

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE JULY 15, 2022

Contact: Katie Kadlub, Visit Hood River, 208-867-0498, <a href="mailto:katie@visithoodriver.com">katie@visithoodriver.com</a>

## **VISIT HOOD RIVER ANNOUNCES FIRST FRIDAY EVENTS**

(HOOD RIVER, Ore.) – Visit Hood River (VHR) announces an August First Friday Event. The second of the summer, First Friday will return on August 5th, 5:00-8:00 p.m., to downtown Hood River. Oak Street from 6<sup>th</sup> to 1<sup>st</sup> Streets will be closed for vehicle traffic beginning at 4:30 p.m. The August First Friday theme is "Hot August Nights" and includes a car show, vendors, music, and games for kids and adults. Some downtown businesses expand their hours to open later than usual, offering an enhanced shopping and dining experience. The car show, sponsored by VHR, is looking for local owners who would like to show off their "hot rods". There is no fee for entry and participants are asked to pre-register at Hot August Nights Car Show.

Local businesses located off Oak Street and downtown are encouraged to stay open and share their products with the public. It is free to be a vendor and participants are asked to preregister by filling out the <u>First Friday Vendor Sign Up Form</u>.

"First Friday has always been a wonderful community gathering," says Katie Kadlub, CEO of Visit Hood River. "We hope to gain momentum and participation with the First Friday event series this summer to help restore the celebration the tradition provides to the community. We invite and encourage the residents and visitors alike to enjoy a delightful evening browsing our downtown area and meeting the merchants."

The third of the summer series, First Friday will be back again on Friday, September 2, same time, same place, and themed "Back to School". More information will be released closer to the date.

For more information on Visit Hood River and Hood River County Chamber of Commerce, visit <a href="https://www.visithoodriver.com">www.visithoodriver.com</a>.

## **About the Hood River County Chamber of Commerce dba Visit Hood River:**

The Hood River County Chamber of Commerce dba Visit Hood River is a nonprofit business association serving our tourism and business Stakeholders. Located at the crossroads of the spectacular Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and the magnificent Cascade Range and just an hour from Portland, Hood River is truly "Mother Nature's Favorite," offering outdoor



recreation, dramatic vistas, historic landmarks, bountiful fruit, and fantastic food, wine, beer, and cider. With accommodations ranging from luxury hotels to historic B&Bs, Hood River is a four-season destination for families, outdoor enthusiasts, weddings, corporate events, and more. It was named the West's best "Nature Lover's Destination" in the 2021 Sunset Travel Awards, a "Top 10 Best Small Town Beer Scene" in the 2021 USA Today 10Best Readers Choice Awards, a Top 10 Wine Destination for 2017 by Wine Enthusiast, and 2015 "Best Adventure Town" in the West by Sunset magazine. Visit Hood River supports economic development, community development, and destination marketing for Hood River, Cascade Locks, Mosier, Odell, Parkdale, Pine Grove, and Mt. Hood. For more information, call 800-366-3530 or visit <a href="https://www.visithoodriver.com">www.visithoodriver.com</a>.