

CASCADE observations

From student to teacher

By PEGGY DILLS KELTER

Name calling: Malicious rantings seem to be the norm these days, not the exception. Accused murderer Jeremy Christian fills his speech with hateful expletives, rendering it almost impossible to publish his comments verbatim in the newspaper. Meanwhile, Donald Trump, who as president should be the model for speaking with grace and decorum, instead has the unrestrained audacity to re-name others with what he thinks are clever plays on his rivals' real names.

I'm lucky to say I've had but few labels attached to me, and none that were truly hateful. But when I first came to Hood River over 40 years ago, it was shockingly commonplace to hear Spanish speaking workers and their families referred to as "Beaners" and "Wetbacks." Today, in our local schools, much attention is given to teaching students about name-calling and bullying. Educators work to model kindness and tolerance.

In 2001, Veronica Sandoval and her family moved from Mexico to the Hood River Valley legally through the visa process. Neither she, her parents, nor any of her many siblings, spoke English. Her parents and several siblings went to work in the orchards and packing houses. The three youngest children enrolled in school. Veronica was placed in Jane Osborne's third grade class at Mid Valley Elementary.

The only name calling that Veronica heard addressed to her in third grade was "shy." Almost 20 years later, in that same classroom, Veronica hears her students address her with another label — "Maestra" or "Teacher." Veronica loves this label. As for the shyness, she smiles and says, "I'm still a little shy — it's a work in progress, I guess."

Indeed, Veronica's work in progress to become the teacher she is today is inspiring.

Even in elementary school, she knew she wanted to be a teacher. She played "school" with her friends, and worked hard to learn English. By middle school, her language skills were really developing and she began to feel she belonged. At Hood River Valley High School, she was labeled completely proficient in English, exiting from the language learner program in her sophomore year.

Staff at the high school thought Veronica had great potential, and urged her to consider college. Veronica says, "Coming from my background, I didn't really see this as a possibility. My parents didn't have the money to send me to college. I would need to get scholarships and then my shyness — was it really my place? Could I accomplish being there?" She earned her diploma, and other than one sister, was the only member of her family to graduate from high school.

The deciding point to pursue college came her junior year. Her father told her they could go back to Mexico after she graduated. Veronica had grown up here — she didn't think she belonged back in Mexico. With the help from Carolyn Bondurant in the high school's counseling office, Veronica began pursuing her college dreams in earnest. She applied for many scholarships, including the Ford Scholar, a generous scholarship that would pay 90 percent of schooling for four years. Veronica says, "A lot of people saw my potential when I didn't see it. I got the letter from Ford. I opened the envelope — it was a whole family event — and saw the first word, 'Congratulations!' I started crying. I knew it would be a chance for me, and for my whole family."

At Western Oregon University, she took a heavy load of classes, earning her bachelor's degree, bilingual endorsement and ESL endorsement. "What drove me was my parents — knowing I wanted to support them."

Veronica married after college, and worked as a teacher in the Salem area. Her dream was always to return to teach in the Hood River Valley. But she wanted to experience what she calls "the roughness of the profession," so she and her husband stayed in Salem for four years.

"I wanted to come back to work with teachers who had seen the best of me," she said. "I feel so grateful for the people who believed in me when I didn't believe in myself."

She was hired this year to work at Mid Valley as a Dual Language third grade teacher, teaching in the same room where the shy third grader first began dreaming. She says, "Education — no one can ever take that away from you, the knowledge you learn. Teaching — it's something that fills my heart."

Farmers market accepting vendor applications

Hood River Farmers Market is accepting applications from potential vendors selling a variety of goods like fresh fruits or vegetables, meat, dairy products, honey, artisan food products and other agricultural goods. Vendors that are able to offer organically grown fruit, unique value-added products like jams, jellies, and pickles, and prepared food vendors with breakfast or lunch items are encouraged to apply. The market also features local craft makers and artists.

There are many benefits to selling at the market, said a press release: "It's a great opportunity to build a local customer base and get feedback about products. Average customer attendance at the Hood River Farmers Market

is 850, with over 1,000 in peak season. Farmers markets also provide an opportunity for new business owners to learn from a network of vendors and experienced entrepreneurs. New vendors have found the market to be a fun and profitable way to share their products and engage with their community."

Vendor applications are available at www.gorgegrown.com/farmmarket/vendor or can be picked up at the Hood River County Library. Priority deadline is March 10, but applications will be accepted throughout the season.

Contact Market Manager Hannah Ladwig to apply or with inquiries at 541-490-6420 or Hannah@gorgegrown.com.

HR Art Club hosts acrylic landscape class

Hood River Art Club will host local and professional artist Charlene Rivers on Thursday, Feb. 20 for a workshop.

Rivers will show participants how to create "a whimsical view of Mount Hood, Parkdale and the upper valley" in acrylic paints.

"Charlene will guide you through her bold, beautiful approach to landscape painting," said a press release.

A pre-drawn 12x16 canvas,

acrylic paints and additional supplies will be provided by Rivers, said a press release. Participants should bring brushes and other materials they commonly use.

The workshop will be held in the meeting room at Fish Food Bank, 1130 Tucker Road, Hood River, on Thursday, Feb. 20 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

There is a participant fee of \$20 for Hood River Art Club members and \$25 for non-members.

YESTERYEARS

Spanish influenza hits town in 1920

1910 — 110 YEARS AGO

The feature on the session of the city council held Monday evening was the passing of the ordinance providing for the closing of poolrooms and bowling alleys Sunday and at midnight Saturday. The ordinance originally included soft drink establishments, but was amended before its final passage to allow them to remain open. Believing that the lid was being put on too tight, Councilman Brosius moved to strike the clause providing for Sunday closing, but on being put to a vote, the amendment failed to carry.

1920 — 100 YEARS AGO

According to the latest figures available, there have been, up to date, 28 cases of genuine Spanish influenza in the county section of Hood River since the epidemic was first noted several weeks ago. The majority of the cases are of a mild type and the alarming symptoms noted in the epidemic a year ago are generally absent. A number of the patients have fully recovered, but several new cases have been reported in the past few days.

1930 — 90 YEARS AGO

At a meeting of the board of directors of the Crystal Spring Water Co. last weekend, it was decided to go ahead with the project of bringing the water from this fine spring down from its source south of Parkdale, to serve the Pine Grove, Odell, Willow Flat and other districts. It is expected that the spring will serve more than 500 families eventually.

1940 — 80 YEARS AGO

Two Hood River residents, Mrs. Harry T. DeWitt and Minoru Yasui, have furnished considerable copy for the Oregonian in the past few days. Mrs. DeWitt inaugurated the discussion on the term and abuse of the term "housewife," while Yasui was interviewed for a page on the status of American-born, American citizen children of Japanese parents in the United States.

1950 — 70 YEARS AGO

The State Highway Commission on Tuesday announced that it has passed in favor of Hood River City Council's request for a warning light system at the corner of 13th and Oak streets, the junction of the Columbia River Highway and secondary highway traffic. The city requested a warning system here because of the heavy traffic and the danger to school children at this point. The city sought a stop light, but stated that a warning system, similar to the one at the corner of Ninth and Oak, would be better than nothing.



Hood River News archives

FEBRUARY 11, 1960

Coffee "Break" for the county Heart Fund drive will come next Monday, Feb. 15, when restaurants throughout the valley will donate coffee sale proceeds to the national Heart Fund drive. Practicing up, for publicity purposes, in the Hood River Bowl coffee shop this week, these local men donated early as county Chairman Bruno Hukari, far right, watched with interest.

1960 — 60 YEARS AGO

Both Hood River High and Wy'east announced this week that each school's nominee for the annual Bausch and Lomb Science Award was also a top football star. Dennis Crowe, HRHS student body president, has been named that school's nominee. At Wy'east, Wayne Kanemasu is the winner.

1970 — 50 YEARS AGO

Price of the property was still a key consideration this week when county commissioners discussed a proposal for county purchase of the old Parkdale Primary school building. The structure and its site, declared surplus property by the Hood River County school board, is currently in use as a day care center for migrant children.

1980 — 40 YEARS AGO

County commissioners voted 3-1 here Monday to honor an appraisal filed by Louis Gehrig against zoning Port of Hood River property in Odell for light industrial use. The Port of Hood River purchased about 30 acres in Odell and was seeking a zone change on 16 acres that would development of a plant for an industrial door manufacturer.

1990 — 30 YEARS AGO

A Salem-based investment company withdrew its application before the Hood River County City Planning Commission, ending speculation that the company would build a 70,000-foot shopping center west of Hood River. David Glenzie, of Glennie Property Investments, said that his company had withdrawn the request due to site condition problems. The

VERBATIM

Well Drilling Outfit Strikes Vein Of Ore

Frank Davidson, in charge of the well drilling outfit of the Apple Land & Orchard Company, exhibited some samples of high-grade iron ore which was taken from a boring for a well in the Willow Flat district last week. The well is being drilled on the place of Frank Masse, and the vein of ore was struck at a depth of 146 feet. So far it as been penetrated seven feet and continues to show ore containing 25 percent iron.

The ore is found in live rock that contains no lava formation, and those who

know of the incident are considerably interested in knowing how thick the vein is.

As far as it is known, this is the only mineral deposit of any proportion ever found in the valley, notwithstanding the oft repeated tale of the gold mine which is supposed to exist in the Mount Hood country and which, under the name of the Lost Cabin Mine, has been the cause of wearing out of much shoe leather.

— Hood River News, February 9, 1910

center was to have housed a 30,000 square foot supermarket, a drugstore of 31,472 square feet and 7,800 square feet of retail commercial space on property located near the intersection of Rand Road and Cascade Street west of downtown Hood River.

2000 — 20 YEARS AGO

Spring chinook are shaping up for a spectacular run in 2000. Now entering the lower Columbia River, the salmon are expected to begin passing Bonneville Dam next month, and fisheries managers predict the Mid-Columbia could see four times last year's numbers.

Five and six years ago, the run hit its all time low: 21,100 in 1994 and 10,200 in 1995, which echoed four years later in the 1999 return. But the floods of 1996 apparently swept a strong class of 2000 to seas. If predictions come true, there could be a spring chinook sport fishing

season on the Deschutes River.

2010 — 10 YEARS AGO

While government stimulus dollars — now referred as the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 — are hard at work across the country, a project in Hood River acts as a prime example of how the funds are not only keeping people on the job, but how they're contributing to improvements that have long-term and economic and environmental benefits. Hood River's Farmers Irrigation District started the Indian Creek Corridor Irrigation Improvement Project Dec. 1 thanks in part to about \$4 million ARRA funds provided to the district through the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality State Revolving Fund.

Compiled by Trisha Walker and Emily Fitzgerald, News staff writers

'Dammed to Extinction' shows at HRVHS

Theater dept. fundraiser

Local filmmakers Michael Peterson and Steven Hawley will present their documentary film, "Dammed to Extinction," on Saturday, Feb. 15 at 7 p.m. at Hood River Valley High School.

This event will be a fundraiser benefiting the HRVHS Theater Department. The composer for "Dammed to Extinction," Duncan Krummel, is a Hood River native and graduate of HRVHS.

The film chronicles the trials and tribulations of a Pacific Ocean orca pod whose existence is threatened by a dwin-

dling Chinook salmon population as a result of damming the Snake River. The film was able to raise \$5,000 through a crowdfunding campaign to present at BigSky.

"Dammed to Extinction" won best feature film award at the Eugene Environmental Film Festival last year. A few weeks later, it was awarded best endangered species film at the Wildlife Conservation Film Festival in New York City. It also won the audience choice award at the Gig Harbor Film Festival, said a press release.

"Dammed to Extinction" is also featured on TEDx's YouTube Channel, which has over 15.5 million subscribers, according to a press release.

Library hosts variety of events during February

Black History Month events at the Hood River County Library kicked off last week. On Wednesday, Feb. 12, it's "African Fabric Dyeing." See *Happenings*, page B3 for details.

Cardboard body armor

Visit the Hood River Library Makerspace on Saturday, Feb. 22 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to make your own piece of body armor out of cardboard. Hood River Valley High School senior Brooklyn Williams will lead participants through a simple process of constructing a pauldron (shoulder armor) from cardboard and other simple materials.

This program is suitable for

children ages 8 and up only, and preregistration is required at 541-386-2535 or info@hoodriverlibrary.org.

For more information, visit hoodriverlibrary.org.

Marvel Trivia

The Marvel Trivia event has been rescheduled for Feb. 22 at 4 p.m. "Teens, adults and skulls welcome."

Save the Date

March 14 is the return of Feast of Words, the annual "party in the library." The event features local food and drink, silent and live auctions, with proceeds this year used for masonry repairs on the original 1913 Carnegie Library portion of the downtown branch.

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