

March 1, 2003

Volume 1, Issue 9

As The Toilet Turns

Personality Profile

The year was 1989. It was in that year that the current Head Custodian of Tahoma Senior High School found work within the Tahoma School District. Her name is Connie West.

Connie has worked in the district as a custodian for a number of years, beginning her responsibilities at Lake Wilderness Elementary School. Later, she worked at the High School, then took a position for a short time at Rock Creek

Elementary and for the past 4 years or so, has worked as the Head Custodian at the High School.

Connie is a well-organized individual who has pride and a sense of responsibility when it comes to her work. She is easy to work with and fun to be around. With regard to the crew she works with at the High School, Connie says, "The staff and students are great. The THS custodial crew has a positive team attitude. (I like that word). Everyone does their best and enjoys working with each

other. They have earned the status of "Super Crew". Every one of our Super Crew puts the extra effort into their jobs and has pride and ownership of the building and campus. Communication is very important to our entire crew and everyone has input. We enjoy the breaks and summers where we can all get together and have fun...and work together."

Over the years, Connie has seen a lot of interesting things.

(Continued on page two)

Welcome Aboard!

The Custodial Department welcomes aboard Stacia Rikansrud. She is the new Night Lead at Shadow Lake Elementary. We look forward to getting to know her and are pleased to have her as part of our department!



Tidbits on Two

Page Two:

They're Movin' Around...Again!

Personality Profile (continued)

Cleaning Basics Word Find

Upcoming Meetings

Consensus Meeting @ Support Services on March 4, 2003 @ 8:30 a.m.

Training Committee @ TSHS on March 14, 2003 in the Custodial Office @ 1:00 p.m.

Test
Your
Memory



See if you can recall these points which were discussed in previous issues of *As The Toilet Turns*.

1. How much soil are modern residential carpets designed to hide? (July 1, 2002 issue)
2. What would you use a red floor machine pad for? (October 1, 2002 issue)
3. When cleaning whiteboards, what should NEVER be used? (December 1, 2002 issue)
4. Why should custodians be interested in the pH scale? (February 1, 2003 issue)
5. If you were to dilute a solution at the rate of 1:32, how many ounces of the solution would you put in a gallon of water? (August 1, 2002 issue)

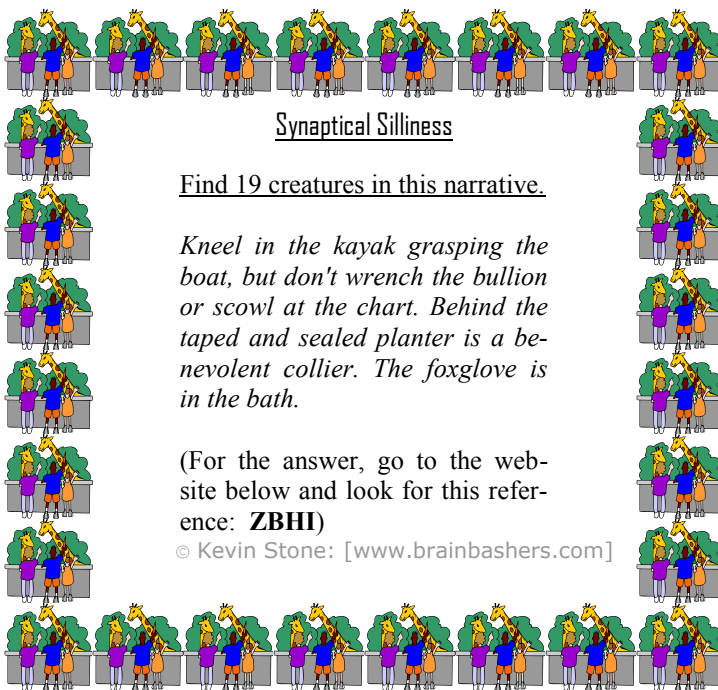
Synoptical Silliness

Find 19 creatures in this narrative.

Kneel in the kayak grasping the boat, but don't wrench the bullion or scowl at the chart. Behind the taped and sealed planter is a benevolent collier. The foxglove is in the bath.

(For the answer, go to the website below and look for this reference: **ZBHI**)

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(Personality continued)

Here, for example, is one humorous story she recalls from her days at Lake Wilderness Elementary.

“We were waxing the hallways. A teacher wanted to work in her room and I told her we were waxing and to use her outside door. I came back to see if the wax was dry. There were bare foot prints dried in the wax clear down the hall. The footprints led to the culprit. Somehow it seemed normal at Lake Wilderness; however I just had to find out what space ship she was thrown out of. ‘Why?,’ I asked. She said she thought if she took her shoes off that her foot prints wouldn’t show. I came to the conclusion that some people take on the intelligence level of the grade they teach. I also wondered about turning elementary teachers loose with Plaster of Paris. They would spill dry Plaster of Paris on the carpet and then try to clean it up with a wet sponge...or dump the left over Plaster of Paris or can-

dle wax down the drain and then cry that their sinks wouldn’t drain. Spray painting in the middle of their carpets was a classic.”

Of course, now that she works with older students, you’d think things would be better. Connie continues; “The High School stories are...uh...different. I think we should all get our stories together and write a best seller. The proceeds would go to hiring more custodians. Actually no one would believe these people are teaching our children.”

After years of experience and interesting encounters with all sorts of unusual hullabaloo, Connie does have some words of wisdom she’d like to share. “Take pride, do the very best you can. Be helpful and courteous. Don’t let people walk on you; they do not have that right. No one is any better or less than you are. We are all human and we are all doing A JOB. Clearly state your expectations and normally other people will rise to them. If they don’t, possi-

bly they misunderstood. State them again firmly and clearly, ask them if they understand. Change is very good. Always be willing to try something new, or try new ways of doing things. Sometimes we do things the way they have always been done and there are better ways of doing it. Communicate to the building staff. Normally they are willing to help if they know what the problems are and what they can do to help. There are always a few people/students that are trouble but they are always in the minority. Respect the students/staff and they will respect you. Always remember there are two sides

to every story. Always investigate before coming to a conclusion. Communication on every front is very important. People cannot read your mind; don’t expect them to.”

As Connie continues to work at her job, she looks forward to an interesting and exciting future. Thinking about that, Connie says that she wants “to live, be happy, have grand-babies some day and do what I want in life.”

Connie has been a real asset to the High School environment, and her crew truly appreciates her thoughts, ideas, humor and aspirations.

To sum it all up, Connie concludes by saying, “Your outlook on life is what your world is. Be positive. My favorite quote is: ‘If you always do what you’ve always done, you will always get what you’ve always got. CHANGE IS GOOD!!!!’”



Cleaning Basics Word Find

Find the following words:

Urinal, broom, floor, carpets, spotter, scraper, wax, bathroom, puttyknife, alkalinity, sweep, garbage, custodian, ph, mop, soil, rags, walls, window, sponge, classroom, buffer, soap, bucket, acidic.

O R W A X L O N O W S R A F L A B
 B R O O M A R R A W B U C K E T A
 B A P P M N S K E O R R I F C N I
 M O O O P I R E R N E R D L O R O
 O S B S M R P O S F T B I E L T B
 O G W Y Y U O P I A T A C I C P Y
 R A R A G S O N G U O N O A C R N
 S R P E O N K R H P P S R O U S T
 S B A H G Y O G E I S P T O S L R
 A A S E T O B U F F E R H W T L S
 L G U T L T T E L T C M R E O A P
 C E U F N B A O S B S O A P D W E
 U P W H A L K A L I N I T Y I H S
 L S C R A P E R W I N D O W A I U
 L T F P B A T H R O O M G E N N P
 P C O P R O N L I R S A U S C E R



They’re Movin’ Around...Again!

More moves are occurring throughout the District due to various positions opening up. On Wednesday, February 12, Melisa O’Brien, formally the Night Lead at the High School took the position of Night Lead at Glacier Park Elementary. The High School crew will miss her jolly disposition and happy smile. We wish her success! In addition, Robert Adams has now taken over the Night Lead position at the High School as of February 20th.

As various positions open and close throughout the District, more personnel will move around. Keep your eyes and ears open for further updates in future issues.