

LETTERS

Continued from Page A4

tendance and sales at the markets. Her insights were very extremely valuable.

I also know Chris as a parent and have volunteered with her in our children's classroom. She is always up for any task that needs to be done and gets the job done. Our schools need help making tough decisions in the light of budget cuts and full classrooms. Chris will put our kids first and will work with other board members to reach creative solutions to complex problems. Chris is the right choice and I encourage you to give her your vote.

Todd Dierker
Hood River

Fenner running

My name is Guy Fenner, and I am running against incumbent Charlotte Arnold for a seat on the Columbia Gorge Community College Board. I believe that access to higher education is an important step toward success. I have Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Engineering, and have worked for 32 years designing satellites. My wife is an educator, and we have two sons now attending Wy'east Middle School; I hope that they will attend CGCC in the future.

The recent financial difficulties at CGCC have been well documented.

Community colleges like CGCC exist to help a wide variety of students, including those with limited financial resources, developing English skills, and/or poor academic success in high school. It is CGCC's responsibility to provide these students with the support services they need to achieve their academic goals. Unfortunately, student services have been among the first to suffer from the current budget cutbacks at CGCC. The offices of Financial Aide and Student Advising have been particularly hard-hit.

If elected to the Board, I plan to address the lack of sound long-term financial planning, as well as the breakdown of trust between the faculty and the Board/President. I will strive to make the work of the Board more transparent to the public so that "surprises" such as the announced closing of the Hood River campus are avoided in the future.

In recent years, the leadership and management of the college has not been up to the standards deserved by this community, with the exception of Stu Watson, who has been the lone voice of dissent in many critical issues.

Hold the current Board — with the exception of Stu — accountable by voting for candidates with a new vision: Fenner, Watson, and Fairchild.

Guy Fenner
Hood River

Disrespectful

I recently learned that Hood River Valley High School's prom has been the same weekend as Mother's Day for the last several years. I can understand this being an occasional unfortunate accident, but the annual conflict with Mother's Day baffles me. I don't have children, but even I understand how this is incredibly disrespectful to our local moms.

Prom is a big deal to most high schoolers. Choosing the dress, renting the tux, ordering corsages or boutonnières, deciding where to have dinner, renting a limo (or wishing for one), being asked, being turned down, or not being asked at all — the whirlwind that is Prom results in an exhausted kid the next morning, on the one day that is supposed to be All About Mom.

Only it's not. For the moms whose children are seniors, this is their last year of having a Mother's Day at home with their child, a nearly grown child who is now worn out, cranky, broke, and either wants to talk about Prom nonstop, or not talk at all. I see my friends' disappointment. I would expect the adults at the high school to recognize this conflict, and to realize that the moms — many of whom have volunteered at the school in countless ways for hundreds of hours — deserve more respect.

Perhaps the annual Prom/Mother's Day conflict has been an accident, with those planning the prom having no way to know when Mother's Day is going to happen. Please let me help. Attention HRVHS Prom Committee: Next year, Mother's Day is Sunday, May 8. Please show some respect for your mothers and

WATSON

Continued from Page A4

and layoffs.

New courses and certificates announced in November have been shelved to balance the budget. How will that increase enrollment?

The person who led CGCC fund-raising efforts for eight years? He quit in January, out of disgust.

It's distressing to me that the rest of the board seems to care little about this. I do. That is why — once privately on Nov. 24, and again publicly at the March board meeting — I have asked Dr. Toda to resign. And it's why I am running for re-election. It's time to get this school back on track to "building dreams, transforming lives."

Stu Watson has been on the college board since 2007. Before that he served on the Budget Committee and Annexation Committee.

do not plan your prom for May 7. You may not understand until many years from now, when you finally taste the sentimental sweetness that is Mother's (or Father's) Day for yourself. Trust me, the apparently intense sacrifice of having your prom on May 14 or April 30 next year will be worth preserving Mother's Day for the women — the women raising teenagers — who deserve to be celebrated.

Julie Hatfield
Hood River

Valle for board

Please write-in Leticia Valle for Transportation Board. Born and raised in Hood River, my current work and focus includes efforts in eliminating health disparities and serving the most vulnerable people in our community. I'm proud to work on bringing our county's Latino and Anglo communities together. We NEED more Latino involvement in governance and I am your willing candidate.

My team and I have met with various community members about the transportation problems our elderly, low income population and Hispanic/Latino neighbors face in Hood River County. We learned many things, including that the local bus service is far from what it could be. We also learned that only two people were running for three slots for the county's transportation board, so that means a write-in candidate can also be elected.

I am asking for your help. If you haven't yet voted and you're open to this recommendation, would you please:

* Go to the second box down in the middle column of your ballot — it's labeled "Hood River County Transportation District — Director — Four Year Term"

* You'll notice only two names listed, with lines below for a write-in name

* On the top empty line write Leticia Valle — I am currently a Community Health Worker for The Next Door

* Be sure to fill in the oval to the left of my name

* Please spell my name correctly — misspellings do not count, and if you use my nickname (Leti), that will be recorded as a different person.

Thanks very much. I look forward to giving a voice to the Hispanic/Latino community on these issues.

Leticia Valle
Mt. Hood/Parkdale

Need new GOP formula

For Republicans with a high energy conservative bent, there is hope for winning back the presidency. But not with a candidate that's still in a "moderate malaise-daze." That failing formula allowed the Democrats to win the White House twice. It's time to get behind and fully support a tried and true conservative to finally reverse the curse of the GOP losing trend. Otherwise, those Republicans still miserably mired in that "moderate Malaise-daze" will repeat ... after another defeat ... "the awful ode to failure." It goes like this: "It's 2016 ... and again we lose ... our apologies, Ben Carson ... our apologies, Ted Cruz."

Bill Davis
Hood River

No to self-service

What ever happened to "we the people" deciding whether we wanted to pump our own gas? I for one don't want to. I never buy gas in Washington for that reason. Now it looks like I will have to buy gas in Gresham on my way through instead of buying locally. It does not make gas less expensive. I hope those of you in charge will reconsider this. It takes jobs and money out of our town.

Myrna Holmes
Mt. Hood

No to fluoride

Putting fluoride into drinking water is a debated issue. Some of my concerns are: fluoride works by having it cover your teeth, not by consuming it; some people are sensitive to it and with fluoridated water, you cannot control the dose each person receives; bottled-fed babies get the highest dose; and, over time, fluoride accumulates in tissues, bones and in the pineal gland.

My largest concern is that the chemicals used to fluoride

water are not pharmaceutical grade, but instead are mostly by-products from the fertilizer industry. Putting fluoride into the water seems risky and it is questionable if it even helps. The largest survey ever conducted in the US (Hileman 1989) with over 39,000 people in 84 communities by the National Institute of Dental Research showed little difference in tooth decay among children with fluoridated and non-fluoridated water. I am glad our county voted against it.

Pamela Larsen
Hood River

Stu has vote

Stu Watson is running for Columbia Gorge Community College Board of Directors and he will get my vote. The college has been going through a rough time and Stu Watson is the only board member who is standing up and calling for change. Brushing trouble under the rug is not a solution. Please cast your vote for Stu Watson and send a message that change is needed for our Community College to grow and succeed.

Rich McBride
Hood River

Idea for center

I would like to open a senior center not associated with any government agency. One that uses natural health-foods. A place to go when the AMA has no answers. A place where seniors are in control.

Would like others, so we can start a board etc., naturopathic doctors.

Paul Nevin
Hood River

Hold town halls on Nestle

Let's have a conversation about what's best for Cascade Locks.

In a May 6 letter to the editor, Ruth Turner writes that she finds it "really tiring" to read opposition pieces to Nestlé's proposal for a water bottling plant in Cascade Locks. In an April 10th article in the Oregonian, Gordon Zimmerman, the city administrator of Cascade Locks, hopes that a pending water exchange deal with ODFW will get us "down the road" and says, "I'm sure there'll be opposition, but it (the deal) narrows the scope of opposition."

As a resident of Cascade Locks, it saddens me to read what both these individuals have to say. This is not a time for becoming tired and dampening voices. Opposing viewpoints very often provide valuable perspective, and we need to listen to them, not narrow the scope and quite possibly our critical thinking. The issue is just too important, for everyone.

In the first paragraph of the "Nestle Fact Sheet," which is on the city's website, Gordon Zimmerman writes, "We are proud of our community's long standing commitment to water stewardship, and recognize the need to fairly consider and evaluate any major new business opportunities that could provide a much needed economic boost to our community." Having reviewed this fact sheet and standing witness to my city's courting of Nestlé, I do not feel that Nestlé's proposal has been fairly considered and evaluated.

Respectfully request that both the City and the Port establish a series of non-Nestlé run town hall meetings for residents to safely voice their opinions and concerns around this proposal. I, also, request that the City and Port bring in a skilled independent facilitator to guide these discussions and to capture them for others. A city-wide survey would be helpful as well.

We do not live in a vacuum, and Cascade Locks will not be successful as a city until it sensitively listens both to its citizens and, just as importantly, to the voices of "outsiders," who often bring important perspective. We need to keep speaking our minds and asking questions. If we don't, we may get stuck with something we didn't envision at all.

Edward del Val
Cascade Locks



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Best Western Plus Hood River Inn
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We are looking for a group, or club that is looking for a fundraising opportunity! Church group, Sports Team, Scout Group, or a Family!

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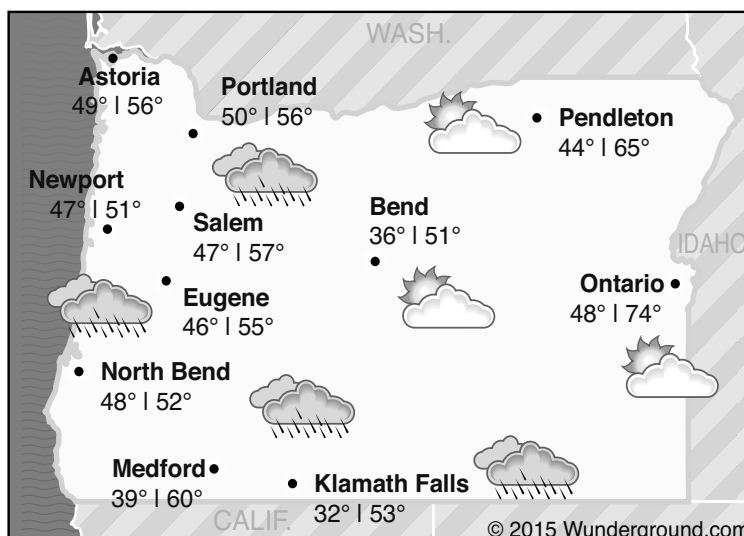
We run ads, pay rent, provide stand, and fireworks, you provide the sales force!
Last operator ran for over 20 years!
References required
Stand located in Dallesport, WA

Contact us
CHARLIE
509-539-0050
Info@factoryoutletfireworks.com

Hood River Weather Forecast

Date	Forecast	Daytime / Overnight High / Low (°F)
Today May 13	AM Showers	65° / 48°
Thurs. May 14	Partly Cloudy	71° / 51°
Fri. May 15	Partly Cloudy	74° / 52°
Sat. May 16	Partly Cloudy	70° / 50°
Sun. May 17	Partly Cloudy	74° / 52°
Mon. May 18	Partly Cloudy	76° / 54°
Tues. May 19	AM Showers	72° / 54°

Oregon Weather Map



Today's Forecast

A 50 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 61. West wind 5 to 7 mph. New precipitation amounts between a tenth and quarter of an inch possible.

Humidity 80%
Wind Speed WNW 3 G 9 MPH
Barometer NA
Dewpoint 46°F (8°C)
Visibility NA
Last update 11 May 7:00 am PDT

Actual High / Low

AGRIMET HOOD RIVER OR
Lat: 45.6842 Long: -121.5181 Elev: 510
<http://uspest.org>

May 4	-	64/42
May 5	-	60/43
May 6	-	61/40
May 7	-	73/35
May 8	-	79/40
May 9	-	82/42
May 10	-	75/46

Updated Monday, May 11
at 9:00 a.m. PST
Data from www.weather.com

Tires LES SCHWAB

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