab Loans NHF Grant Program**

CALL US TODAY!



541.436.2662 directorsmortgage.net

102 3rd Street Hood River, OR 97031



DESIGNER'S SECRETS

Surviving new home construction



ASHLEY HINKLE Interior Designer

Last month I revealed the first of two tips to Surviving New Home Construction. Compromise is certainly something that has been challenging throughout our construction. Not every couple has the same dilemmas. Though I am

a designer, I respect my husband's creative eye and want the house to feel like "us" and not just my style.

List Your Top Five

It's important that both (or

all) people involved in the design process end up with items that they love. When each person writes down their top five most important 'things' it will allow you to include one another in the project, make sure each of you ends up having "favorite things" about your home, and can facilitate some surprising discoveries/ discussions! For example: The layout and design of our kitchen was VERY important to me, while my husband didn't have too many preferences... When it came to the countertops my husband had a VERY strong opinion about countertops. This was both

surprising and funny, since I do the majority of the cooking. So, to compromise, I selected the perimeter of the countertops and he selected the island top. Is the countertop my favorite thing in the house? No. Does he love it? YES. The compromise was absolutely worth it.

Appoint a Lead

Decision Maker Sometimes there is a natural lead decision maker. Maybe one person has work commitments and cannot be as involved in the decision process or simply doesn't want to be very involved, or is so easy going they'll be happy no matter what. By appointing a lead decision maker, it really saves your contractors a headache. It's much more efficient for contractors to communicate with just one person, not two. Since the lead decision maker will have invested so much more time and undera disagreement happens on an item, (most likely) the lead decision maker should make the call.

Involve Your Spouse. The thing that I did the most, to involve my husband in helping make selections, was to give him options. (Surprise! I was the Lead Decision Maker.) Other than countertops, he didn't have strong opinions on most design choices. However, I wanted to make sure he felt like this was his home too! For example, I chose three sconce lighting options that I knew would look great for the master vanity. He then selected one of the three. I knew that any and all three options would look great. I did this same thing with many other items. I was not overwhelmed with sorting through the hundreds of sconce choices. He, on the other hand very much pre-

standing in the project, when ferred riding his moto and picking one of three rather than one of one hundred. This process is not necessary for every single item, but referring to his Top Five helped me present the most important items to him.

Laugh it Off. At the end of the day remember it is just a house. It is not worth ruining your relationship over the style of a sconce. Unforeseen things can, and will, come up. It's vitally important to keep perspective and try and laugh it off. Compromising can be hard, and when something doesn't turn out the way either of you envisioned, it's important to laugh about it because in the end, relationships are more important than things.

So many people told us we were crazy for building a house together in our first year of marriage. Without a doubt it tested our relation-

ship, but it was worth it. We came out of the project with a fabulous home and we're a stronger couple for practicing compromise and team-

These tips for navigating new construction and remodels have proven to be very helpful for my clients, and for me as well. It is often helpful to have an objective third party there for an honest opinion that is not emotionally invested in the project. Contact me if you are struggling through your remodel or new construction process.

> Ashley Hinkle is a full service interior designer located in the Gorge.

ASK A DESIGNER

Rethinking the the basement

MELISSA RAYWORTH Associated Press

Basements can be cold and dark, and often get much less decorating attention than the rest of the house. But you can gain new, useful and stylish living space by upgrading that subterranean space. Step one is addressing any risk of flooding or water leakage. Bring in a professional to assess the risk and recommend safety measures. If the air in your basement is damp, add a dehumidifier to dry it out. After that, the options for renovating and redecorating a basement are endless.

We've asked three interior designers — New York-based Jenny Kirschner, and Los Angeles-based Sayre Ziskin and Theodore Leaf — for advice on transforming basements into well-loved rooms.

CHOOSE A PURPOSE

Growing up in the Midwest, Leaf saw his grandmother and mother use their basements as creative spaces for sewing or scrapbooking. He encourages homeowners around the country to take the same approach: Choose a particular purpose for your basement.

Ziskin agrees: "Make a decision as to what you'd actually go down there for," she says, and be realistic. "If you make it into a game room, how likely are you to actually go down there?" For some, it works best as a home office. "I'm one of the few people in LA who does have a basement," Leaf says. "It's a walk-out basement, and it's where I edit all my videos.

The lack of light is actually great because I can see my screen properly." Basements with little natural light can become gorgeous media rooms.



And don't forget embracing the original purpose of a cellar: Use it as a cool spot for fermenting healthy foods like kombucha.

WARM IT UP

Many homeowners avoid their basement because it's cold, Ziskin says. If so, tackle that problem first.

Ziskin recently decorated a basement with GO LIGHT AND BRIGHT low-pile carpeting in a soft shade of gray, and then finished the edges with molding. It gave the room warmth while adding the sort of finished look. For added coziness, you can layer area rugs on top of low-pile carpeting. Carpets and rugs will also improve acoustics.

Another warming trick: Ditch cold, unflattering, fluorescent lights in favor of

Leaf agrees: You want "lighting coming from different angles, so put a lamp in there," he says, "and up-lights in the corner."

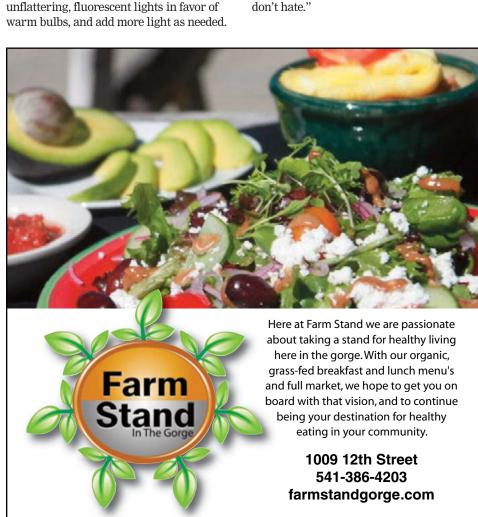
Lastly, include upholstered furniture with soft, warm textures (Stay away from leathers and vinyls) and finish the space with a big basket of cozy blankets.

Basements are great places to take design

risks, so have fun. "Why shouldn't the floor be teal or bright orange? Make it happy," says Leaf. "Put up that one wallpaper swatch you always loved."

Even in a basement storage room or laundry room, he says, "paint it a color you











For All Your Canning and Harvest Supplies

HOOD RIVER SUPPLY ASSN 1995 12th Street, Hood River ~ 541-386-2757

3831 Eagle Loop, Odell ~ 541-354-3000

Home and Garden **Hood River News**

A taste of summer

JANICE BELL Owner, Aromé

It's hard to believe with the June-uary weather we've been having lately, but summer is here and Hood

River locals are looking to maximize outdoor time. Get summer off to a healthy and delicious start with this quick and easy recipe that packs summer flavor with a Middle Eastern twist and still leaves plenty of time to hit the rivers and trails.

Hummus with Za'atar Toasted Pita

- 1 15-ounce can chickpeas, liquid reserved
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 2 teaspoons Hummus Spice Blend
- 3 tablespoons tahini paste ½ teaspoon Smoked Paprika
- $\frac{1}{2}$ tablespoon fresh parsley leaves, chopped
- 3 pita bread rounds
- 2 tablespoons Za'atar Blend 2 tablespoons Hojiblanca Extra Virgin
- Olive Oil (EVOO)

Combine chickpeas, half of reserved liquid, lemon juice, and Hummus Spice in food processor and blend. Slowly add tahini paste until mixture is smooth. Mix in 1 tablespoon of olive oil and sprinkle with paprika and parsley. Toast pita bread and drizzle with extra virgin olive oil and sprinkle with Za'atar



JANICE BELL



HOLIDAY DESSERT



Celebrate holiday with Red, White and Blue **Cherry Pies**

Keep your dessert all to yourself with these individual freeform pies that are full of cherry pie filling and topped with a fresh blueberry sauce.

INGREDIENTS

1 package double pie crust mix

- 1 (20-ounce) can cherry pie filling 1/2 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice
- 2 tablespoons milk 2 teaspoons sugar
- Blueberry Sauce: 1 pint fresh blueberries,
- reserve 1/4 cup for garnish
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 2 tablespoons water 2 cups vanilla ice cream

DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 400 degrees F.

Prepare pie crust according to package directions. Divide into 6 equal portions, roll into balls and refrigerate covered for at least 1 hour. On a lightly floured surface, roll each into a circle about 1/4-inch thick.

For Pies:

Place each of the rolled out circles onto the baking sheet. Divide cherry pie filling into the center of each of the 6 pie crusts and sprinkle each with the pumpkin pie spice. Fold the edges of the pie dough over the cherry pie filling, making sure to leave the center of the pie exposed. Place a few of the reserved blueberries on top of each pie. Brush the sides of the pies with milk and sprinkle with 2 teaspoons of the sugar. Place pies in the oven and bake for 30 minutes, or until crust is golden brown and filling is bubbling. Remove from oven and allow to cool slightly.

For Blueberry Topping:

In a medium sauce pan over medium heat, stir together blueberries, sugar, and two tablespoons water. Bring to a boil, reduce heat and simmer for 10 minutes. Turn off the heat and allow to cool to room temperature.

To serve, place 1 warm pie on 6 plates, top each pie with a scoop of vanilla ice cream and a generous drizzle of the blueberry sauce.

- FOOD NETWORK

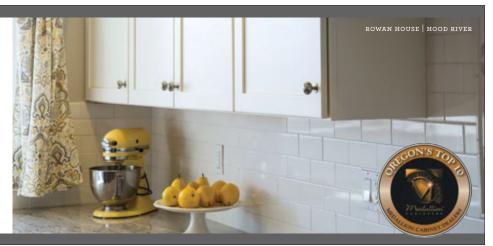








Visit our showroom at: 216 Cascade Avenue Hood River, OR 97031



GARDIN



Underwood Community Gardens hosts children's programs

Underwood Community Gardens welcomes the community to celebrate children and wellness in the garden this summer with free gardening programs at the Underwood Community Center. These free programs are for children ages 7-12, with one special class for those ages 12-16. Activities are hands-on and include gardening concepts and cycles, exploration of plant parts, food knowledge and creative art activities.

Registration is not necessary — simply drop in — but parent supervision is required. Classes run from 10-11:30 a.m.

Class schedule is as follows:

July 10 — "Plant Art: Solar Printing." For children ages 7-12.

July 24 — "Words and Wonder in the Garden" with Ashley Sprouse Erdely.

For children ages 7-11.

Aug. 7 — Words and Writing in the Garden" with Ashley Sprouse Erdely.

For children ages 12-16.

Aug. 21 — "Garden Pizza Party." For children ages 7-12.

Sept. 23 — "It's a Wrap: Garden Cleanup and Savings." For children ages 7-12.

For more information, email underwoodcommunitygardens.ucg@gmail.com.



Spices, Herbs, Salts, Sugars, Teas, Olive Oils and Vinegar for sale and for sampling!

105 Oak St, Hood River, Oregon 541.436.3005 • www.aromehoodriver.com





GET UP TO \$1,600* CASH BACK & SAVINGS PLUS AN ADDITIONA \$300* OFF SELECT UNITS

3002 East 2nd Street The Dalles, OR 97058 (Located behind Big Jim's)



*For a limited time only. With approved credit. Program restrictions may apply. See dealer for details. All offers expire August 31, 2017.

Mahindra



Interior Design Stage to Sell Holiday Decorating Exterior Design 360 909 9503 DESIGNS neff-designs.com

OWNER/OR. PRINCIPAL BROKER

4.5% LISTING COMMISSION!

NO BUYERS FEE

CHERI BELANDER REAL ESTATE

SERVING HOOD RIVER, WASCO, SHERMAN, **AND GILLIAM COUNTIES**

YOU MATTER TO ME



CHERI BELANDER

802 West 6th Street • The Dalles • 541-806-5424 $cheribe lander real estate @gmail.com \bullet cheribe lander real estate.com$



Food Preservation Classes

3-hour, a la carte classes



7/11 Canning Fruits and Filling

Pickling

7/25 Fermenting

Pressure Canning

Tasty Tomato Products 8/8

The Dalles and Hood River \$10 each

Extension Service 541-296-5494

extension.oregonstate.edu/ wasco

Summer Gardening Series

Coffee and informational lessons

9:00—9:30am FREE

7/1 **Cherry Tasting**

Herb Gardens

7/15 Flower Arranging 7/22 Backyard Composting

7/29 Garden Insects

The Dalles Imagination Garden, Klindt Dr. & Steelhead Way

Home and Garden Hood River News

ROCKFORD GRANGE

Presents 'Country Living Skills' series

Rockford Grange, 4250 Barrett Drive, has a series of country living skills classes planned, beginning in April and running through September.

Classes range from making cheese to tanning hides, and instructors include herdswoman-farmer-cheesemaker Danielle Vaughan, wild man Adam Stolte, herbalist-weaver-potter Erin Button, blacksmith Bryce Wood and chef-farmerherbalist Elona Trogub.

The series is organized by Kaan Oral, who has been teaching country living skills for the past decade.

"It's an affordable way to learn to live directly with the land and a great chance to bond with your family, as many of these classes are child and teen friendly," said Oral. "You'll be walking away with the knowledge of how to make your own baskets from the branches around your house, and how to make your own bags and clothes from felted wool. You'll gain the skills to begin blacksmithing, flintknapping arrowheads, and developing local medicinal plant knowl-

"These skills and many more are what we're trying to bring back to the people of

Hood River. The classes are filling up quick, so be sure to sign up soon." More information can be found at tinyurl.com/MORFVQU. Classes are as follows:

Primitive Bladesmithing: Knife — July 20-21, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cost is \$120. This class will focus on knife blade construction using high carbon steel in a primitive ground forge. Students will learn the full process of blade construction from shaping to tempering. Moderate hand and arm strength and the ability to kneel comfortably on the ground are both important for this class.

Plant Medicine — July 20, 2-6 p.m. Cost is \$35. Connect with and make medicine with a handful of the plants that grow in the Gorge. Identification, when to harvest, and how to thoughtfully and ethically wildcraft, as well as basic medicine making.

Build Your own Earth Oven — Aug. 1-3, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cost is \$150. Build an "Earth Oven" using almost entirely free and local building materials. Learn the basics of earthen (cob and adobe) construction techniques and use these skills to bake bread and pizza. This class will require three full days and the ability to get muddy.

Preparing & Preserving Wild Plants — Aug. 24, 4-7 p.m. Cost is \$30. Make flour from



cattail roots and learn how to harvest and preserve camas bulbs for winter. Roots are one of the most important foods for your winter pantry, so learn how to utilize some of the most abundant and delicious roots in

Geoff Speidel

(541) 354-5454

Superior Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning

(AA)

Hide Tanning — Sept. 7, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cost is \$40. Learn how to tan your own leather and furs with Kaan Oral. In this fast pace class, Kaan will bring you through the many steps of softening your own hides.



All your outdoor patio needs!

BBOs & accessories Outdoor lighting, bistro, solar & lanterns Birdhouses & birdseed Fencing & easy set unwanted animal traps Pools, kayaks, & so much more!

NOW HIRING

2700 Wasco Avenue . Hood River 541-387-2300 . HOURS 6 am-12 am



For all your indoor and outdoor gardening needs

Nutrients-Pots . Grow Mediums . Lighting Systems

Hydroponic Supplies . Pesticides & More

3721 Klindt Drive • The Dalles 541.370.1500

1203 12th St. • Hood River 541.386.GROW



Only Chem-Dry Uses The Natural® For a Deep Clean That's Also Green

of The Gorge

Serving Hood River, Wasco, Sherman

Independently Owned & Operated



Brandon Barnard (541) 386-5250 (541) 296-6600 midcolumbiaohd@gmail.com Installation Sales Licensed in OR No. 28228 WA 601053547 DOOR MANASON

Advertise on our

Home Improvement Page!



Do you offer Home Improvement Services?

Call your Hood River News advertising representative today! 541-386-1234



Oregon & Washington OR# 174514 WA# MAHERR*872RB







Hood Rivers Trusted Window Cleaners since 2010

Commercial and Residential **Free Estimates** 503-310-5965



Commercial & Residential

Flatwork & Foundations

Decorative floors, stamps, color



OR LIC# 171346 WA LIC# 603398616

SCOTT FREEMAN

541-490-6510

1026 Pacific Ave., Hood River 541-386-1009 OR127880 . WA HEIGHGG023L5

www.heightsglassusa.com