

KING

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you," Boonstra said. "Dr. King taught us, 'when we become silent about our dreams we die inside.' Now take a long look around you and feel the power of a room full of dreams. Dr. King said, 'Dreamers dare to take that first step even when they do not see the whole staircase.' "He reminded us we are all connected and we are all related. Remember his famous words, 'we may have all come on different ships, but we are in the same boat now,'" Boonstra said. "Tonight in our turbulent waters, we share the same boat, brothers and sisters in the same boat," Boonstra said. To a series of "amens," he listed Anglos and Hispanics, straights and gays, undocumented and legally protected, young and old, humans and all threatened species "all in the same boat." High school students Charley Boonstra and Christina Garcia spoke, and

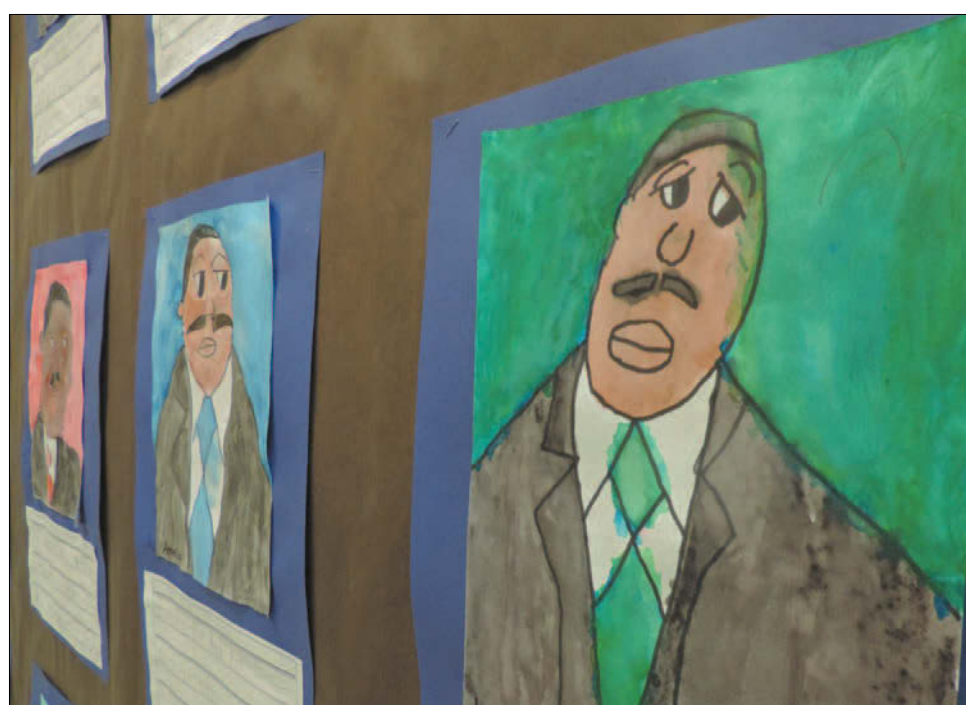
Garcia tearfully expressed her perspective as the daughter of immigrant parents. "Why is there injustice? Why does it exist?" she said, noting that there are 12 million illegal immigrants, most of whom are in the U.S. for a better life and the chance for their children to gain an education and advance beyond menial existence. Garcia, an HRVHS junior, noted that in November 2014, voters defeated the ballot measure creating a driver card law for undocumented residents, yet

passed the measure legalizing sale and possession of marijuana. "How can this be possible? How can a plant be more legal than a human being?" Garcia asked. Blackburn called on the community to work in earnest to realize the ideals of Dr. King. "Dr. King spoke of what he saw from the mountain-top," Blackburn said, "but in the Haitian proverb 'there are mountains behind mountains,' and our climb and efforts need to continue. Ours is the work to do, to preach morality, to stand up for the marginalized, to speak for the vulnerable, to remember the lonely. It is a big, tough world out there. Tonight as we celebrate Martin Luther King, we need to continue meeting the challenge, to keep going together, holding hands if necessary, and singing as often as possible." At the end of the service, an offering supported the work of GEM with children and youth, including Peace Village, a summer day camp that teaches social justice and sustainability.

Words of King, words of youth

"We've learned to fly the air like birds, we learned to swim the seas like fish, and yet we haven't learned to walk the Earth as brothers and sisters."
— Dr. Martin Luther King

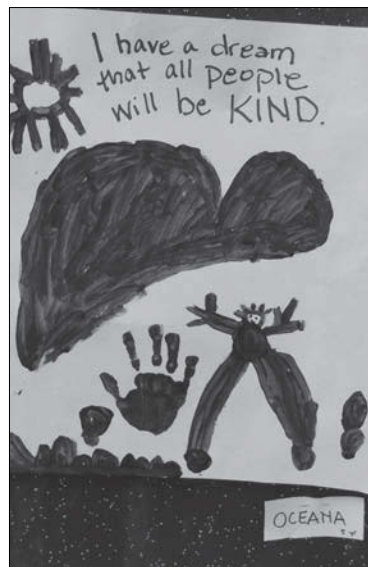
"I have a dream I can make a difference. It is to go to Mexico and visit the place my family left behind."
— Christina Garcia



Photos by Kirby Neumann-Rea

ART CELEBRATES KING

Oceana McQuade, 5, painted this picture of her dream, in a Monday art project at Starshine Childlife Habitat, a Mt. Hood daycare and preschool. Westside Elementary first-graders, including Leah Sandoval, studied Dr. Martin Luther King and created artwork depicting the civil rights leader on Jan. 16 in the classrooms of Alyssa Greenwood, Stacey Doss and Amy Hassett. "We spent all day talking about Dr. King, and read a biography, and learned what his life was like as a child," Greenwood said. "I think it really resonates with first graders. They live in a world of what's fair and not fair, so developmentally it kind of hits home with them. A lot of times they'll look at the kids around them and start to see the different skin colors for the first time, and they think about what it would be like for those kids with darker skin, and apply it to their own life."



Opportunities to serve: city, school committee openings

The City of Hood River and Hood River County School District have vacancies on a variety of committees: Landmarks Review Board – three vacancies, all must live in Hood River County. The Landmarks Board shall be composed of seven members who shall be appointed by the City Council. Four members shall live within the city of Hood River or the Urban Growth Area. The Council will consider individuals who have demonstrated an interest in historic preservation and have experience or special expertise or knowledge in the field of history, archaeology, architecture, the arts, historic preservation, culture, plan-

ning, landscape architecture, business, real estate, law, government, engineering construction or other related trades. City Budget Committee – four vacancies, all must live within the city limits and be a registered voter. The committee reviews and approves the city budget, and meets annually in the spring. Urban Renewal Advisory Committee – three vacancies, all must live within the City limits. The UR Advisory Committee reviews the urban renewal plans and provide recommendation to the Agency Board, as well as recommending projects that are consistent with the urban renewal plans and prepare a priorities list of po-

tential urban renewal projects for the Agency Board. The Advisory committee serves as members of the Agency Budget Committee. If you have questions contact city manager Steve Wheeler or city recorder Jennifer Gray at 541-387-5212. School District budget committee: Hood River County School District seeks to fill position 4 (Odell) on the budget committee. The committee of appointed community members and school board members are tasked with reviewing and approving a budget of approximately \$40 million. Go to hoodriver.k12.or.us for details.



Photo by Kirby Neumann-Rea

PIZZA PIZZAZZ

Pizza cook Caleb Rocha spins his way to victory in the third annual "Pizza Battle" between cooks at Solstice Wood Fire Pizza on Jan. 13. Rocha tosses and twirls dough behind his back in the "talent" portion of the contest, held at Springhouse Winery. About 60 people attended, sampling unusual pizzas created by five cooks, including lead pizza cook David Jents. Zak Taylor provided commentary as the cooks demonstrated their dough stretching talents and performed a musical number while tossing dough in creative ways. The restaurant closed for the night and owner Aaron Baumhackl manned the mobile oven outside Springhouse, turning out the pizzas. Rocha won for his Mango Drop, employing mango chutney, ham, and finished with a lemon drop hot sauce. Jents said the event gives the staff the chance to show their imagination and expand their pizza making talents.

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