

Applegater

Photo by Barbara Holiday

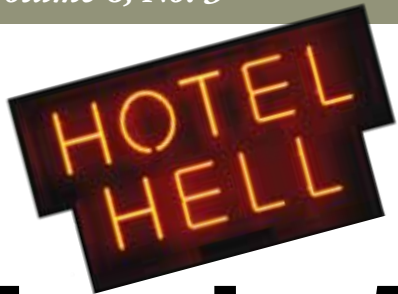


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FALL 2013
Volume 6, No. 3

Applegate Valley Community Newspaper
Serving Jackson and Josephine Counties — Circulation: 9,400

Postal Patron



Gordon Ramsay's HOTEL HELL

invades Applegate River Lodge

After more than a decade of running restaurants in some of the world's top hotels, Gordon Ramsay knows firsthand the crucial importance of surpassing guests' highest expectations. Last year's first season of HOTEL HELL was the biggest unscripted network hit of the summer. Now Gordon Ramsay is back for a second season, hitting the road to fix some of America's most horrendous hotels, troubled inns and struggling resorts, many of which are on the brink of closure.

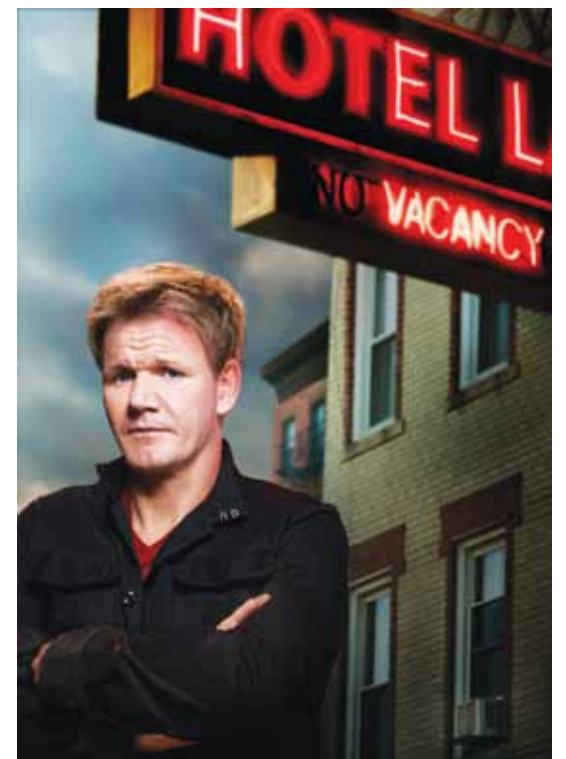
Gordon traveled from coast to coast of the USA this season, and one of his

stops was the Applegate River Lodge in Applegate, Oregon, where he worked with the Davis family. Gordon and team were in town from June 2 through June 6; the local community was able to join in on the filming for dinner and hotel stay.

Joanna Davis, proprietor of the lodge along with Richard Davis and their sons, Duke and Dusty, explains: "The Applegate River Lodge needs help because it's time to pass the torch to our children. They grew up in this business and saw their mother and father stressed, as we could never agree on how to run the business and what was

important. The boys have not come together with any common goal for the business. We hope that Gordon Ramsay with his expertise and passion for the hospitality business can show the boys how important it is to the success of the business that they find common ground and can work together. We are all very grateful for this opportunity."

An airdate has not been announced at this time, but stay tuned to the *Applegater* Facebook page for updates.



Gordon Ramsay and his HOTEL HELL team paid a visit to our own Applegate Lodge. Stay tuned! Photo: FOX.

Special Report: Applegate Fire District levy up for renewal

BY SANDY SHAFFER

In November we voters within Applegate Valley Fire District #9's (AVFD#9) jurisdiction will be asked to make a decision that could change how our fire district operates. The question: do we agree to pay *seven cents more* per \$1000 of assessed value per year to maintain our current level of services?

It's important to understand the history of our 33-year-old fire district in order to make an informed vote, so here's

a brief summary of what's happened in the past.

AVFD#9 provides structural fire protection to our homes and businesses, and they are our first responders for medical emergencies, rescue efforts and wildfires. AVFD#9 began as a volunteer fire district, but to keep up with the growth in the Applegate since 1980 the fire district has grown to seven fire stations,

See FIRE DISTRICT, page 12



Firefighters patrol Powell Creek Road in Williams as part of their successful fight against the Pacifica Fire in August. At this point in the evening, the fire was 75% contained and roadblocks were opened to residents after hours of waiting in close to 100-degree weather. Hats off to these dedicated firefighters. Photo: Mikell Nielsen.

Butterflies of unrivaled beauty flutter nearby

BY LINDA KAPPEN

Great Purple Hairstreak and Mourning Cloak butterflies are some of the latest to fly in fall, with the Mourning Cloak being one of our earliest spring butterflies. Any artist, poet or nature-loving person will appreciate the unrivaled beauty of these two butterflies.

Great Purple Hairstreak

The Great Purple Hairstreak (*Atlides halesus*) is a butterfly in the family of Lycaenidae. With a wingspan of up to one-and-a-half inches, it is unlike any other.

This tropical-looking butterfly will captivate your interest as it nectars delicately on flowers. A flash of iridescent blue in flight, and you are hooked into seeing where it lands among the flowers. When it does land, you will see a brightly colored abdomen, soft deep gray with purple tones on closed wings, and bright red-orange spots on their wings near the base of the abdomen. Metallic-colored blue, green, and golden spots near the long tails make you wish to see the brilliant blue wings open again, but the butterfly nectars with closed wing.

See BUTTERFLIES, page 9



Although this butterfly is most commonly known as the Great Purple Hairstreak, it has no purple on it. Photo: Thea Linnaea Pyle.



The Mourning Cloak butterfly is the State Insect of Montana. Photo: Linda Kappen.

INSIDE THE GATER

Green and Solar home tour returns.....page 8
Jesse Applegate descendant pens tome.....page 9

Grasshoppers and the locust mystery.....page 14
Grape Talk: Local winemaker conversations.....page 17

Start winter dreaming

BY MARCUS SMITH

Mark your calendar for this year's 15th Annual Master Gardening symposium on November 2.

Curious about home winemaking? How about raising chickens in your own back yard? Want to grow your own mushrooms or make your own artisanal cheeses?

How does climate change affect my home garden? What's the best way to collect the rainwater that falls on my property? Can I catch and use the gray water my household produces?

These are just a few of the many questions under discussion at this year's

Winter Dreams/Summer Gardens Symposium sponsored by the Jackson County Master Gardeners Association. Now in its 15th season, this daylong event brings the region's leading authorities together for a lively exploration of topics and issues that challenge gardeners throughout southern Oregon.

For many area gardeners, Winter Dreams is the most eagerly anticipated educational experience of the year—a meeting of the minds with offerings for gardeners at any level of expertise. In addition to learning from scholars, researchers and practitioners, the symposium is a great opportunity to rub shoulders and swap ideas with fellow gardeners.

You'll be immersed in a unique learning environment where science-based practice and state-of-the-art thinking are seasoned with priceless hands-on experience and local garden lore.

Enrollment includes your choice of four 90-minute classroom sessions, plus a catered lunch where you can chat informally with the experts and other local gardeners.

It's as easy as it is rewarding: Choose the topics of interest to you, then reserve your spot by calling 541-776-7371 or emailing robert.reynolds@oregonstate.edu.

Summer Dreams takes place at the Rogue Community College-Southern Oregon University Higher Education Center in downtown Medford and parking during the event is free. For detailed class descriptions, visit <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/sorec/gardening>.

Marcus Smith
marcus@mind.net



Choose from four 90-minute classroom sessions, plus a catered lunch to chat with the experts.



Rogue Community College/Southern Oregon University Higher Education Center, Medford.

What: The 15th Annual Winter Dreams/Summer Gardens Symposium

When: Saturday, November 2, 9 am – 4:30 pm

Where: RCC/SOU Higher Education Center
101 South Bartlett Street, Medford, Oregon

Cost: \$40 fee includes four 90-minute sessions plus lunch.
Downtown Medford parking is FREE.

A warm welcome to three new *Applegater* board members

It's official! Please welcome our new board members, who already have made significant contributions to the *Applegater* and are dedicated to the paper's ongoing presence in the Applegate Valley. With their wisdom, creativity and energy, we look forward to publishing for at least another two decades.



Chris Bratt

Chris was born and raised in San Francisco, California. After earning a BA in industrial arts from San Francisco State University, he started a family and began a career as a union carpenter. For many years he was a partner in a building contracting business in the San Francisco Bay Area as well as a teacher of carpentry and industrial arts. Upon moving to Applegate, Oregon, in 1976, Chris continued working as a building contractor and manager of his family's small woodland farm on Thompson Creek in Applegate. He is a founding board member of many local environmental groups including the Geos Institute, and was a founding member of the Applegate Partnership/Applegate River Watershed Council. He is a lifetime member of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America. His special interests include improving the environmental integrity of the Applegate watershed and seeking better utilization of small-diameter trees for building and manufacturing purposes. Chris believes the *Applegater* newspaper is an invaluable means of getting local news and independent thought out to all residents. He calls on all of us to help produce an even more creative, innovative and unique community newspaper.



Debbie and Don Tollefson

The Tollefson met and married on the Monterey Peninsula in the early 1970s where both their daughters were born in the early 1980s. They owned restaurants and a trucking company, Don did real estate and Debbie taught art at Monterey High School. After moving to the San Diego area, Debbie taught art at Mt. Carmel High School and later ran galleries in Rancho Santa Fe and Las Vegas. In the 1990s Debbie managed the La Jolla store of Draper's and Damon's and organized over 200 fashion shows in San Diego and Los Angeles. During that time, Don was a building contractor, then opened a number of stores in San Diego County while in management at Home Depot. In 2004, Don and Debbie found a new home on Thompson Creek in Applegate, where Don joined Oregon-Land in 2006. Debbie joined him in 2007, and together they opened Applegate Valley Realty in 2010. Because Don and Debbie are grateful for the way Applegate residents have welcomed them and supported their business, they give back to the community whenever possible. Among other activities, Don joined the Board of Directors of the Children's Advocacy Center in 2011, and now they are both excited to be part of the *Applegater* newspaper team.

Thanks to our retiring board members

Undying appreciation is due our outgoing long-time board members **Linda Fischer, Joe Lavine, Hal Macy and Paula Rissler** for all their contributions over the years. We are grateful that Joe is staying on as our webmaster, and that Paula will continue with behind-the-scenes activities as well. The *Applegater* would not be here today without them.

Technical and financial assistance available for landowners

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Jackson County offers technical and financial assistance to landowners of private nonindustrial forestlands. They are now accepting applications for the 2013 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) for forest health and fuels-reduction projects in the Applegate Community Wildfire Protection Plan area. Cost-share is available for eligible practices including thinning, pruning, and slash treatments. Program incentives are also available for development of a Forest Management Plan. Priority will be given to applications within the Thompson Creek watershed.

If you have questions regarding the program or the location of your property, or would like to apply, please contact Erin Kurtz, district conservationist, Medford, Oregon, at erin.kurtz@or.usda.gov or 541-776-4270 ext. 108, or Peter Winnick, soil conservationist, Medford, Oregon at peter.winnick@or.usda.gov or 541-776-4270 ext. 109.

Additional Links to the Oregon NRCS website:
EQIP Program: <http://www.or.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/eqip/index.html>
All Programs: <http://www.or.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/>



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WHO WE ARE

The Applegate Valley Community Newspaper, Inc. is a nonprofit 501(c)3 corporation dedicated to the publication of the *Applegater* newspaper, which, we feel, reflects the heart and soul of our community.

Our Mission

The nonprofit Applegate Valley Community Newspaper, Inc. (AVCN), provides the many rural and diverse communities of the Applegate Watershed with a communications vehicle, the *Applegater* newspaper, free of charge to all watershed residents. Our quarterly paper presents constructive, relevant, educational and entertaining reports on a wide variety of subjects such as:

- natural resources
- ecology and other science information
- historical and current events
- community news and opinions

AVCN encourages and publishes differing viewpoints and, through the *Applegater* newspaper, acts as a clearinghouse for this diverse community. We are dedicated to working together with community members to maintain and enhance the quality of life that is unique to the Applegate Watershed.

Acknowledgements

The *Applegater* Newspaper is published quarterly by the Applegate Valley Community Newspaper, Inc., and is funded by donations from our loyal readers and advertisements for local businesses.

Special thanks to Barbara Holiday for layout; Sue Maesen, Haley May, Margaret della Santina and Paul Tipton for editing; Kaye Clayton, P. R. Kellogg and Paul Tipton for proofing; Paula Rissler and Rona Jones for bookkeeping; and webmaster Joe Lavine.

Board of Directors

- Greeley Wells, Chairman
- Debbie Tollefson, Secretary
- Chris Bratt, Treasurer
- Michael Riding
- J.D. Rogers, Editor
- Don Tollefson

Editorial Committee

- Chris Bratt
- Rauno Perttu
- J.D. Rogers
- Sandy Shaffer
- Greeley Wells

All articles, stories, opinions and letters that appear in the *Applegater* are the opinion and property of the author, and not necessarily that of the *Applegater* or the Applegate Valley Community Newspaper, Inc.

PROTECTION OF COPYRIGHTED MATERIAL

The *Applegater* requires that any and all materials submitted for publication be the intellectual property of the author unless otherwise credited.

All articles submitted to the *Applegater* are subject to edit at the newspaper's discretion.

Letters to the Editor cannot be more than 450 words. Opinion pieces and unsolicited articles cannot exceed 600 words. Community calendar submissions must be brief.

All photos submitted must be high resolution (300 dpi) or "large format" (e.g., 30" x 40"). Any questions, email gater@applegater.org.

All submissions for our next issue must be received either at the address or email below by the deadline.

Applegater c/o Applegate Valley Community Newspaper, Inc.
P.O. Box 14, Jacksonville, OR 97530
Email: gater@applegater.org
Website: www.applegater.org



*All we need
is love*

Now that we have our enthusiastic new board members in place (*see page 2*) and are revitalized going forward, all the *Applegater* needs is love...well, and money, too.

As we do on an annual basis, we have enclosed a pre-addressed envelope on this page to make it easy for our faithful readers and supporters to drop in a check, seal, affix a stamp, and mail off to your favorite local newspaper (that would be us).

The board already has a lot of plans in store and we are excited about the future. Please help us ensure that future by donating whatever you can so that we can continue providing scintillating articles, educational reports, community news and opinions, and more.

We appreciate your ongoing support to make this newspaper possible—thank you!

Board of Directors
Applegater Newspaper

A huge THANKS to the generous donors who contributed to the *Applegater*.

SUSTAINERS
Greeley Wells, Jacksonville, OR

CONTRIBUTORS
Anonymous, Jacksonville, OR
Donna & Matt Epstein, Jacksonville, OR
In support of the local fire district's activities
Ellen & Rick Levine, Grants Pass, OR

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The Applegater booth at Applegate Valley Day held at Cantrall-Buckley park was staffed by Board of Directors chairman Greeley Wells (left) and new board member Chris Bratt (right). Thank you to all of our supporters, old and new, who stopped by to chat, pick up a back issue of the Gater, or purchase an engraved wine glass for a worthy cause. All of the Gater folks who held down the fort during the day enjoyed the wine, beer, pizza, the Applegate Valley Lion's Club tri-tip sandwiches, and all the varied vendor booths. Photo: Rauno Perttu.

Help us ensure that we have the ongoing support needed to publish the *Applegater*. All contributors receive recognition in the *Applegater* each issue.

Patron - over \$1000
Sustainer \$501 - \$1000
Contributor \$201 - \$500
Supporter \$51 - \$200
Sponsor \$5 - \$50

All donations are tax-deductible and are greatly appreciated. Please make your checks payable to *Applegater* Newspaper and mail to:

Applegater
P.O. Box 14
Jacksonville, OR 97530

Donors: We strive to ensure our donor list is accurate. Please contact us if there are errors or omissions.

“One of the greatest delusions in the world is the hope that the evils in this world are to be cured by legislation.”
—attributed to Thomas Reed 1886

Fall masthead photo credit

Barbara Holiday shot this smoke bush at its peak color on her family's property in Williams.

Photo Specs

To be printable, all photos submitted must be high resolution (300 dpi) or "large format" (e.g., 30" x 40").

Advertisers!

We can help you reach your market. The *Applegater* is the only newspaper covering the entire Applegate Valley.

With a circulation of 9,200 and a readership of over 20,000, we cover Jacksonville, Ruch, Applegate, Williams, Murphy, Wilderville, Wonder, Jerome Prairie and areas of Medford and Grants Pass.

For more information, contact:

- Jackson County—Sally Buttshaw
541-646-8418
sallybuttshaw@gmail.com
- Josephine County—Shawn Zimmerman
541-414-7301
theszfamil@gmail.com

Next deadline: November 1

DEADLINES

ISSUE	DATE
Winter	November 1
Spring	February 1
Summer	May 1
Fall	August 1

Job Opportunity

The Applegater newspaper needs a self-motivated advertising salesperson for Josephine County. High commission. Contact J.D. Rogers at 541-846-7736 or gater@applegater.org.

What's Inside the Gater

Back in Time: The 1939 Golden Gate International Exposition p. 6
Behind the Green Door: Stuck in the past..... p. 21
Birdman: Fall migration is under way p. 11
Dave Foreman coming to Oregon and the Applegate..... p. 10
Opinion: River right..... p. 19
Opinion: Legislation seeks to remove federal safeguards for forests p. 19
Sanctuary One and Ruch K-8 Community School partnership..... p. 6
Tall Tales from the Editor: Good-bye or Flick your Bic..... p. 18
The Starry Side: Tilt gives us seasons p. 7
Trends and Observations: Birth of a snowbird?..... p. 8
Thinking for ourselves: Taking back wildlife conservation p. 10

Community Calendar

AA Meeting There is an open meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous every Wednesday at 7 am at the Williams Community Church Fellowship Hall on East Fork Road in Williams. This meeting is open to those who have a drinking problem and have a desire to stop drinking, and also to anyone interested in the Alcoholics Anonymous program of recovery from drinking.

American Association of University Women (AAUW) Grants Pass Branch meets monthly from September through May. Days, times, and locations vary. All those who hold an associate of arts, baccalaureate or higher degree from an accredited college or university are welcome to join. Contact Velma Woods at woods@grantspass.com or 541-956-5287, or Marianne Dwyer at readandshop@yahoo.com or 541-479-4041. Visit our website at <http://aauwgrantspass.org> and see us on Facebook.

Applegate Christian Fellowship. For service times, call 541-899-8732 24 hours/day.

Applegate Fire District Board of Directors meets on the third Wednesday of each month at Station 1, 18489 N. Applegate Road at 7:30 pm, except for the months of March, April and May, which are held at Headquarters, 1095 Upper Applegate Road. For more information, call 541-899-1050.

Applegate 4-H Swine Club meets on Tuesdays following the third Wednesday of every month at 7 pm. For more information, contact Charles Elmore at 541-846-6528 or Barbara Niedermeyer at 541-846-7635.

Applegate Friends of Fire District #9 meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the Fire Station at 1095 Upper Applegate Road at 6 pm. New members are welcome. For more information, call Bob Fischer 541-846-6218.

Applegate Library Hours
 Sunday.....closed
 Monday.....closed
 Tuesday.....2 pm - 6 pm
 Wednesday.....closed
 Thursday.....closed
 Friday.....2 pm - 6 pm
 Saturday.....10 am - 2 pm
 (Storytime will be held Tuesdays at 2:30 pm.)

Applegate Neighborhood Network (ANN) meets on the last Wednesday of every month at the Ruch Library. All interested persons are welcome to attend. ANN is a community organization dedicated to protecting, preserving, and restoring the Applegate watershed. For more information about ANN, call Duane Bowman, 541-899-7264.

Applegate Partnership and Watershed Council meets the 4th Thursday of the month at the Applegate Library. For more information call 541-899-9982.

Applegate Valley Community Grange meets the second Sunday of each month at 6 pm for a potluck and at 7 pm for a business meeting. Call 541-846-7501.

Applegate Valley Garden Club meets at 1:30 pm on the third Wednesday of the month from September through May. For meeting locations and programs, call Sandra King at 541-899-9027 or Betty Lou Smith at 541-846-6817.

Food & Friends Senior Nutrition Program invites local 60+ seniors to enjoy a nutritious, hot meal served at 11:30 am Monday through Friday at the Jacksonville IOOF Hall located at the corner of Main and Oregon Streets. A donation is suggested and appreciated. Volunteers help serve meals or deliver meals to homebound seniors. For information about volunteering (it takes 40 volunteers to keep the Jacksonville program going) or receiving meals, call Food & Friends at 541-664-6674, x246 or x208.

Friends of Ruch Library Board of Directors meets on the first Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm at Ruch Library. All are welcome. 541-899-7438.

Grants Pass Nordic Ski Club meets on the first Thursday of the month, November through April, at the Newman Methodist Church at 7th and B Streets in Grants Pass at 7 pm. Ski outings are on Saturdays. Listings are on the snow phone at 541-592-4977.

Greater Applegate Community Development Corporation meets the second Wednesday of January, April, July and October at 6 pm at Applegate Fire District Station 1, 18489 North Applegate Road. For more information, go to www.gacdc.org.

Josephine County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) meets Thursdays at 6 pm. For meeting information, call 541-474-6840.

Ruch Library Hours
 Sunday.....closed
 Monday.....closed
 Tuesday.....11 am - 5 pm
 Wednesday.....closed
 Thursday.....1 pm - 7 pm
 Friday.....closed
 Saturday.....12 pm - 4 pm
 (Storytime will be held Tuesdays at 11 am.)

Sanctuary One is open to the public for farm tours every Wednesday and Saturday, 10:30 am - noon. Recommended donation is \$5. Reservations are required. Call 541-899-8627 or email info@sanctuaryone.org.

Southern Oregon Beekeepers Association meets the first Monday of each month at 7:30 pm at the OSU extension. For more information, please contact sobeekeepers@gmail.com.

T.O.P.S. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meets every Monday morning at Applegate Church, 18960 North Applegate Road (at the corner of Hwy. 238 and N. Applegate Road). Weigh-in starts at 8:30 am; the meeting starts at 9:00 am. Come join us!

Williams Creek Watershed Council Meetings: fourth Wednesday of the month at 7 pm at the Williams Creek Fire Station. The Public is welcome. For more information, call 541-846-9175.

Williams Grange Pancake Breakfast, second Sunday of each month, 8:30 to 11 am, followed by the Bluegrass Jam, 11 am to 1 pm. Closed July and August. 20100 Williams Hwy. near Tetherow Rd. For more information, call 541-846-6844.

Williams Grange #399 Business Meeting, second Tuesday of each month, 7 pm. 20100 Williams Hwy. near Tetherow Rd. For more information, call 541-846-6844.

Williams Library Hours
 Sunday.....closed
 Monday.....closed
 Tuesday.....1:30 pm - 4 pm
 Wednesday.....1:30 pm - 4 pm
 Thursday.....closed
 Friday.....closed
 Saturday.....12 pm - 4 pm

Williams Rural Fire Protection District Meetings: fourth Wednesday of the month at 7 pm at the Williams Fire Department.

Women Helping Other Women (WHOW) meets the second Tuesday of the month at 10036 Hwy 238 (Gyda Lane) at 6:30 pm for a potluck meeting to plan work parties at each other's homes. New members are welcome. For more information, call Thalia Truesdell at 541-899-8741 or Sioux Rogers at 541-846-7736.

Wonder Neighborhood Watch Meetings: second Tuesday of each month, 6:30 pm, Wonder Bible Chapel.

Send your calendar information to gater@applegater.org. Be sure to keep the Gater updated with any changes to your listing.

MOVIE & BOOK REVIEWS

— Movie —

Title: *The Lone Ranger*

Reviewer rating: **4 Apples**



(1 Apple—Don't bother, 5 Apples—Don't miss)

PG-13; Action/Adventure/Western; 2 hours, 29 minutes

Opened: June 2013

Cast: Johnny Depp, Armie Hammer, Tom Wilkinson, William Fichtner, Barry Pepper

Director: Gore Verbinski

This Wild West adventure is full of fun and excitement! This is one Disney movie that may not be as familiar to the young people of today as it would be perhaps to their grandparents. Moviegoers are able to see this story through the eyes of Tonto, a Native American spirit warrior. Be forewarned that some scenes could potentially scare little ones; this movie is action-packed and full of surprises. Contrary to some other reviewers, I gave *The Lone Ranger* four Apples!

Sharon Thompson

thompsonsharon99@yahoo.com

Ed. Note: *The reviewer is an ardent moviegoer—often watching the same movie in the theater multiple times.*

— Books —

Waiting for the Barbarians

J.M. Coetzee

How many have read the most decorated, most prize-winning living author in the English-speaking world? I had not, until I bought J. M. Coetzee's little paperback, *Waiting for the Barbarians*, at the Jacksonville Library book sale. A short one hundred and fifty-six pages of what is surely the most brilliantly written, sobering, and chilling picture of how we supposedly civilized primates mistrust, fear, hate, torture, and kill others who look, speak, worship, and live differently from those close to us. We call them uncivilized. We call them barbarians.

Coetzee has won the Nobel Prize for Literature, two of Britain's prestigious Booker Prizes, The *Irish Times* International Fiction Prize, the French Prix Femina Étranger, the Commonwealth Writers' Prize, the Jerusalem Prize for the Freedom of the Individual in Society, and many others.

The "Magistrate"—unnamed—lives contentedly in his remote community until the central government applies pressure upon him to do something about the barbarians that are surely lurking and making ready to invade. We never know the time or locale of the happenings in all this Waiting (we do find that there is snow in winter and that people get about on horseback). The powerful and impatient leader of the central government arrives with his minions to demonstrate to the Magistrate how things should be done. After a short absence, those authorities return with captives whom the Magistrate recognizes as simple fisher folk from a short distance upriver. The Magistrate must cover his eyes and ears to avoid thinking about the nightly groans and screams and the bagged bodies emanating from the shed where the captives are tortured for information about the activities and plans of the purported barbarians.

The Magistrate and the people of his small community experience several changes of heart and conscience, and we horrified readers empathize, condemn, consider options—and, it is hoped, learn.

The only negative about this book, for me, was that I grew weary of reading about what the Magistrate dreams nightly of doing, daydreams of doing, and is sometimes depicted as possibly doing to the tortured person of the captive barbarian woman. But I understand that that too exemplifies a dynamic that drives the forever-war machine of this, our so lovely world.

I think this little book should surely be required reading in secondary schools throughout the world.

Julia Helm Hoskins • 541-899-8470

julmudgeon@aol.com

Ed. Note: *The reviewer is the author of She Caves to Conquer, a book about a young woman who escapes the Midwest, moves halfway around the globe and finds caves that have been occupied for nearly 4,000 years.*

Voices of the Applegate fall concerts

Voices of the Applegate, our community choir consisting of about 25 people, will be meeting every Wednesday evening in the meeting room of the Applegate Library, 18485 North Applegate Road from 7 to 8:30 pm from September 4 until November 20. We will be rehearsing for our fall concerts, which will be held in the Old Presbyterian Church in Jacksonville on November 22 at 7:30 pm, and at the Applegate River Lodge in Applegate on November 24 at 3 pm.

Our choir director, Blake Weller, has a selection of wonderful music for us to practice and learn this season, and we welcome new members to join us at any time. No audition is required. Just come and join us in September and be prepared for a lot of fun. The registration fee is \$50, and covers the 12 rehearsals and two fall concerts. Registration fees pay for our director, our accompanist and the use of the buildings in which we perform. We also try to help with scholarships for choir members when needed.

All are invited to attend our concerts and admission is free.

Joan Peterson
541-846-6988

BORED?

Check out our online calendar

jam-packed with events all over southwest Oregon.

www.applegater.org

DIRTY FINGERNAILS AND ALL

Fire blight: A potential death sentence for your fruit trees

BY SIOUX ROGERS

This past summer there was a serious infestation of fire blight in the Rogue Valley. I would not have taken much notice except that our small, humble heirloom-apple orchard also was affected. In searching the Internet for more information, I found a concise, informative Wikipedia site: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fire_blight.

Serendipitously, I came across an article by the late Paul W. Steiner, professor and extension fruit pathologist at the University of Maryland. This article was first presented at the State Horticultural Association of Pennsylvania Annual Meeting in January 2000. While it will definitely help you understand plant disease management, its philosophy applies equally well to all aspects of life (see <http://www.caf.wvu.edu/kearneysville/articles/philosophy2000.html>).



Gala apple tree with severe fire blight. These apples will not ripen and, in all likelihood, the tree is beyond saving.

[//www.caf.wvu.edu/kearneysville/articles/philosophy2000.html](http://www.caf.wvu.edu/kearneysville/articles/philosophy2000.html).

So if you're interested in fire blight—and Paul Steiner's philosophy, a visit to the two sites referenced here will be most enlightening.

Dirty fingernails and all
Sioux Rogers • 541-846-7736
mumearth2@yahoo.com

Fall colors in the Applegate

BY LUKE RUEDIGER

Fall in the Applegate is a great time to get out, enjoy the mountains and see vibrant fall colors. As the nights grow cold and crisp, the brilliant red of vine maple, the soft pink of Pacific dogwood, and the spectacular yellow of big-leaf maple and Oregon ash brighten the canyons with turning leaves. The display of color, although not as spectacular as the hardwood forests of the East, creates a dramatic contrast with the Applegate's towering green conifers. Water levels drop in the streams as leaves pile up in slow-moving waters, awaiting the heavy rains of winter to flush them downstream. Also waiting for the water levels to rise are fall Chinook, coho, and winter steelhead.

Fall is a time of transition and renewal; fish swim back to their natal spawning grounds and rain replenishes the drought-stricken soil. Calm, moist air begins to settle, bringing frost that paints the trees in their final display of fall

brilliance. To enjoy these final displays of color, consider taking a hike on the Middle Fork or Butte Fork of the Applegate River, the Mule Creek Trail, or the Enchanted Forest Trail.

On the slopes, responding to the stress of drought and cold, deciduous oaks create a brief yet spectacular display of incredible golden-yellow across the lower ridges and south-facing slopes. Understory shrubs of all sorts turn from lucid green to pink, to red, to yellow. Often the first woody shrub to turn in the fall is poison oak; arid conditions turn the leaves bright red or soft pink late each summer as the plants sink into winter dormancy. White and black oak brighten the hillsides and straw-colored grasslands with a short-lived display of unbelievable yellow. The leaves fall en masse on windy days and after a particularly hard frost.

Deer, bear, squirrel, and innumerable species of birds feast upon the season's

A 96-year-old needs your help — again

BY ROBERT VAN HEUIT

Yes, she is now 96 years old. You have helped her a number of times in the past and she needs your help again.

"She" is the beautiful, historic McKee Bridge over the upper Applegate River. The first phase of the restoration of McKee Bridge has begun. A portion of the matching funds (the funds needed to match the federal grant issued to Jackson County for restoration of the bridge) has already been raised and placed in an account with Jackson County.

In the first phase of restoration, the Oregon State Department of Transportation has selected Oregon Bridge Engineering Company (OBEC) to design the repair of the bridge. OBEC received a contract and has commenced work on the design. They expect to complete their work by the end of the year. After review and approval of the proposed design, it is expected that bids will be solicited in April or May of next year, provided that we are able to raise the remaining matching funds.

The engineers plan to design a support system between the existing abutments to support the bridge during construction.

Since a support system will not impact the river, work on the bridge can be conducted at all times of the year. If the support system had been founded in the river, the work would have been limited to a period from mid-June through October. OBEC began the work by conducting a site visit on July 30, 2013, to collect more detailed data to be used in their design.

To date, about \$18,000 in matching funds has been raised for the restoration. We are working on raising the remaining \$38,000 for a total of about \$56,000, which is needed as matching funds for the federal grant issued to Jackson County. We hope to raise a substantial portion of the remaining matching funds from charitable foundations and similar organizations. But local assistance is still needed. You can help by contributing to the McKee Bridge Historical Society (MBHS) at P.O. Box 854, Jacksonville, Oregon 97530.

Help keep McKee Bridge alive and functioning! Donate today!

Robert Van Heuit • 541-899-2927
President, MBHS
rvanh2000@yahoo.com

"We cannot solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them." —Albert Einstein



acorn crop, building up fat and energy for the long winter ahead. Some store the acorns in body fat, building energy reserves for the lean times ahead, while some store the acorn mast in treasure troves scattered across the landscape: in "granary" trees, hollow logs, the forest duff and dry rock crevices. Local carnivores wait for their prey to graze upon these acorns and build up winter fat reserves, so that they in turn become nutritious meals for their predators. Hiking trails such as the Mule Mountain Trail, the Sterling Ditch Trail, the Applegate Ridge Trail, and the Little Grayback Trail offer exceptional opportunities to enjoy local oak woodlands, their display of fall color, and the wildlife that depends upon them.

For more fall hiking ideas, as well as a good dose of botany, fire ecology, natural

history, human history, and geology, check out my newly published trail guide, *The Siskiyou Crest: Hikes, History & Ecology*. The book covers the entire Siskiyou Crest from Mt. Ashland to the Smith River, including the Applegate Foothills, the Klamath River, the Red Buttes Wilderness, the Siskiyou Wilderness, 19 roadless areas, and 76 hikes. *The Siskiyou Crest: Hikes, History & Ecology* is a comprehensive and informative field guide for the Siskiyou Crest. The book will become an essential backcountry companion for all those who love the Siskiyou Crest.

Luke Ruediger
siskiyoucrest@gmail.com

Note: The book is available at local book and outdoor stores. To order the book online, view the author's blog at www.thesiskiyoucrest.blogspot.com.

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BACK IN TIME

The 1939 Golden Gate International Exposition and my grandmother 'Katie' Byrne

BY EVELYN BYRNE WILLIAMS WITH JANEEN SATHRE

I was 13 years old when a trip was planned by my family to attend the 1939 Golden Gate International Exposition, a World's Fair in San Francisco that celebrated, among other things, the city's two newly built bridges. I had not been that far away from home before so the trip was very exciting to me, especially the visit to our relatives living near there. I would be seeing my paternal grandmother, Mary Catherine "Katie" Byrne, who I had not seen in ten years.

Of course, we needed a bigger and better vehicle in which to make that

long journey being as there were six of us going: my parents, brother Morris, his wife Florence, my sister Gladys, and I, plus our luggage. Mother had purchased the car in the summer of 1939 while Dad was still posted on Tallowbox Mountain, the forest service's fire lookout. He trusted her in doing such an important task and she came home with a used 1935 V8 Ford sedan, all shiny, a dark-tan color with black fenders. Gladys and I said it was the "cat's meow," an expression commonly used then.

Preparations for appropriate clothing kept mother busy at her sewing machine

making our dresses. I got a wonderful coat with a real fur collar (see photo), a hand-me-down from an older girl cousin.

By the first part of October, mother had everything ready for the exciting trip. So much of this has escaped

my memory, especially where our luggage was put. That is a mystery. There was no trunk for it and I know it was not on top of our vehicle so it must have been secured to the back with the spare tire.

We left October 19 in the wee hours of the morning. Morris was the driver with our parents in the front seat and Florence, Gladys and me in the back. For some reason, I recall little of that long ride. Why I don't remember stopping for lunch or points of interest along the way is strange. The only part I remember well is seeing all those many distant city lights when arriving late that night at Pinole, California, where Dad's sister, Stella, her husband Emmett O'Brien, and Grandma "Katie" lived.

The next day, I spent much time getting reacquainted with my grandmother. She had come to visit us for a time when I had my third birthday. She gave me a doll buggy and a small table with two chairs and teacups (I still have them). Because tea was her favorite beverage, we had tea parties at that table. Mother said I became terribly spoiled by Grandmother during that visit. I remember being so impressed with her very thick white hair coiled on top of her

head—the most hair I had ever seen.

Days at Pinole went by with much visiting. Then we went to San Jose where Dad's sister Maud and husband Harold Watson lived. On October 26, they escorted us to the fair on Treasure Island, which was built specifically for the exposition. I know we saw many interesting things so new to us. Mother enjoyed the Singer Sewing Machine exhibit and was given an attachment for making rugs on the sewing machine. The only problem was she just had an old treadle Minnesota machine and it would not accept the rug maker.

I was more interested in the outdoor artist doing quick pastel landscape paintings and I begged Mother for one. I know the price must have been low because she bought me one. Sad to say, after many years it disappeared from our household, probably because it was never framed.

Time has taken its toll on my memory so these are just bits and pieces of that delightful trip and time spent with those dear relatives, back in time.

Evelyn Byrne Williams
with Janeen Sathre
541-899-1443



Left to right: Uncle Emmett O'Brien, Grandma "Katie" Byrne, John Byrne, Aunt Stella O'Brien, Aunt Maud Watson, Gladys Byrne, Florence Byrne, Pearl Byrne, Evelyn Byrne (and her coat with the fur collar), and Uncle Harold Watson.

Sanctuary One and Ruch K-8 Community School forge new partnership

BY DELLA MERRILL

Sanctuary One's new collaboration with Ruch K-8 Community School just goes to show that things happen when the time is right. Sanctuary One contacted the school in 2010 in hopes of generating interest in working together. Nothing happened until the winter of 2012 when Cindy McDonald, Ruch Elementary School teacher, suggested a partnership. We were ready and so were they.

The partnership evolved because of the school's commitment to provide their students with opportunities in place-based education. This approach forges strong ties between local, social and environmental organizations incorporating several goals, among them: helping to improve quality of life and economic vitality, emphasizing learning through participation while integrating core curriculum areas such as math, science and language arts. And the bonus: This approach has proven to re-energize teachers!

"I feel that Sanctuary One offers students the opportunity to be connected with the land and their community," says Cindy McDonald. "As we carry on, we want to strengthen students' understandings of their potential to make an intentional, meaningful contribution."

Last January, two groups of seventh- and eighth-grade students began volunteering every week. They participated in all aspects of the farm: walking and socializing dogs, hanging out with farm animals, mucking the pastures, bucking hay and helping tend the gardens.

During the first few months of the program, the kids were accompanied by Ryan King, a student teacher from Southern Oregon University. King not only provided reliable transportation and supervision, but he also helped create a bridge between what they experienced at the farm and the lessons he taught in the classroom. For example, in his compost

science class, students learned the basics of how to create a balanced hot compost pile, then examined samples under a microscope in class.

By all accounts our first year of partnering was a success. "Almost universally, the reactions were enthusiastic. I don't think a student ever came back complaining about the more hum-drum aspects of what they were doing," said McDonald. "When they reported that they'd mucked the pasture and I'd ask how that was, I often got a shrug and comments like 'It felt good to work today' or 'Hey...it's a farm. It needs to get done.'"

Success showed up in different ways as well. McDonald noticed that a few students who volunteered seemed more willing to participate at school in ways they hadn't before. "Some began volunteering more in work parties at school centering on our community garden. Some took an elective course in compost science."

Of course, not only did students gain lots of cool experience, but the people, animals and the earth at Sanctuary One also gained. For staff and interns it was particularly useful and fun to see the same familiar faces showing up every week to help. The animals also gained confidence as they grew to recognize and trust the young humans who visited and helped care for them. And, of course, we made great gains in the garden as once again we learned that many hands make big jobs very manageable.

Once King's student teaching stint was over, one of the biggest challenges was finding folks who were willing to not only provide transportation for the kids, but also stay for the time they were at the farm to help supervise. "In order for the program to be successful, we're going



Students help move hay to the animal barn at Sanctuary One. Photo: Della Merrill.

to need a few volunteers who are willing to stay with a group of enthusiastic middle-schoolers for an afternoon," said McDonald.

Another challenge for McDonald was finding the time to meet with the small volunteer groups to evaluate assignments and schedule time to go off-site without missing key content in other classes, like math.

So what does next year hold in store? "I see this partnership working at its finest when we have people who can help students evaluate their progress toward learning goals," says McDonald. Likewise, we at Sanctuary One, would like to see this program grow and deepen. Our mission of providing an opportunity where people, animals and the earth come together for mutual healing offers the perfect combination for young people to come together and put their education to work in real and meaningful ways.

On the last week of school we sat down with the kids and asked them how we can improve the program. Many voiced a desire to learn about cooking food grown in the garden, others looked forward to serving as mentors to next year's participants and, unanimously, they all wanted to come back.

If you would like to volunteer for this school year, please contact me.

Della Merrill
Program Manager, Sanctuary One
541-899-8627



Students examine microorganisms in a sample of compost. Photo: Ryan King.



Students plant lettuce starts. Photo: Ryan King.

THE STARRY SIDE

Tilt gives us seasons

BY GREELEY WELLS

The earth does not always rotate around the sun at a 90-degree angle. If it did, as you went north and south from the steamy jungles and deserts of the equator the weather would get evenly cooler at each latitude (imaginary lines parallel to the equator), but it would be the same weather all around the world at that latitude, all year long—no real variations. Luckily, the earth's axis is tilted at 23.5 degrees. So when the North Pole tilts towards the sun we get summer, and when we are halfway around the sun six months later the pole tilts away from the sun, giving us winter.

The tilt of the earth also explains why we have relatively minimal seasonal differences at the equator and extreme seasonal differences at the poles. The poles can be completely frozen and dark for a chunk of time, and six months later completely sunny and hot for another chunk of time.

Between the extremes of the equator and the poles, seasons vary widely. Different people, plants and animals live at different latitudes that meet their particular needs for warmth, food and propagation. Thus, the tilt of our planet gives us an incredibly wide diversity of life.

THE NIGHT SKY

At our 42 degrees latitude, here comes fall again. Just when we've had enough of the hot weather, so longed-for at the end of winter, we now long for coolness!

In September the Big Dipper is to the lower left of Polaris, the North Star. During fall, the Dipper swings around towards the lower right of Polaris. If you face north and think of Polaris as the center of a gigantic clock, the Dipper will move counterclockwise from about a 7 o'clock position in September to about a 5 o'clock position in November. Cassiopeia moves similarly in relation to Polaris from about 2 o'clock in September to about 12 o'clock in November. Viewed at the same



Turn the page so the Big Dipper is below, and imagine Polaris as the center of a clock; then read the fifth paragraph of this article.

Illustration: Guy Ottewill's *Astronomical Calendar 2012*.

time each night, each quarter turn of this North Star "clock" can be used to measure a full season.

The large square of Pegasus begins in the east in September, then moves overhead in October. In November Pegasus starts its fall into the west (*fall, get it?*), heralding the rise of the winter constellations in the east. September sees little Pleiades rising in the east-southeast (meaning a little farther east of southeast). In October comes Taurus the bull, that small "V" with the bright Aldebaran on one corner. Next, Orion appears in November, leaping up from a prone position on the eastern horizon

with the Gemini twins rising above his head. December finds all these big, bright constellations overhead and large Pegasus setting in the west. Quite a show: on the doorstep of winter, seasons are brought to you by the tilt of earth!

THE PLANETS

Jupiter is moving easterly in the westerly-moving sky. Jupiter rises around midnight by the end of September. By the end of October, he is rising after 10 pm. (On October 25, Jupiter makes an almost perfect equilateral triangle with Mars and Regulus in the dawn sky.) November has Jupiter rising shortly after sunset

close together on October 15 in the morning sky (Regulus will appear slightly brighter).

Saturn mates with Venus below and a crescent moon at dusk on September 9. Saturn, Mercury and the moon form a small "triangle" after sunset on October 7. In November, Saturn rises low in the dawn sky, along with a dimmer and lower Mercury.

OF NOTE

Major meteors this season (Orionids on October 21 and Leonids on November 17) will be very unfavorable primarily because of the moon. However, Taurids on October 10, though minor, are likely to be favorable. And for early risers, after the moon sets shortly before dawn December 4 - 17, the Geminids could be spectacular. The radiant is the Gemini twins over Orion's head. December 13 is the best night (that's Friday the 13th, by the way).

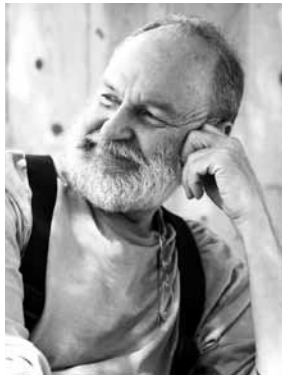
On Sunday, November 3, set your clocks back one hour to get back to standard time. Isn't it comforting to be back? Because the time between 1 and 2 am is technically repeated, I guess that means we get an extra hour that night. At least now noon is noon again.

Hallowe'en, or the eve of All Saints Day, is October 31. Astronomy Day is Saturday, October 12. Celebrate!

The full moon on September 19 is called the Fruit Moon. The full moon on October 18 is the Harvest moon; the Sioux call it the Dying Grass Moon. The November 17 full moon is known as Hunter's, Frosty or Beaver Moon. Imagine the interesting stories behind these moons!

May deep, dark, and clear skies be with you.

Greeley Wells
greeley@greeley.me



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TRENDS AND OBSERVATIONS

Birth of a snowbird?

BY RAUNO PERTTU

At the time of this publication, I'm struggling to stay on track in order to start spending winters in La Paz, Mexico with my fiancée, Ana, who is already a La Paz resident. When the cooler autumn weather arrives, she plans to be in La Paz. Hopefully, my Applegate house will be in a condition that allows me to accompany her. This act will lump me into that diverse group of people referred to as "snowbirds." I would like to be able to continue writing for the Gater as a foreign correspondent, perhaps to inform other potential snowbirds of my travails and rewards.

Getting ready for the move has been much more work than I anticipated. I had no clue as to how much I had accumulated over the years and how hard it is to get rid of all those items. First, I offered most of them to my son and daughter. They selectively took several large loads each, which helped. Ana diligently worked eBay and Craig's List, with some success. With high hopes, we then scheduled a moving sale. We were repeatedly told that many items were priced too low, but we wanted to downsize. When the morning of the sale

arrived, tools and similar items disappeared quickly, but almost no big items sold, even at very discounted prices.

After recovering from our disappointment, we then started placing items outside the fence below a "free" sign. That was apparently the right price. We quickly learned, at least in the Applegate, not to expect eBay prices or anything even remotely similar. We're in a tough local market with its own rules. We learned this is how it works: 1.

Discover that the item in question sells on eBay for \$100, 2. List it for \$10 locally, 3. When it doesn't sell, place it under the "free" sign on the fence. Presto! The item is gone.

At this point, the house and outbuildings are significantly depleted except for the furniture and items we need until we leave for La Paz. With two notable exceptions:

1. Over the years, I have accumulated a large collection of geological publications and business documents, some of which I still need to save. I don't look forward to sifting through mountains of paperwork to sort the keepers from the throwaways.

2. The other exception is my paintings. I have dabbled in oil painting since I was young, and by now have a collection to dispose of or store. I think I see a storage unit in my future.

As my first bit of advice to new snowbirds or anyone not wanting to punish their children when they become incapacitated: start shedding possessions early. I had no idea of the sheer volume of "stuff" I had accumulated. Ana, to her credit, is a minimalist. She acquired that mind-set during the years she and her late husband sailed the South Pacific on a 40-foot sailboat.

A serious moment of horror was in

getting the house ready for sale. I had neglected the property during the years my wife

Jan was declining, and my money and attention went to more important things. As a result, we are just finishing two months of contractors repairing and painting—ouch! Even with all that expense and effort, I look at the things still undone; the obvious lesson is that repairs deferred become much bigger problems later.

Although it's a work in progress, in order to catch the tail end of the summer sales period, I listed the house at a relatively modest price with a good local realtor who specializes in Applegate River properties. Now, I just cross my fingers that the sale comes earlier rather than later. I don't relish the thought of distant absentee ownership, and I don't want to let Ana return to La Paz while I sit in an unsold house. However, I would catch more Ducks football games. I don't know if I can follow them in La Paz.

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rkperttu@gmail.com



Rauno Perttu

...we then started placing items outside the fence below a "free" sign. That was apparently the right price.

Green and Solar home tour returns to the Applegate this fall

BY JULIET GRABLE

October is National Energy Awareness Month and with it comes a great opportunity to participate locally. Join the seventh annual Rogue Valley Green and Solar Tour (RVGST) on Saturday, October 5, to learn more about green building practices and solar energy through inspiring examples right in our own Applegate Valley.

Many "regulars" join the tour year after year, says RVGST organizer Fred Gant, so why not make this year's event your first? The tour attracts a diverse crowd from homeowners considering a remodel to citizens concerned about carbon emissions to building professionals looking to network.

Presentations at each site will shed

light on the homes' construction and energy performance. Builders, architects, solar installers and homeowners will be on-hand to share their triumphs and trials on a wide range of topics and features, including photovoltaic (PV) and solar thermal systems, passive solar design, building with natural materials, rainwater catchment systems, masonry stoves, and creating super-insulated building envelopes.

Each year the tour focuses on a different part of the region; the 2013 event includes four unique residences in the Sterling Creek Road area and will launch at Wild Wines, an organic winery 20 miles south of Jacksonville. Here's a sneak preview of the four sites:

A geodesic dome residence on the

Wild Wines property was upgraded to improve energy efficiency by adding insulation and replacing windows. An ultra-efficient Tulikivi stove keeps the home cozy during winter.

A super-insulated Earth Advantage Platinum residence on Griffin Lane may look conventional, but its energy performance is anything but. To ensure the home produces as much energy as it consumes, the homeowners have installed solar PV and solar thermal systems, a ductless mini-split for heating and cooling, and LED lights throughout.

An unusual earth-bermed, ferro-cement dome takes advantage of passive solar orientation and utilizes a Trombe wall to control solar gain. This off-the-grid home harvests solar and wind energy on-site and integrates gardens, an orchard and livestock quarters. As beautiful as it is green, this one-of-a-kind residence features unique artistic touches everywhere.

A recently completed straw bale home finished with earth and

lime plasters blends gracefully into a forested hilltop with spectacular views. The homeowners have integrated landscaping—including native plants, orchard and organic gardens—and a rainwater catchment system into their site plan.

The tour will culminate in a Green Vendors Fair back at Wild Wines where tour-goers will have the chance to talk one-on-one with professionals at the leading edge of the local sustainable building movement and learn about systems and products that can improve a home's energy efficiency. Representatives from state and local nonprofits, green rating services and banks will also be on-hand to provide information about rebates, tax credits and loans on systems that save energy. To keep the mood festive, Wild Wines will open up its straw bale tasting room during the fair. Thirsty tour-goers can sample and purchase organic wines made from berries, fruits and flowers, while snacking on cheese and fruit provided by RVGST.

"It's more than a tour," says Gant. "It's more like a celebration. That's why people keep coming."

An all-day affair, the RVGST will begin at 9 am at Wild Wines, about 40 minutes from Jacksonville at 4550 Little Applegate Road. Tickets cost \$17 and include transportation to all sites, a catered lunch and cheese and fruit at the end of the day.

Space is limited, so register soon! For more information or to register visit www.GreenSolarTours.com or contact Fred Gant at 541-840-8302 or fredgant1@gmail.com.

Juliet Grable
julietgrable@yahoo.com



The 2012 tour focused on homes in the Talent/Phoenix areas and included this home built by Talent-based Suncrest Homes. Photos: Denise Ross.



This custom straw bale home nestled in the hills above Talent was part of last year's tour.


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THEY LIVE AMONG US

Jesse Applegate descendant pens authoritative tome

BY MARY MARTIN

Leta Neiderheiser is the great-great-great-granddaughter of Jesse Applegate and the researcher and author of *Jesse Applegate, A Dialogue with Destiny*. A now retired fifth-grade schoolteacher for 20 years, Leta was taking a class about the Applegate Trail and her passion was awakened. She then spent ten years researching this famous and prominent figure in Oregon history and two years writing her book.

Mrs. Neiderheiser's journey followed the Applegate Trail from Berkeley and Yale libraries all the way to Portland through libraries, museums, university archives and historical societies' dusty storage. Her inquiring mind led libraries to open aged boxes that had long been hidden away and forgotten. At first Leta was not given access to original documents because she was neither a professor nor a published author. She told them, "I will be back." If you know Leta, you know this was not a deterrent. It was after she returned three and four times that professionals began taking Leta seriously and decided to be more helpful. She relentlessly persisted with the fortitude and determination of her ancestor.

This research was laborious; back then these materials were not readily available on computer. Leta had to physically search through materials to find what she needed.

In the attic of the Knight Library at the University of Oregon, there were drawers and boxes of "stuff" that nobody had ever looked at or catalogued. People in the 1800s were more prolific letter writers than our generation, so much of the material was discovered in this form. But not all the material was identified with her ancestor. Leta not only read through papers having to do with Jesse Applegate, but also about the innumerable people and events related to him.

One of the events Leta researched was the Modoc War in the 1880s between the Klamath and Modoc Indians. This led to research of Ranger Johnson's files near the Lava Caves. Jesse Applegate had a ranch near Lakeview around the time the US government rounded up the Klamath and Modoc Indians, who had always been enemies, and foolishly put them on the same reservation that was originally Klamath land. Jesse made efforts with the support of Indian agent Alfred B. Meacham to negotiate with the US government to give the Modocs a small reservation on Lost River where they originally lived, but his efforts were fruitless with politicians in Washington. In the end, this war was the most expensive Indian war and the only one where a US general was killed. This is just one situation

where Jesse Applegate's leadership and respected reputation were employed in Oregon politics.

When Leta's book was finished, she sought out publishers—a difficult task if you are an unproven author.

One publisher wanted to alter the truth, but Leta would not compromise. This also was a quality of Jesse Applegate's, one that not only would build him a reputation as it did for Abe Lincoln, but also be tested to the point of losing his wealth and becoming destitute (at one time he was among the richest men in Oregon).

This book is a story of the exceptional commitment and character that built our state. Jesse wrote the first Oregon Constitution as well as carved the first trail from Oregon City down through California. He even lost one of his sons to drowning on the way. Our valley, as well as this publication, is named after this tenacious and well-respected man.

Jesse Applegate is the second book Leta Neiderheiser has penned. The first was about her mother, another noteworthy personality. The first printing of this book sold out at 1,500 copies. Oregon



Leta Neiderheiser, Jesse Applegate descendant and author.

Books would like more copies, and I would love to read it after hearing about this resilient woman who was an example of strength and inspiration. I encouraged Leta to have more copies printed for all of us to read.

Leta Neiderheiser not only researches and writes, but also is mother, grandmother and wife to Joe Neiderheiser. She also

volunteers with the Gospel Rescue Mission in Grants Pass, has pioneered a local Christian after-school program called Good News Club, and attends a women's Bible study.

I find it interesting how qualities of our ancestors can be perpetuated far beyond a particular generation. Leta and her husband both have appetites for adventure. In her youth, Leta worked at a lighthouse where she was once struck by lightning and survived. Her husband is active in search and rescue, hiking into wilderness areas to save the lost and injured. Anyone who knows this couple knows they have the integrity and determination of their line.

If you haven't read *Jesse Applegate, A Dialogue with Destiny*, you can obtain a copy from Oregon Books or contact the author at letan41@frontier.com.

Mary Martin
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BUTTERFLIES

FROM PAGE 1

The Great Purple Hairstreak can be found in southern Oregon and throughout the U.S. The parasitized insect uses American mistletoe (*Phoradendron flavescens*) found on oaks as its larval food plant, and as a butterfly feeds on nectar of the flower family composites. Some males may live up to 24 days.

Great Purple Hairstreaks can be seen as adults in flight from early April to early October. We have seen them from spring to fall at Applegate School, where we have many oak trees. Some years we have observed three or four flying in the same area, which creates great excitement. A spectacular sight is this butterfly!

Mourning Cloak

The Mourning Cloak (*Nymphalis*

antiopa), of the butterfly family Nymphalidae, is found throughout the U.S. and other countries. The adult butterfly winters over in bark crevices or woody leafy piles, mating in spring. They have a variety of host plants, including willows, alders, birch, maple, and many other trees and shrubs. As adults, Mourning Cloaks nectar on sap from trees, fruits, and asters, and sometimes puddle in damp areas.

In early spring they look faded and worn from overwintering, but with a new brood comes the velvety maroon-brown color on the open upper wings with a unique creamy yellow border and rows of blue spots. On closed wing, the Mourning Cloak blends with its habitat while still showing its yellowish border.

With a wingspan of up to three inches, Mourning Cloaks will command your attention as they glide through the woods, waterways and roads just out of reach. The male guards mating areas by aggressively chasing other butterflies away.

They begin to fly in late winter to early spring while snow is still melting, coming out on slightly warm sunny days. This butterfly also goes into aestivation (hibernating during hot mid summer), and returns to feed and fly through mid-October before finding a safe place to spend the winter months.

The Mourning Cloak is the longest-lived of North American butterflies, some living up to 10 months. Starting very early this past spring, there were many

Mourning Cloaks on wing. They do seem to be in summer hibernation as of this writing, and we can look forward to seeing them again in the fall gliding through the sun-dappled forests.

Linda Kappen

humbugkapps@hotmail.com

Ed. Note: Linda Kappen is a schoolwide education assistant at Applegate School, where she started the school's butterfly garden 12 years ago. Linda earned a naturalist certification from Siskiyou Field Institute (SFI) and hosted a two-day butterfly/moth course at SFI.



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Dave Foreman coming to Oregon and the Applegate

BY DIANA COOGLE

Bring wolves to the Siskiyou? Increase the population of mountain beaver? Why?

"Because," says Dave Foreman, one of the country's foremost environmental activists, "without rewilding we can expect to see a steady collapse of many species. Ecosystems will become more and more unhealthy." His example is the decimation of wolves in Yellowstone and the resulting out-of-control elk population.

On Wednesday, October 23, Foreman will be speaking at Pacifica in Williams. Activities begin at 7 pm with music by the Swing State band, and dinner and wine will be available for purchase. The atmosphere sounds festive, and rightly so. The speaker is a man who celebrates the Earth.

Dave Foreman is an Earth First! cofounder, intrepid protester of the 1988 extension of the Bald Mountain Road in the Kalmiopsis Wilderness (only a backward run kept him from being hit by a charging truck), author of *Rewilding North America* and *Confessions of an Eco-Warrior*, cofounder of the Wildlands Project, and founder of the Rewilding Institute (etc., etc.). His topic will be "Rewilding North America" with particular attention to our part of the world.

Rewilding, a term coined by Foreman, means to return missing parts—the "highly effective members of the ecosystem," whether wolves or large woody debris in streams—to relatively wild lands. It also means to undo land fragmentation by making connections between wild areas.

"We need to connect the Kalmiopsis Wilderness with the Siskiyou Wilderness with the Russian Wilderness with the Marble Mountains with the Trinity Alps..." Foreman says, and if nobody stops him he will make a connective corridor for wildlife all the way down the coast to the end of California and beyond.

It's a big vision. But Dave Foreman is a big visionary.

When Foreman talks about barriers, he doesn't mean political barriers but those parts of the landscape that prevent the movement of wildlife: highways, dense human populations, dams. "For instance," Foreman says, charging unstopably ahead, "we need to figure out how to go under, over, or around highways. A bear will go through a culvert, but a deer won't enter a dark space because a cougar might be there. So maybe we put skylights in the culvert."

The southern Oregon - northern California area has a great potential for rewilding, Foreman says, because it is a large landscape with lots of wilderness and relatively few barriers.

Foreman's goal as a speaker is not so much to educate audiences (though he is both educative and entertaining) as to be a catalyst for people to work together for a specific project. He also wants to assure any antagonistic people that rewilding is not a United Nations plot. It has been given scientific and academic footing by conservation biologists Michael Soulé and Reed Noss as well as forest service researchers.

Foreman considers the greatest challenge facing us as human beings is "to learn how to live as good neighbors with all the other earthlings." All religions, he points out, talk about treating your neighbor as you would like to be treated. We need to see our neighborhood as larger and more complex than houses, and to



Environmental activist and Earth First! cofounder Dave Foreman will speak on Wednesday, October 23, at Pacifica in Williams, Oregon.

recognize wild things as our neighbors. "Get to know them," he urges. "Flower identification, bird-watching, mushroom hunting—those things make us less likely to be bad neighbors."

The talk in Williams is a neighborly affair—music, food, wine, a gathering of good folks, an inspiring speaker. Admission is a friendly \$20 - \$10 sliding scale and free for students with ID.

Foreman will also speak at the Stevenson Union at Southern Oregon University in Ashland on October 22 (7:30 pm) and will sign books at the Ashland Library on October 24 (1 - 3 pm). Contact Paul Torrence at 541-708-0153 for more information.

Diana Coogle • dicoog@gmail.com

Thinking for ourselves: Taking back wildlife conservation

BY JAKOB SHOCKEY

Conservationist Aldo Leopold once wrote, "All the regulations in the world will not save our game unless the farmer sees fit to leave his land in a habitable condition for game." He was writing in 1930, but today this statement still stands. Replace the words *game* with *wildlife*, and *farmer* with *landowner*, and this could have been written about the Applegate.

In the State of the Birds 2013 report, produced by the North American Bird Conservation Initiative, conservation efforts on private lands were highlighted as some of the most significant reasons behind species recoveries. Of the approximately 1.9 billion acres in the lower 48 states, some 1.4 billion acres (over 70 percent) is controlled by private landowners, organizations and corporations. As the report pointed out, some bird habitat can be disproportionately located on private land. Between 70 to 95 percent of the population of Yellow-billed Magpie, Nuttall's Woodpecker and Oak Titmouse is on private land due these species' dependence on our Pacific Coast oak woodland ecosystem.

We live surrounded by public Bureau of Land Management and U.S. National Forest lands; however, private landowners control the vast majority of low-gradient waterways and fertile land needed by our wildlife. Our private parcels line the



Juvenile Western Pond Turtles in the Shockey pond.

tributaries of the Applegate River. For the beaver and salmon, this means that we own their only habitat. Birds that rely on riparian areas are also highly dependent on private land, as are black-tailed deer that come to water, and wild turkeys that take cover with their spring chicks.

I grew up six and a half miles up Thompson Creek, on a 40-acre parcel of land cut from the forest at the turn of the century. As a kid, I saw Chinook, coho and steelhead spawn and die along our little stretch of the stream. I poked at their dead

wet muscles, white and ripped open by their trip upstream from the ocean. Once I found where a black bear had pulled a salmon carcass into the forest to eat it. Later, one of our dogs tried the same trick and almost died from salmon poisoning. According to a 2007 assessment, Chinook don't make it up to our part of Thompson Creek. But I saw them there ten years ago.

"Wildlife conservation" has become a flashy, overused term that makes me think of the same five animals, environmental fundraising and land management agency

brochures. My goal is to cut past these PR sound bites and get to the real fish muscling their way up our valley's streams, and what they need in order to be here for our children. Over the next few issues of the *Applegater*, I intend to lay out a tool kit for how you can strengthen the natural resources of your property and our valley. For we, as private landowners, can have far more impact on the future of this landscape and its wildlife than anyone else out there.

Let me offer the first tool: your neighbors with the Applegate Partnership and Watershed Council (APWC). Since the early 1990s, the APWC has worked for ecosystem health in our valley "from ridge to ridge." Right now, the riparian program is working with landowners to restore habitat along nearly two contiguous miles of Thompson Creek. We are cutting out invasive blackberries, replanting native trees and shrubs, and placing large wood habitat structures. If you live along Thompson Creek—or any other creek in our valley—and are interested in learning more about how to improve your riparian area for wildlife, let me know.

Jakob Shockey
541-761-3312

Riparian Program Manager
Applegate Partnership and
Watershed Council
riparianprogram@apwc.info

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BIRDMAN

Fall migration is under way

BY TED A. GLOVER

With the fall migration now fully under way, we can say good-bye to our summer visitors and welcome back many more of our winter residents.

Good-bye to the Black-headed Grosbeaks, the Rufous Hummingbirds, Ospreys, Western Tanagers, Western Kingbirds, many of the swallows and the beautiful Bullock's Orioles. Though here all year long, we welcome back species that begin returning in larger numbers to our area to spend the winter months. These species include the Dark-eyed Juncos,

White- and Red-breasted Nuthatches, plus chickadees and Pine Siskins.

One bird species we can expect to see in growing numbers in the days ahead is the American Kestrel. Once called the Sparrow Hawk, this bird is actually a member of the falcon family and is, in fact, the smallest of all the falcons and the most common in all of North America. It's not much larger than a robin and can be seen perched on wires, poles and fence posts all around open fields, meadows and brushy locales. You will often see the

kestrel hovering, similar to the kingfisher, and usually pumping its tail when it lands.

The plumage of the male American Kestrel is quite colorful. He has blue-gray wing coverts, a red back and a red-brown tail with a black tip. Both the male and female have two very noticeable black sideburns on each side of their faces.

They hunt both by perching and hovering, then dive straight down to catch such prey as grasshoppers, lizards, voles and even small birds. The American Kestrel ranges from Alaska, across Canada to

Nova Scotia, south to Mexico and the Caribbean, and throughout most of South America.

So as the days grow shorter and the cool weather returns, many of our feathered friends find the Applegate Valley a great place to spend some time.

Ted Glover
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Ted A. Glover



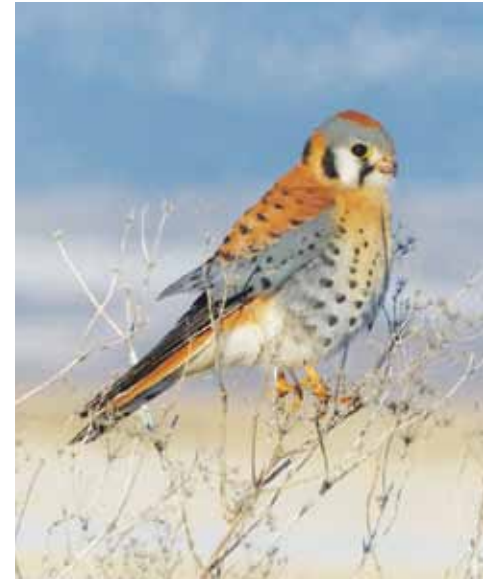
The **Bullock's Oriole**, a small New World blackbird, was named after William Bullock, an English amateur naturalist.



White-breasted Nuthatches move head-first down tree trunks to find insects wedged into the top edges of bark.



The **Pine Siskin** is a North American bird in the finch family with an extremely sporadic winter range.



The **American Kestrel** nests in cavities in trees, cliffs, buildings and other structures; the female lays three to seven eggs.

Sadler oak: A relict in the Applegate

BY SUZIE SAVOIE

Sadler oak is a survivor. It is an ancient species from the pre-Pleistocene that grew on this earth long before humans ever walked it. Sadler oak—often referred to as deer oak—grows wild only in the Klamath and Siskiyou Mountains of northern California and southern Oregon. It has this restricted range because the Klamath and Siskiyou Mountains experienced less glaciation during the Pleistocene ice ages. Sadler oak took refuge here during that time and survived the ice ages while many other plant species died out. Because of this, Sadler oak is considered a "relict" species [Ed. note: "Relict" is defined as a species living in an environment that has changed from that which is typical for it; a remnant or survivor, per dictionary.com.] According to John Roth, ecologist and chief of resource management at the Oregon Caves National Monument, Sadler oak is "part of the 40-million-year-old Arcto-Tertiary flora that once spread from Japan to the southeastern United States." Indeed, the closest relative is still found in Japan.



catkins that pollinate the female flowers to produce acorns in the fall. As is the case with most oaks, Sadler oak acorns are an important food source for local wildlife.

If you'd like a piece of pre-Pleistocene flora in your own yard, Sadler oak makes a great landscaping plant. Arthur Kruckeberg recommends in his book, *Gardening with Native Plants of the Pacific Northwest*, that "partial sun at the edge of a conifer canopy or in a moderately sunny shrub border [will] suit Sadler oak best."

You can see Sadler oak growing in the Applegate watershed in the Red Buttes Wilderness and the Grayback Mountain area, or more specifically along the following trails: Frog Pond Trail, Miller Lake Trail, Fir Glade Trail, Boundary Trail, Sturgis Fork Trail, and the Hinkle Lake Trail. Despite its restricted range, Sadler oak is not uncommon in the Klamath and Siskiyou Mountains; in fact, in some locations Sadler oak is the dominant understory species.

Endemic plants, like Sadler oak, are what make the Applegate and the Klamath and Siskiyou Mountains so unique. Fall is a great time to get out for a hike and see these ancient, relict plants growing in our watershed.

Suzie Savoie
asarum@wildmail.com

The oak family is included in the genus *Quercus*, which is the Latin word for oak. The botanical name for Sadler oak is *Quercus sadleriana*. Sadler oak is a shrub oak, growing low to the ground with dense branching from the base. The height varies depending on soil and growing conditions, but it typically grows anywhere from three to nine feet tall. In the wild, Sadler oak can be found on open, rocky slopes and ridges, or as an understory species in coniferous forest, generally between 1,800 to 6,600 feet in elevation. Sadler oak is an evergreen oak, keeping its large, toothed, chestnut-like leaves year-round; it has unusually large leaves for an oak.

In spring, Sadler oak has lovely

PHOTO CREDIT

All bird photos courtesy of Peter J. Thiemann, Flickr photo stream.

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FIRE DISTRICT**FROM PAGE 1**

28 emergency vehicles, 53 volunteers, and seven staff (based at Headquarters/HQ in Ruch).

In addition to donations, grants and reimbursable fees, AVFD#9 is funded by constituents in two ways. First, by a "tax district rate" that was initiated in 1980 for basic services. In 1997 state measures 47 and 50 reduced that tax rate by 21 percent and then froze it. Because that tax rate couldn't be raised, we voters approved a five-year "local levy option" in 1998 to allow for 24/7 coverage at HQ as well as the growth needed to maintain the emergency services that AVFD#9 provides.

The first AVFD#9 local levy (1999-2004) was approved at \$1 per \$1000, with the district pledging to reduce that rate in future years by developing and following a five-year plan of work. So what was accomplished in those five years? Three engines were replaced, another refurbished and two "midis" were designed/built to serve our local Applegate needs (*see photo*). A "jaws of life," 16 breathing apparatus, eight radios and 40 full sets of protective uniforms were all purchased; two small construction projects were completed; and three shift officers were hired to provide the 24/7 coverage.

In 2003 the district made good on its pledge, proposing that the second five-year levy be at the reduced rate of \$0.85 per \$1000. We passed this, and the following was accomplished (2004-2009): a third midi was constructed; a new water tender purchased, six portable and eight mobile radios and a second set of rescue tools (for Station 1) all purchased. Also, a breathing air compressor was installed at HQ, allowing air tanks to be filled there (saving time/money). An operations chief was hired, a well/septic system installed at Station 6, the parking lot of HQ paved, and Station 7 built on Griffin Lane.

In 2009 the same \$0.85 per \$1000 was again passed, with the following accomplishments since then: all cardiac monitors were upgraded, a water tender at Station 5 was added, and a utility van, a pumper at HQ and the tender at Station 4 were all replaced. A vehicle exhaust-removal system was installed at HQ (where the on-duty crew sleeps), and a vehicle lift also installed at HQ's maintenance shop. Water tanks were installed at Station 4 and on Forest Creek, as well as a water-supply pump to create a draft site in Applegate.

Parking lots at Stations 1 and 4 were paved.

That levy option expires at the end of next June. The fire chief and the board of directors have been studying what will be needed to meet our current levels of service for the next five years, and they are proposing an increase of seven cents per thousand. We'll vote on this levy in November, and it will read: "Shall District impose \$0.92 per \$1000 of assessed value for five years for operations and minor improvements beginning in FY 2014/15?"

The purposes cited by AVFD#9 will be to continue to recruit/retain active volunteer firefighters and medical personnel, continue staffing HQ 24/7, replace vehicles and equipment consistent with the five-year planning goals, and, to enhance the delivery of their training for firefighters and emergency medical personnel.

We have two choices of how to vote: we can vote *yes* to paying seven cents more per \$1000 of assessed value each year (\$0.92/\$1000), so that we would *continue* to receive the same level of services from AVFD#9 for the next five years. Or, we can vote *no* on the levy, and the fire district will *lose about 33 percent* of its annual revenue. *We do not have the option of staying with the old rate of \$0.85.*

If we do not approve the levy, significant operational changes would need to be made to our fire district. The Board would evaluate expense categories such as maintaining safe/sound vehicles and up-to-date equipment, staffing HQ 24/7, and capital projects.

To me, staffing HQ 24/7 is essential. Originally when there was an emergency, our volunteers were paged, responded to their assigned station, geared up and drove to the incident. We now have three "shift" officers, each working 24-hour shifts along with interns and/or volunteers, which allows HQ to be staffed with a minimum of two personnel at all times. Their average response is to be in the vehicle, moving out within two minutes! The volunteers still respond from all seven stations and sometimes they can beat the HQ folks to a call depending upon the location of the incident. But in general, having shift officers greatly reduces response time to the majority of AVFD#9's constituents.

But how do you ignore past investments in vehicles and equipment,

See **FIRE DISTRICT**, page 13



Ruch School Cougars enjoyed a visit from Applegate Fire District personnel and engine 8515, a "midi" fire engine that was designed and built by district staff.

What is a 'midi'?

Most fire engines are designed for one main task: a structure fire, a medical problem, a car accident, a rescue, wildfire, or to just carry water.

Because AVFD#9 responds to all of these types of emergencies, the staff decided to design a single engine that could also respond to all of those situations. They purchased a chassis short enough to be able to turn around on our narrow Applegate driveways, and then they constructed the compartments to hold the various plumbing and equipment. They worked on this "midi" in their spare time at HQ. It's equipped to be the first responder to any emergency out here in the Applegate.

The district's maintenance officer figures about half of the cost of each "midi" was saved by doing the design and labor in-house, not to mention the savings of insuring just one vehicle instead of three or four!

AVFD#9 now has three "midis" and engine 8515, above, is one of them. Way to go, team!!!



April 2013 "Burn to Learn" training: Staff and volunteer firefighters take a break during a weekend of live fire training. Volunteer firefighters helped construct this temporary 750-square-foot training structure, comprised of panels that can be reassembled and reused many times.

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"Burn to Learn" exercise: Battalion Chief Cody Goodnough setting a "room and contents" fire; getting the room full of fuel and fire so that trainees can experience the extreme heat and low visibility of a real structure fire.

so that our fire, emergency and medical needs are the best they can be for both victims and responders? AVFD#9 is unique in that they cover medical, vehicular and other emergencies, plus both structural and wildland fires. Hence the need for a variety of vehicles that can carry hose, medical supplies, water, etc., while still getting up our long, narrow driveways. Over the years a strong fleet of vehicles has been built to cover the district's seven stations across 181 square miles (see map). Do we let them slowly deteriorate?

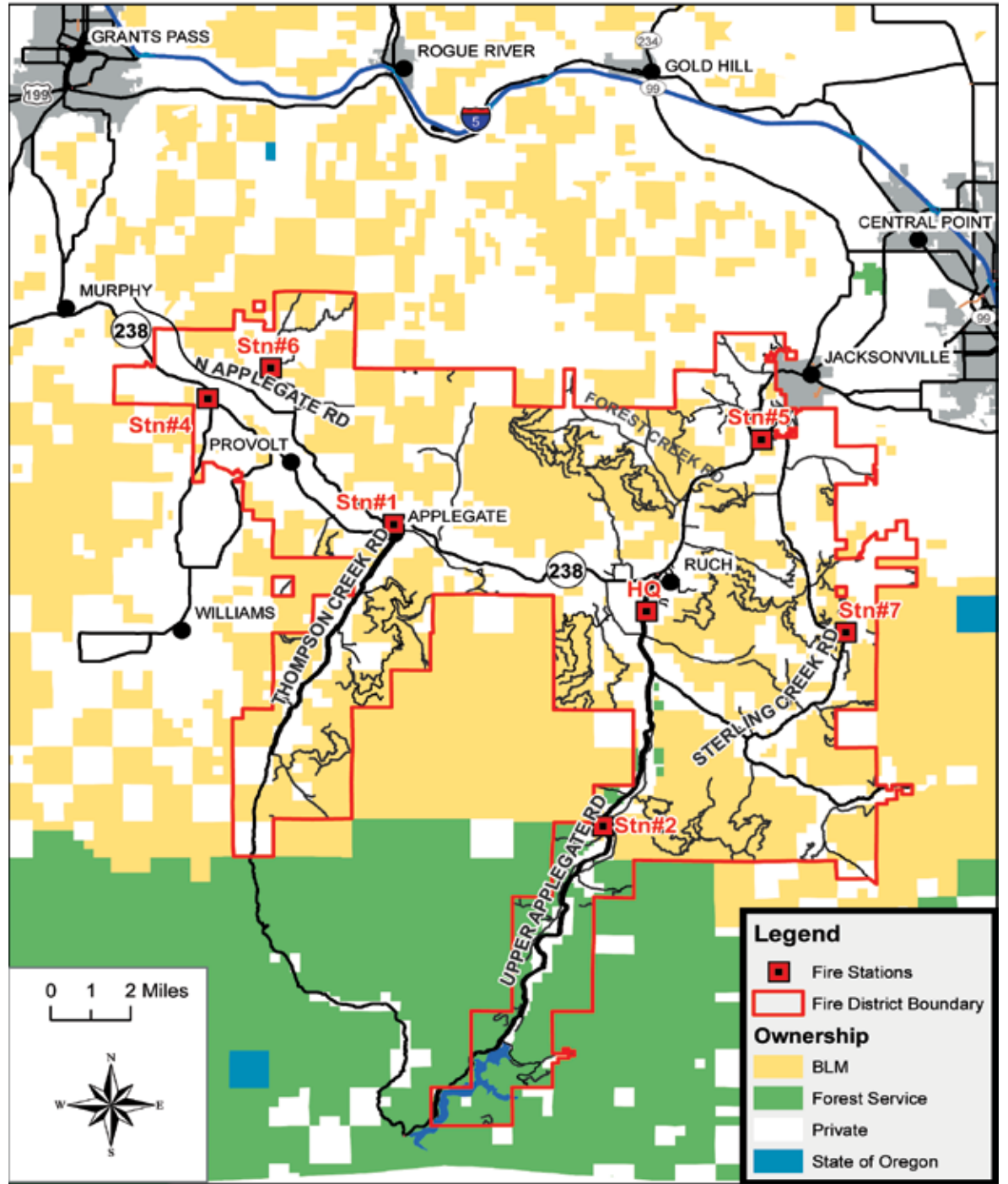
AVFD#9's other staff are the fire chief, an operations chief, a maintenance/logistics chief and the office manager. Aside from their specific assigned duties and responsibilities, they also respond to calls. And, they write successful grants, maintain/service the vehicles, build new engines, coordinate with other local, state and federal partners, provide home assessments and fuels reduction grants for us constituents, help educate our kids about fire prevention issues, and inspect/install smoke alarms for elderly residents.

Without shift officers, many of these other functions performed by staff would be reduced or eliminated. Response times would lengthen. Without good equipment and reliable vehicles, quality of service and response would decline over time. Capital improvements across the district have allowed the needed growth to keep up with our increased and aging populations here in the Applegate. Are we willing to forfeit all of this over a seven cent increase?

From my wildfire education work over the years, I know that our fire district is more community-engaged than any in the Rogue Basin. We have a solid base of dedicated volunteer firefighters. Our fire district leadership has shown they can keep promises, stick to a

Applegate Valley Rural Fire District Jurisdiction


Map courtesy of Karim Naguib of RogueMappers and Ed Reilly.



budget, plan for the future, leverage grant funds, and provide for our valley's growing needs. I'll gladly pay \$15 to \$20 more per year to maintain

all of these valuable services that our fire district provides! Will you?

Sandy Shaffer • sassoneOR@q.com



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CLINIC

Notes from a Rogue entomologist

Grasshoppers and the mystery of the Rocky Mountain locust

BY RICHARD J. HILTON

What do the American bison, passenger pigeon and Rocky Mountain locust have in common? Two hundred years ago, they roamed the central part of North America in huge herds, flocks and swarms, but by the end of the 19th century they were all on the verge of extinction. While hunting played a role in the extinction of the passenger pigeon and the near extinction of the American bison, the disappearance of the Rocky Mountain locust seems to have been the result of massive habitat change that occurred in North America during the 19th century when the continent was populated by new settlers who significantly altered the environment.

The forests of the east were cleared and the open prairie was fenced and plowed. Lewis and Clark made their journey across the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific in 1804-06. By 1869 the first transcontinental railroad was completed and the Lincoln Highway, the first road to span the continent, is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year. The change was so rapid and overwhelming that it is no surprise that many species were not able to adapt to the new reality.

However, the example of the Rocky Mountain locust is truly remarkable. This species of grasshopper has two "claims to fame" that seem hard to juxtapose. First, a swarm of these insects in 1875 was listed by the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the largest concentration of animals ever observed; it is estimated that the swarm was comprised of 3.5 trillion grasshoppers. Yet, in 1902, the last live specimen of this insect was collected, making it the only insect

pest that is known to have gone extinct.

The Rocky Mountain locust was technically a grasshopper. The term locust refers to a type of grasshopper that swarms, and it is this swarming form, which is physically different from the normal morph, that is called a locust. These dense aggregations or swarms can be incredibly destructive to crops and are one of the classic biblical plagues. Many stories from pioneers, including a famous one written by Laura Ingalls Wilder, recount the tale of a farm being blanketed by a swarm of locusts that devoured every green thing in sight, leaving only devastation (and a lot of insect frass) in its wake.

The morphing of grasshopper to locust has been extensively studied and seems to be a response to crowding. When the population increases and becomes dense, the locust morph starts to predominate. These insects are programmed to aggregate and move, which results in the swarming behavior. The locusts also eat and breed at a greater rate than their normal grasshopper form. Interestingly, the physiological basis of this change is due to an increase in serotonin level, which makes the grasshoppers aggregate even more, thereby creating a positive feedback loop.

It should be noted that only a few grasshopper species have an associated locust form. Although most grasshopper species are benign, if the population is high enough they can be serious pests, particularly in rangeland. According to the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA), which regularly does a grasshopper population survey in eastern Oregon, a grasshopper density greater than eight per

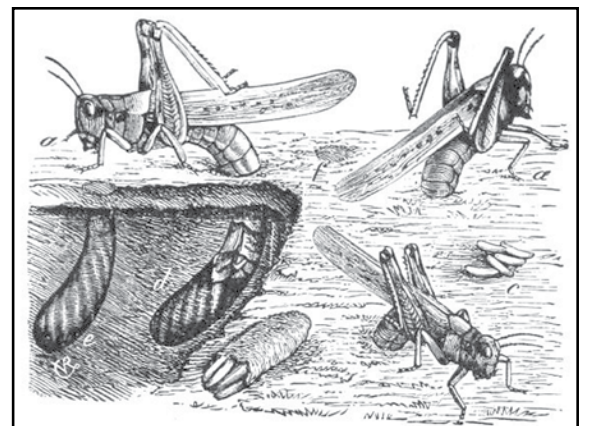
square yard is considered to be an economic infestation. In 2012, 3.5 million acres were surveyed and over a third of the acres had an economic infestation level. In the Klamath marsh, the ODA participated in one program last year where over 8,000 acres were treated to control grasshoppers.

Jeffrey Lockwood is a grasshopper guru (his book *Locust* is a comprehensive look at the Rocky Mountain locust) and he relates the story of when he first began to study grasshoppers and decided to videotape them to quantify how grasshoppers spend their time, e.g., eating, molting, mating, laying eggs. However, after watching them for many, many hours, he did not have to analyze the tape, he already knew what grasshoppers did most of the time...nothing. Instead of maximizing their fitness by eating and reproducing as much as possible, they spent most of their time just sitting and doing nothing, hence the title of his first book, *Grasshopper Dreaming*.

There are many local grasshoppers to keep an eye, and ear, out for. The band-winged grasshoppers are very distinctive and noisy. This sub-family of grasshoppers can make a loud snapping noise when they fly—I heard a very loud one up at Crater Lake last year at the top of Watchman Peak and encountered another on Pilot Rock this summer. These insects blend into the rocks and ground when they are at rest, but



A band-winged grasshopper. Photo: Kathy Keatley Garvey, <http://ucanr.edu/blogs/blogcore/postdetail.cfm?postnum=5887>.



Rocky Mountain locust laying eggs. Illustration by C.V. Riley, 1877, <http://bugguide.net/node/view/380281>.

when they take flight their brightly colored hind wings unfold and they can let out a raucous and telltale staccato, which will not only get your attention, but also serves to attract the attention of the opposite sex.

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JACKSON COUNTY Library Services

Applegate Library

The Friends of the Applegate Library met on July 9 to discuss the future of the 15 branch libraries of Jackson County and what ideas we might have to keep the libraries open. Kim Wolfe, the Jackson County Library director, explained that unless some other funding sources could be found, 14 of the branch libraries would close by June of 2014. Only the Main Library in downtown Medford would be allowed to remain open. One of the county commissioners, Don Skundrick, proposed an annual \$84 surcharge (\$7 per month) to support the libraries, the Jackson County Jail and other operations, but it was turned down in a survey and thus lost the vote of the commissioners. There will be a series of public hearings by the county commissioners to gather ideas from local citizens as to how we might raise enough funding to keep the libraries open. The first one was held on July 16 at the courthouse and was well attended. Also, anyone who might want to add his or her ideas can pick up a survey paper at the desk of the Applegate Branch Library. Please write to your commissioners at the following addresses: John Rachor at rachorjv@jacksoncounty.org, Don Skundrick at skundrickdw@

jacksoncounty.org, and Doug Breidenthal at breidedp@jacksoncounty.org.

On a more positive note, John Jackson presented his interesting program on worms and composting on July 16 as part of our Summer Reading program, "Dig Into Reading," and Carol Hoon announced her project for raising funds for our library. Called "Hats Off to the Libraries," Carol is gathering the knitters of our community to knit hats to sell at the Applegate Library. The sale will take place on October 18 from 2 - 6 pm, and on October 19 from 10 am - 2 pm. If you are interested in knitting a hat for this project, call Carol at 541-787-7261. She has obtained some beautiful yarn from The Websters in Ashland, who donated their yarn for this project. She also has patterns to share.

We have set a date for the celebration of our restored storage shed. We will have an Oktoberfest on Saturday, October 5, from 2 - 5 pm. This will include making apple cider with a cider press, pumpkin decorating and many treats to eat and admire. Please join us for the fun! This is a good time to bring your books to donate to our November book sale.

Joan Peterson • 541-846-6988

Ruch Library

We have had a busy and successful Summer Reading Program with 77 children and 15 teenagers signed up. More than a dozen adults participated in the Adult Summer Reads program as well. The presentations were enthusiastically attended. Children and adults learned about fossils and worms, creating fairy houses, making jewelry with repurposed t-shirts, painting with natural earth pigments made from rocks, and transforming river rocks into clever houses, monsters or cars with a little paint and lots of imagination.

During September, we will have a basket collection on display belonging to Diane Wickstrom, a retired anthropologist. For October, we have scheduled Girl Toys, a display of collectible and interesting toys.

Free computer classes will be offered again in case you missed the last sessions or need some review. Basics I runs September 12 through October 3 on Thursdays from 2 - 4 pm. On October 10, the next level,

Basics II, begins and runs through October 31, also from 2 - 4 pm. Please sign up in advance for any classes that interest you.

Our Annual Friends of Ruch Library Book Sale is scheduled for October 11 and 12 under the tent on the corner of 238 and Upper Applegate Road. Sign up to become a member of the Friends of Ruch Library so you can buy books on Friday. Saturday the sale is open to everyone.

The A-Frame Bookstore adjacent to the library is open on Tuesdays from 12 - 4 pm, Thursdays from 1 - 5 pm and Saturdays 12 - 4 pm. There is a wonderful and constantly changing collection of great books for sale. Come check it out!

Your preschoolers are welcome to join us for Storytime every Tuesday at 11:30 am. Ruch Library is a cool place to beat the heat—see you there!

Thalia Truesdell
Ruch Branch Manager
541-899-7438

FEATURED ADVERTISER

Each issue, the Applegater features one of our valued advertisers. Here is the story of Crater Chain Saw in Medford, Oregon, one of our long-time advertisers.

Crater Chain Saw

Many things on Riverside Avenue in Medford have changed over the years, but Crater Chain Saw has been there for 48 years. Started in 1965, Crater Chain Saw has been owned and operated by the same family. They are proud to be a local family-owned business whose number one priority is to provide their professional and homeowner customers with the highest quality products and service.

The store carries the complete Stihl line of power equipment, which includes chain saws, blowers, trimmers, brush cutters, pole saws, cultivators and cut-off machines, as well as their new line of lithium battery-powered equipment. All equipment when purchased includes free set-up and instructions. They also register all warranty, perform any needed warranty work and carry a complete line of original factory manufactured parts. Their factory-trained mechanics include one with the highest certification Stihl has for a mechanic.

Stihl saws range from homeowner saws starting with 12" bars to professional saws with up to 42" bars. They also carry chain saws made specifically for the tree service customer. The Stihl trimmers start with battery powered or electric for home use. For landowners and professionals, heavy duty and commercial use brush cutters are available. The brush cutters also have a variety of attachments that can be used on specific models. Many are ideal for clearing property for fire safety.

As landowners themselves, the folks at Crater Chain Saw use many of these products to keep their own properties ready for fire season. This enables them to help advise what tools work best for each job.

For the homeowner or professional, they carry a wide range of pole saws that are both manual and gas powered. Some are fixed lengths and some extendable.

The store carries bar oil, mix oil, safety glasses, safety chaps, gas cans, bars and miscellaneous items for your equipment, and replacement chain up to 100-foot rolls.

Stihl classifies their dealers—an Elite dealer being the highest level. Crater



Crater Chain Saw carries the complete Stihl line of power equipment and original factory manufactured parts.

Chain Saw is proud that, over the 45 years they have carried the Stihl line, they have been designated an Elite dealer every year.

Being a local family-owned business, they are involved in community projects, especially those that involve the youth of our community.

The store carries a full line of Carhartt clothing in men's (small through 4x-large, some 5x-large, and tall up to 3x-large), women's x-small through 2x-large), infants and toddlers (3 months through size 4).

The store carries pants in denim and Carhartt duck material; some are double front with an extra layer of fabric over the knee. Some styles go to size 58. Also available are flannel-lined jeans and pants.

In stock are over 20 colors of men's pocket, sleeveless and long-sleeved t-shirts; shorts; woven shirts in both short and long sleeves; shirt jackets; sweaters; coats; jackets; waterproof and breathable rainwear; vests; sweatshirts; socks; gloves; long underwear; hats; and wallets.

In Carhartt women's pants, unlined and flannel-lined are available. Shirts, sweatshirts, vests, tank tops, coats and jackets, long underwear, socks, caps, wallets and bags are in stock.

In infant-toddler sizes are bibs, pants, onesies, shirts, sweatshirts and sets.

Crater Chain Saw offers discounts for larger orders, and can also handle custom-embroidered items for your company.

They invite you to come in and see all they have to offer both in product and service. The address is 1321 North Riverside, Medford, Oregon. Phone: 541-772-7538. Hours are Monday - Friday 8 am - 5:30 pm, and Saturday 8 am - 12 pm.

instills the value of helping others. If you would like to join us for even one hour a week, please contact branch manager Danielle Schreck at dschreck@josephinelibrary.org or call 541-846-7020, or stop by the library at 20695 Williams Highway during our new extended hours of **Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays from 1 - 5 pm.**

Danielle Schreck • 541-846-7020
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Williams Library: A thriving community resource for all ages!



The Williams branch of Josephine Community Libraries is an important part of our community and here to serve you in valuable ways. Although our building is small, there is something for everyone.

Community. This summer 50 children enrolled in the Summer Reading Program, enjoyed books, and earned prizes each week. The library's children's book collection is now more conveniently arranged. Hundreds of books were moved, and outdoor cleanup projects were completed by volunteers in partnership with AmeriCorps and College Dreams. The Williams Elementary School Garden is behind our library and we invite you to enjoy our new outdoor reading and WiFi area under its shade trees in the butterfly and vegetable gardens.

Resources. Our small library branch is part of a four-branch system, and patrons can reserve materials from any of the branches, which will then be brought out to Williams by a volunteer courier. This allows Williams residents to have convenient access to thousands of books, DVDs and audio books.

Access. There are exciting changes at the Williams Library. Our hours have expanded thanks to a generous donation by Herb Pharm, and matched by an outpouring of community support. In July, library enthusiasts came together to host a yard sale, complete with activities for kids, refreshments, and local musicians (see photo). The funds we raised were then topped off by Southern Oregon Sanitation, allowing us to extend service hours. The

Adopt-an-Hour program allows the community to find the funds to extend library services. Each additional hour at the Williams Library costs \$37.14, which is \$1,931.28 for an entire year. Annually sustainable donations to this fund are always welcome.

Nonprofit. Josephine Community Libraries reopened in 2009 after Josephine County cut all funding in 2007. We are a donor-supported, volunteer-operated library system. We need your help here at the Williams branch. Donating is easy, and becoming a \$5-a-month contributor takes just one simple form. Without *you*, we cannot continue to thrive.

Volunteers keep the books flowing and help us offer exciting programs. Volunteering is also great for teens and

With design in mind

BY HALEY MAY

Perhaps you too are a designer at heart. Entrepreneur? Farmer? Do you appreciate efficiency, purposefulness and productivity? Do you care about minimizing waste and using resources wisely? Are you an environmentalist? Craftsperson? Maybe you have a passion for animals or enjoy connecting with nature in your own way. What about an observer who walks/watches? Hiker? Bird watcher? Do the fragility of the landscape and the delicacy of ecological balance ever cross your mind? Who knows? Maybe you share some commonalities with local permaculture expert Tom Ward.

Tom has an extensive science background in forestry, botany and herbology and comes from a traditional Quaker upbringing in a farming atmosphere. While teaching at Laney College (and visiting southern Oregon during summers) he was invited by Michael Polarsky of Oregon Tilth to attend the first permaculture course on the west coast in 1982. Later he found himself co-teaching with well-known permaculture developer Bill Mollison. After observing the destructive effects of industrial agriculture in Australia, Mollison realized the need for permanent/sustainable ways of producing food. The term "permaculture" was coined, which Mollison describes this way: *A philosophy of working with rather than against nature; of protracted and thoughtful observation rather than protracted and thoughtless labor; and of looking at plants and animals in all their functions, rather than treating any area as a single project system.*

The concept of living harmoniously with nature is not new; all humans once lived this way and indigenous cultures around the world still do. As Tom reminded me during our interview,

we have only just arrived in southern Oregon. Maybe we have been here for a couple hundred years, but this area coevolved with humans for thousands of years prior to modern settlement. The native Dakubetede people foraged, hunted and practiced horticulture along the Little Applegate River at least 12,000 years prior to our arrival. They depended on reliable salmon populations and versatile basketry skills, maintaining their livelihood and the landscape using fire.

As I write, visibility is dim due to smoke from forest fires in the area. Fire is a catastrophe when uncontained, but careful, small-scale burns replenish soil and reduce fire hazard. The breaking down of dead wood makes nutrients bio-available and the resulting char can be used as fertilizer. The burning practices of the Dakubetede were done with purpose and understanding long before miners arrived in the 1850s, devastating the indigenous culture (and beaver populations, by the way). Both were careless tragedies.

Tom urges us to remember this fact and to approach life here with a sense of humility. It would be foolish to assume that we are using the best farming practices when we have not been here for very long. He cautions that our high values of convenience, legality (licensure) and privilege may lead to mistakes in land and water use.

Tom is a permaculture counselor. He facilitates in the design of various projects while remaining in the background. What qualifies him? The aforementioned degrees and teaching experience, a love for the land and the desire to understand his surroundings, not to mention the thousands of miles he has walked in northern California and southern Oregon, all the while practicing careful observation.

Sometimes he works with groups to design settlements, always with both theory and practice in mind. In other words, while pure science has great value, applied science is necessary for the real world. He has also had a hand in most organic farm operations in the area, especially herb farms. He believes in supporting farmers and encouraging ethical practices and education.

A worthwhile project requires care and persistence, with positive results expected in as early as five years. The Wolf Gulch Project, which Tom is supporting, provides a good example: 13 years in the making, it is showing clear signs of progress such as the increase of pollinator populations, higher soil fertility and improved quality of produce. You can watch a detailed and well-produced video of the project on youtube.com.

Here is a tidbit of advice straight from the "horticulturalist's" mouth: be on a piece of land for a year before you do anything serious. Find your "designer recliner." Sit down. Observe. Be careful, and be there. And again, Tom emphasizes, be careful. For more information, visit siskiyoupermaculture.com.

Haley May
hmaylmt@gmail.com

Author's Note: Tom is one of the founders of local business Siskiyou Permaculture along with partners Melanie Mindlin and Karen Taylor. Services offered include walk-throughs, permaculture counseling, courses and workshops. They also sell biochar, which is charcoal used as a soil amendment.

If you are interested in a walk-through,



Permaculture teacher and counselor Tom Ward.
Photo: Haley May.

you will receive advice and insight about your property and its attributes for \$125. However, there is "homework for homesteaders," so be prepared to spend some time analyzing and evaluating elements of your property, such as soil quality, elevation, water, weather, and patterns in plants and wildlife—before a visit.

Upcoming Course Opportunity: Advanced Permaculture Design

From Friday through Sunday, September 20–22, at Full Bloom Farm in the Applegate Valley, permaculture designers will lead groups in modeling the farm three or four ways. Course price is \$300, and includes campsite and organic lunch. Limited space available. Previous experience preferred. For more information or to register, contact Siskiyou Permaculture at sassetta@mind.net.

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Grape Talk: Conversations with local winemakers



BY DEBBIE TOLLEFSON

When I was a young girl I developed a love affair with the muscat grape. My mother would create wonderful jelly from her own crop and I couldn't wait for the grapes to ripen. Flash forward and the grape in the form of wine has marked most special events in the lives of my husband and I by the bottle of wine that we drank and the friends with whom we shared it. We have tasted many amazing and some not-so-amazing wines over the years. I am not a sommelier or an enologist, but I have a great appreciation of wine and love to learn about it.

Upon settling in the Applegate Valley in 2004 we were thrilled to learn that this beautiful valley was also one of the new up-and-coming appellations.

Recently, I had the pleasure of sitting down with Rachel Martin of Red Lily Vineyards and Jim Devitt of Devitt Winery to discuss how they ended up in the Applegate Valley and how they approach their harvest and the creation of their wines.

How did you end up making wine in the Applegate Valley?

Rachel Martin, Red Lily Vineyards: My husband Les and I were both working in Las Vegas; he was a CPA and I was in criminal justice. We loved Spanish wines and dreamed of one day having a place to make our own. I am from Medford and my family is here, so we decided to take a leap of faith and move our family back here and go for it. Our first grapes were planted

on Thompson Creek and while they matured I immersed myself in learning as much as possible about winemaking. I worked with Michael Donovan and his winemaking team at Roxy Ann Winery and did a lot of work on learning the chemistry of winemaking. I also learned a lot from Sarah Powell, who taught me to be a critical taster. When I am out in the vineyards tasting the grapes, all this information comes into play when I am deciding when to harvest and the direction our wines will take.

Jim Devitt, Devitt Winery: I owned and operated Pope Valley Winery in Napa Valley from the early 1970s until the late 1990s. I couldn't stay away from winemaking so in 2003, we started Devitt here in the Applegate Valley and opened the tasting room in 2004. My son, who grew up working at Pope Valley Winery and went to the University of California, Davis, for viticulture and enology, is the winemaker and vineyard manager at Darioush Winery in Napa. We are currently collaborating on a wine system for filling wine barrels without overflowing and spilling. I have an engineering background that is being put to good use finding new systems for the wine industry.

What kind of varietals are you growing? Any new directions or experimentations with blends?

Rachel Martin: My dream was to create a great Spanish-style wine. I spent time in Spain learning and loving the

Spanish wines from the Rioja area made with tempranillo grapes. The wines that blew me away were made from 100 percent tempranillo grapes and they ripped your head off because they were so big and complex. Our Red Lily flagship wine is from our tempranillo grape and the 2012, which is in barrels right now, I think will be amazing. We just released our 2009, which was aged in French oak for 24 months, then bottle-aged, and I think very good. Besides tempranillo we are growing verdejo, a white grape, even though I never thought I would be making a white wine. We also grow some graciano grapes, which are great for blending because of their high acidity and great robust flavors, and grenache grapes that we use in our blend for Lily Girl Rosé. Right now our production is at 3,000 cases and our max will be 5,000 cases. We want to keep our operation small so we can control the process from the grape to the bottle. I will hold some batches back and experiment with the blends to try and create the best, most complex and enjoyable wine I can.

Jim Devitt: I have been concentrating on reds—mostly cabernet and syrah, but I have also been experimenting with viognier and blends of zinfandel, merlot and cabernet. I also experimented with a dessert wine, the 2007 Le Petite Oink When Pigs Fly. We age all our wines in French oak for 24 months at least, and some vintages for much longer. This year we are producing only 700 cases; in the past we have done between 2,500 and 3,000 cases.

We sell 85 percent of our wines at our tasting room and to local restaurants in Jacksonville. We want to keep our operation small and manageable.

I had a fun visit with these winemakers, who have a passion for wine and have made winemaking a family vocation. Rachael and Les Martin's family of three generations lives on the winery property; Jim Devitt's son has made his life about wine and grapes in the Napa Valley; and his grandson Brandon Butler is a winemaker at Devitt Winery.

Both winemakers agree that making wine is expensive, time-consuming and definitely not easy, but they love doing it in the Applegate Valley. Both Rachel and Jim believe that the Applegate Valley is becoming a major growth area for many varietals of US wines.

If you would like me to tackle a wine/grape topic, let me know by emailing gater@applegater.org.

Debbie Tollefson

debbie.avrealty@gmail.com

Note: Red Lily Vineyards is located at 11777 Highway 238 and is open daily from 11 am to 5 pm. The tasting room at Devitt Winery is at 11412 Highway 238 and is open daily from 12 to 5 pm. Both wineries are located between the towns of Ruch and Applegate in the Applegate Valley.

Photo, right:

Rachel Martin, owner and winemaker of Red Lily Vineyards.

Photo, far right:

Left to right, Brandon Butler, winemaker, Sue Devitt, and Jim Devitt, owner-winemaker of Devitt Winery.

Photos by Applegater staff.



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TALL TALES FROM THE EDITOR

Good-bye or Flick your Bic

I cannot tell you how much I have loved being part of the *Applegater* family these past 19 years.

When this community paper first started, very little of our material came into the *Applegater* corporate headquarters via email. Today, there is virtually nothing that doesn't magically appear via email. In those early days, most everyone wrote with quill and ink. I am proud to say that I *still* write with quill and ink—well, maybe with my trusty Bic pen.

It has been a blast scribbling this column with my Rambling Rants and Doggy Tales. Remember the story about when our then six-month-old border collie, Barney McGee, aka Monster Boy, used my hearing aids as his chew toy? One of my favorite stories was how our Australian shepherd, Boogie, figured out how to open the refrigerator door and proceeded to scarf down all the edible contents she could devour. She even left teeth marks on the lid of my treasured Miracle Whip jar. Boogie did have great taste.

My stories/rants have covered everything from my time spent down in the uranium mines, to my rock-'n-roll band days, to running with those naughty boys known as the "Utah Outlaws." Not to mention the tales from our little farm here in the Applegate with my bride Sioux, my very own ER nurse, who turns me to putty when she

dons her 1960s nurses cap. Oh, yeah!

It is frightening how fast these past 19 years have rocketed by—the speed of light has nothing on the speed of time. I am also very aware how over that same time period



Left to right: PUD members J. Michael Pearce, formerly of the J. Michael Pearce band; Rickey Lee Costanza, from the Plutonium's; yours truly, J.D. Rogers, the unknown rock star; Chris "Mad Man" Allen with Fractured Pelvis. Not pictured: the "commissioner," Al "El Supremo" McLeod.

the chores here on the farm seem to have grown bigger, heavier and ever-expanding. Funny thing, those chores are the same as they have always been. Now it's just harder to perform them.

Over the last few years I have dealt with several bouts of cancer. No, this was not the result of the rock-'n-roll star lifestyle that exists in my hollow head. Most likely it is a result of those years I spent probing around in those dark holes called uranium mines.

It's most disturbing to me how much strength and energy cancer sucks out of a person, and the negative health residuals caused from surgery and radiation. Because of all of this, it is time for me to step aside as your *Applegater* newspaper editor. This has not been an easy decision. In fact, I spent more than a year pondering it.

Barbara Holiday, the *Applegater's* long-time managing editor, will be taking over most of my editorial duties. Barbara is well-versed in Gater lore and extremely computer-savvy. She has covered numerous *Applegater* duties for me over the last several years, especially when I was dealing with ongoing medical issues. I will never be able

to thank her enough.

I also thank all our readers and supporters for helping to make the *Applegater* the wonderful community newspaper it is today. This paper would never magically appear in your mailbox if it were not for the army of dedicated Gater volunteers (many have been here since the beginning) who write articles, edit and proof, and prepare the *Applegater* for mailing. The mailing process is an incredible feat in itself. It takes dozens of hands just for this endeavor, bundling, bagging and labeling 9,400 papers. Bob Fischer (my awesome mailing assistant) has suffered through hours with me, waiting on the loading docks at the post office to mail the truckload of *Applegaters*. We have traded some wild tales of his days as a motorcycle cop and mine as the unknown rock star.

Then there are the volunteers who do the Gater's banking, billing, bookkeeping, state and federal nonprofit paperwork, taxes, not to mention our loyal webmaster, editorial committee and board of directors, which has been headed up by Greeley Wells for the last several years. Paula Rissler has performed enormous tasks behind the pages of the *Applegater*. I give a big salute and thank you to all the Gater volunteers past and present. Of course, none of this would have happened without my biggest supporter, my bride Sioux.

I'm so grateful to my buddy Jim Beam, who helped me write my Gater stories a fifth of the time.

The *Applegater's* new, energetic and dedicated board members see this paper as an ongoing, viable link of communication with and for this community.

Rest assured, I am not going to become one with the old rocking chair on our front porch. I am hoping to do a couple of rockin' road trips with "PUD" (see photo), that notorious group of outlaws who hailed from Utah. There was once a saying when they rocked and rolled their way into town: "Mothers, lock your daughters away!" I think today that saying might be, "Hey, grandma, your prehistoric boy toys are back."

So...sweet dreams, rock on and flick your Bic.



The Editor, J.D. Rogers
541-846-7736

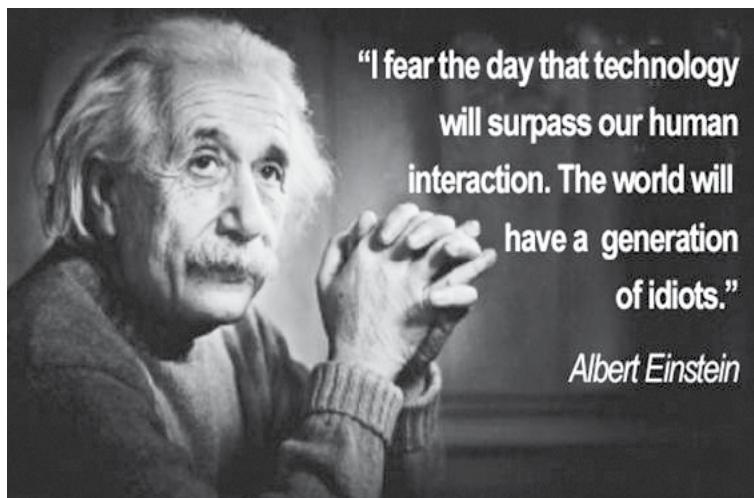
Note: J.D. Rogers may be departing his post as editor but, because we can't do without him, he will remain on the Board of Directors and the editorial committee, thus assuring his continued presence and colorful influence, and perhaps, on occasion, he will gift us with more Rambling Rants and Doggy Tales.

Check this out — only on our website

www.applegater.org



"The Outhouse and Scrounge the cat or Monsanto and lapdogs" by J.D. Rogers



OPINIONS

River right

BY TOM CARSTENS

While paddling down the Klamath River with several kayaking buddies the other day, I finally felt at home again. I've just returned from a long trip Down Under—it felt good not to have to remember to “look left and drive right” for a change. On the drive down to the river, I kept trying to shift gears with my left hand. So I really enjoyed the freedom to paddle wherever I wanted, with no worries about where the controls were located and which side the traffic was on. Only the river rocks and rapids dictated my path.

I wish this were so with our country. We seem to be paddling hard upstream and getting nowhere. It's like we're letting the current take us backwards through some pretty rough rapids without a recovery plan. I sure hope we don't tip over. I read the other day that our average government debt (federal, state and local) is now over \$50,000 per person and climbing. Say what? I tried to check this on my hand calculator, but I couldn't fit in all the zeros. (How much is \$17 trillion, anyway?) One prominent economist, Laurence Kotlikoff, tells us that we would have to permanently raise taxes by 64 percent to close the gap between federal income and spending. Does anyone think that's got a snowball's chance in hell? Does anybody out there want to pay more taxes?

So, like it or not, we're going to have to get a handle on spending. We're already seeing the downside of this locally. Both the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service are grappling with budget cuts. Many of their programs are being reduced, delayed or canceled outright. We've already heard about the cuts to the federal firefighting budget. But when big fires hit, they're going to have to spend the money. Where will they get it? From other federal programs, that's where. Who knows what sacred cows are going to be gored!

Speaking of sacred cows, the county budgets are loaded with them. Tax

revenues are flat, while pension costs are rising. Josephine County is a basket case: proposed tax hikes get nowhere. Jackson County's current tale of woe is a two-million dollar increase in pension expenses next year. (How much is two million, by the way?) So the commissioners are once again raising the specter of closing our local libraries. The Oregon State University Extension Service is also on the chopping block. Grassroots organizations have sprung up to try and save these beloved programs.

I think we have a fighting chance as long as we don't hang our hats on increasing our taxes. We've been there before. In 1984, voters approved a Jackson County library levy only to see it disappear into the general fund 13 years later with the passage of Measure 50. Historically, tax increases have a tough time getting voter approval, because that's usually not the end of the story. Even if the new taxes manage to fix what's wrong, more money will eventually be needed, especially as salaries and pensions go up. Would user fees help? That's how all county parks, including Cantrall-Buckley and Fish Hatchery, are paid for.

Recently, a friend said to me that we ought to ask ourselves: What is it that we want government to do? Here's maybe a better question: What do we want government to do *that we can afford?* Maybe we need to make a big priority list and tick off items from the top until we run out of projected revenue. Regardless, more cutting is coming. I hope we can avoid the squabbling that we've seen elsewhere. I'm confident that everyone is trying to make the best of a bad situation.

Oh, and one more thing . . . next time you see one of our volunteer firefighters, tell 'em “Thanks.” Salary: Zero. Pension: Zero. Return on tax dollar: 100%. Top of the list stuff.

See you on the river.

Tom Carstens • 541-846-1025

Legislation seeks to remove federal safeguards for forests

BY DANIELLE SCHRECK

The forests managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in southwestern Oregon have been a point of contention for years. Now, once again proposed legislation seeks to remove federal safeguards. These forests were designated as resources to be managed for the greater good in perpetuity. Please do not be swayed by timber interests who want to loosen regulations. Our rural community has been greatly affected by surrounding clear-cuts by private logging interests—most logs never going to our local mills but are shipped raw to Asia. Our federal forests remain the only buffer providing us with clean water, biodiversity and recreation. Think about other economic values we have. Our organic farming industry has grown exponentially in recent years and is our economic and environmental future.

Since the passage of the Northwest Forest Plan in 1994, federal forests have been protected from unsustainable logging, such as clear-cutting and cutting of old-growth forests. However, these protected public forests are interconnected with privately owned forests. Private forests may be clear-cut, doused with herbicides that poison our waters, our farmlands, and our fish and wildlife. The cumulative effects of this unsustainable logging are buffered and offset by our protected federal forests.

One logging company from Grants Pass has informed the Oregon Department of Forestry of their plans to clear-cut 157 total acres in two sections near Grayback Mountain in southwest Williams. Because these lands are under private ownership, logging is regulated only by the Oregon Forest Practice Act. This means they can cross over and cut right up to the non-fish-bearing streams that meander through causing massive erosion and sedimentation.

Contrary to this invasive riparian treatment, federal management does not allow logging within 170 feet of non-fish-bearing streams. The subsequent herbicide applications that always follow this type of private logging have been proven toxic to the aquatic systems that we all depend on. They will accumulate in the bodies of fish and wildlife and leach into the streams and groundwater. There is no buffer along these streams for aerial spraying of herbicides.

Our watershed consists of 55,602 acres with 28,161 acres managed by BLM, 6,772 acres managed by the US Forest Service, and 6,116 acres owned by private timber companies. This means a potential of 74 percent of our lands could potentially be harvested. BLM has a plan to treat 8,000 acres over the next ten years, and so the combined negative impact of BLM and private timber companies could be huge.

The struggle we see in rural southern Oregon communities is not due to a loss of timber, but rather a loss of value. The beautiful forests that surround us are a valuable resource that simply cannot

be replaced by young mono-crops of trees. Clean drinking water, biodiversity of plant and animal species, erosion control, temperature regulation, and salmon habitat are resources on which we all depend. Today's changing climate cannot support logging at levels that were previously the norm.

Although the laws governing logging vary greatly between private and publicly owned forests, the natural world does not obey these boundaries. To loosen federal regulations would be the beginning of the end of some of the last remaining protected forests in the world.

Do we really want to create jobs that sacrifice our children's futures? Do we the people of Oregon believe that this is our only hope? As Oregonians, we are much more resourceful than to depend only on these outdated practices. We have a growing organic farming industry, recreation and tourism, and a landscape that drives people here from all over the nation. The fact is these industries, which are truly sustainable and promote land stewardship, are not even possible without healthy forests. We ask you to see past the rhetoric and propaganda and join with those who can think outside the box in creating a future that is economically sound without sacrificing the land we all depend on.

If you truly want to help move Oregon forward, don't look backward to outdated models of economic prosperity that rely solely on resource extraction. Contrary to the beliefs of the few who stand to profit from the rape of our federal lands, we are educated citizens who understand that the ecological values provided by our forests are truly priceless. We also understand that contrary to the rhetoric, Americans have the ingenuity to create new venues for sustained economic prosperity.

Our public lands are not for sale! We will not support any legislation that seeks to betray the public trust in the name of profit for a select few. We have heard these promises all over the nation, from the Appalachian coal mines to the natural-gas drilling in Wyoming; promises of jobs and schools available only at the expense of our natural resources. We have seen what happens; a few profit and then move on to the next extraction site, leaving rural citizens stripped of their productive land and clean water.

Without federal safeguards, we fear that these effects will become too massive in scale and a threshold will be crossed, beyond which our forests will not be able to recover.

For more information about Williams Community Forest Project, visit our website at www.williamscommunityforestproject.org or send an email to the address below.

Danielle Schreck

Williams Community Forest Project
info@williamscommunityforestproject.org

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The Gater thanks you.

OBITUARIES

Elvis Offenbacher 1928 - 2010



Elvis Offenbacher

My dad, Elvis Leon Offenbacher, was born on February 13, 1928, in an old farmhouse on the Applegate River. He died in the Applegate on May 13, 2010. Upon his passing our immediate family didn't have the opportunity to get together with other family and friends to celebrate his life. So even though it has been a few years, I don't think it's ever too late to remember a life, especially my dad's.

My dad was raised on a cattle ranch in the Applegate Valley. The ranch had been in our family since about 1850. His childhood memories included stories of a lot of hard work, cattle drives, hypnotizing chickens, and torturing his younger brother, Dutch. Although it was a little hard to see at times, my dad took pride in his role as the older brother. I think that the bond they shared was the kind you couldn't always see with your eyes, but you could feel in your heart.

My granddad was a cowboy, but my dad was not. He was destined for a different life and it was not on the farm. I don't know why for sure, but maybe it was his allergy to hay or knowing that he could not have made the type of living he wanted if he stayed on the ranch. So, just after my mom and dad graduated from Jacksonville High School, they married and began their life's journey away from the Applegate. They were married over 30 years and raised three kids, which included paying for two college degrees, a start-up business, cars for each of us, and braces for all three. We never looked like we had a lot of money but, because my dad worked so hard, I always had that sense of security. He started his career changing tires, worked hard his whole life, and ended his career by digging holes all over the Applegate with his backhoe. He never did retire.

You would never ask him what he thought unless you wanted to hear what

was on his mind. Dad was really good at being straightforward. And so many times his quick response would bring about a one-liner or a comment that would ignite a belly laugh from the crowd. He loved the Applegate; he knew that he was a part of something bigger, and he was proud of the roots that reached deep into the soil.

Dad had some very good friends in the Applegate. Quite a few of his relationships were tied to his backhoe work, but some of those folks were more than just work buddies. He was involved in the local historical society (he called it the "Hysterical Society") and other Applegate community meetings, where I am sure he shared what was on his mind. He loved to dismantle and reconstruct an idea and then offer a better way. Hearing stories from people who knew my dad has led me to wonder what people really thought of him...and I am still not sure. But I think nearly everyone had respect for my dad. And I bet everyone who called the house and heard the big and somewhat loud "hello" on the other end would surely have to start that conversation with a smile.

I must have been eight years old when my dad showed me what a good handshake should feel like. It's firm and strong, but not so strong as to crush a knuckle. He went on to explain why you don't want a mushy handshake, and I still use that as a telltale sign to judge people's character. Once in a while, he would aim his index finger between my shoulder blades and poke me pretty hard and say, "Get them shoulders back." He wanted me to know how important it was to stand up straight.

My dad was built just like any good German. He was stout and about five feet nine inches tall. What he lacked in height he made up for with his sense of humor, which was quick and sharp. His analogies and descriptions of how he saw the world were just damn funny at times (some of which I cannot repeat). He and I loved to yak it up about politics (thank god we agreed—others were not so lucky). I miss our phone chats very much. I couldn't get away with very much because he could see right through me. It really didn't bother me too much because even though he was direct at times, I knew that I needed only to be myself with him; that's who he wanted me to be.

Writing down a few things about Dad has helped rekindle some of my memories. It has felt good to remember his life. And for those of you who knew him, I hope that a thought was sparked, making you smile at your own memories of Elvis Offenbacher.

Lori Stone

thedustyspur@gorge.net

Beth Bliss 1951 - 2013

Riding with Bliss

Applegate Valley resident Beth Bliss died Saturday, July 13, as a result of injuries sustained when her horse fell during an endurance ride east of Prineville. Beth was 61 and is survived by her husband Barry, daughters Sarah and Autumn, and granddaughter Madelyn.

Beth was one of my best riding buddies. She was a passionate equestrian and endurance rider and was active in numerous local equestrian and trail organizations, serving on the board of directors for several of them.

Her energy and joy of life were contagious. She always had a smile and positive words for everyone. I was honored



Annette Parsons and Beth Bliss (right) near Moab, Utah, during a three-day endurance ride in 2010.

to call her my friend. We shared many joys on the trail and around the campfire. She lived up to her name, and to the bumper sticker on her horse trailer that read "Follow Your Bliss."

Beth and Barry moved to the Applegate Valley from the Midwest in 2001. Beth discovered endurance riding and competed successfully in many rides locally and throughout the region. In 2004 she completed the difficult and rugged 100-mile, one-day Tevis Cup ride from Squaw Valley to Auburn, California on a gelding she had bred and trained.

Beth had told me about her "Earth Mother" days, when she and Barry were raising their daughters on rural property in Iowa in the 1970s and 80s. Beth grew and preserved most of their food. Her daughter Sarah told me, "As children, we were required to do an hour a day in the garden. Our least favorite part was the weeding. We made homemade applesauce and mom canned a lot of food for us. We also raised goats, chickens, rabbits, and an occasional runt pig and cow. My mom and dad butchered the rabbits and chickens themselves. I still have a pillow Mom made me from rabbit hide that she tanned herself. We collected our own eggs and pasteurized our own milk and made our own yogurt. Mom belonged to a co-

op and we grew up on Knudsen juices and carob chips. We were true hippie children; we just didn't know it."

Beth received her associate degree in nursing from Iowa Western Community College in 1994 and worked as an emergency-room nurse for over ten years. After moving to Oregon she worked in the emergency room at Three Rivers Community Hospital. Last year she took a year off to pursue her passion, riding her endurance horse. Recently she returned to work at Three Rivers part time as an on-call nurse.

Beth was always willing to help a new endurance rider learn about the sport and was as competent and sensible a rider as I have ever known. Beth was competitive and tried to be the best she could be at whatever she did, but would never hesitate to stop and help someone in need. She and her little part-Arabian mare, Ivy, were always a welcome addition to any riding group or campout.

Her first horse was a wild mustang adopted from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in 1983. Beth gentled and trained her Wild Dream Lady herself. In Beth's own words in 2011:

I have owned and worked with horses for 27 years. My first was a wild nine-year old mustang mare adopted from the BLM.

I have completed over 1,750 miles of competitive trail ride miles in NATRC, including the Championship Challenge ride in 2000. I won the Region 6 top novice horse of 1991 on Lady's son, Corduroy Knickers when he was four years old. After moving from Iowa to Oregon, I started endurance riding with "Roy." In 2004, I accomplished the goal I had dreamed of when I picked his sire. Together we completed the Tevis 100-mile, one-day race placing 84th of 129 finishers. We earned a buckle in that 50th anniversary ride. Roy was 17 years old. I was 52.

My little mare Ivy and I began competing in endurance in 2010. She is also trained to be my packhorse and all-around trail horse. I hope to complete the Tevis ride one more time with Ivy as my partner when I am 62.

I can't imagine a world without horses. They complete my universe."

Beth lived her life helping and inspiring others, and doing what she loved. She went out doing what she loved most of all, riding fast.

Ride on forever, girlfriend, I'll miss you. I'll see you down the trail, if I can catch you!

Annette Parsons • aparsons@apbb.net

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MY OPINION FROM BEHIND THE GREEN DOOR

Stuck in the past

BY CHRIS BRATT

Last month I took a family member to the Rogue Valley Medical Center for a checkup at the outpatient section on the main floor of the hospital. During the wait time while she was seeing the doctor, I had a chance to examine an extended display of early-day (late 1800s-1938) photographs of logging operations in southern Oregon.

Hanging high on the long waiting room wall were impressive pictures of rugged looking loggers chopping, sawing and falling giant trees by hand, long-gone private sawmills once so prolific in the area and huge sections of old-growth logs larger in diameter than the height of the loggers themselves. I could find no written explanation about this display, although the wall did contain the names of many people I thought might have been dead but connected to these depictions of local antiquated sawmills and logging practices.

For me, these old images described a time in Oregon's history when logging was the principal piece of our local economy and was virtually uncontrolled. It was a time when our Oregon forests were so vast they seemed unending. I doubt if anyone in that era believed these forests could ever be harmed or eliminated given the tools and techniques that were available to forest-industry workers at that time.

Looking back at those earlier days, I realize we are still saddled with a long-term legacy of rapacious logging by private forest and mill owners for financial gain and political power. Like the western life of the early cowboys, gold miners and ranchers, there is also an ongoing nostalgic appeal of the loggers' connection to the land and trees while working to conquer the wilderness. Wealthy forest landowners and corporations have continued to maintain a controlling influence over forest policies and practices in the Northwest to this day.

In addition, the timber industry's

coziness and collaboration with forestry schools like Oregon State University and its over-representation on Oregon's Board of Forestry raise questions of undue corporate sway over both public and private forest-management regulations and laws.

Industrial forest advocates also continue to run a well-financed negative-propaganda agenda that lobbies against any additional protections for the environment. Touting a lofty connection to the land (an "abiding love of the forest") while providing jobs and products people need, Oregon's Seneca Sawmill owners recently had the brazenness to blame "radical activists" and "fringe elitists" (that's me they're talking about) for all of Oregon's financial and forest problems. Instead of any willingness by the timber industry folks to discuss the causes of fewer trees being cut (because of past destructive logging practices), they just continually attempt to vilify and berate all environmental people and groups. While the Seneca Jones Timber Company claims it "is dedicated to sustainable practices in every aspect of forest management," their monocultured second-growth tree farm grows trees only 40 to 60 years before they're cut—hardly a sustainable forest from the standpoint of most forest creatures and scientists.

Despite the destructive record of the timber industry's free-for-all logging model (an unsustainable monoculture based on extensive clear-cutting and pesticide use easily seen from many of Oregon's

...I realize we are still saddled with a long-term legacy of rapacious logging by private forest and mill owners for financial gain and political power.

highways and byways), the Seneca Jones folks and their fellow travelers now want to expand their management scheme throughout our public forest lands. Using political pressure and highly misleading arguments, the timber industry is desperately trying to get Federal land management agencies to offer more trees for sale from our public forests. They want our government to subsidize an extensive tree-cutting

program that supposedly will bolster Oregon's jobs and economy and fund some counties' budgets. Do we really believe the private timber corporations are that interested in the long-term welfare of our forests and people? The boards of directors and owners of the timber corporations admit that first and foremost they are committed to enhancing the stock value of their shareholders. Making money is their top priority, not improving their forest's

health or the job market.

Since timber interests and supporters are pushing hard to acquire more access to cutting public trees, we have come to the crossroads of a potential big change in public forest management policy and practice. Do we want to go down the old destructive "boom-and-bust" road on our public lands, too? Or, will we be taking the new road leading to more ecologically and sustainably based actions for all our public lands in the state? I'm definitely on the road to new ecologically based forest practices, and I am suggesting to people in our towns and communities that they do the same.

Stay tuned for more details and actions as decisions are being considered by Congress. (Senator Wyden and others in Congress are considering some not-too-friendly environmental changes to public forest land ownership and laws).

Maybe you think I'm stuck in the past. Let me know.

Chris Bratt
541-846-6988



Chris Bratt

Applegate Valley Community Grange news

BY JANIS MOHR-TIPTON

Many thank-yous to the local community for attending our June 2 "Almost Summer Faire" and fund-raiser for a new roof for the Grange. With your support, we added \$1,035 to the fund. We are seeking more donations and applying for a grant to get the new roof on before the fall rains. Then we will be able to offer more community events and have a rainproof building available for rent.

In August, the members were busy planning future events, programs and activities for the coming year. Last fall, our Harvest Breakfast was a smashing success thanks to community support, so we are hoping to repeat it. Watch for the announcement in the coming months. (Ed. Note: Check out the Applegater Facebook page and website calendar for the dates.)

Earlier this summer the Grange members voted in support of banning genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in Jackson County. They felt that the unique topography and the micro- and

macroclimates of the county do not allow the propagation of GMOs without potential large and lasting damage to small, heritage, organic and other non-GMO farms and gardens. The combined dangers of cross-pollination, increased use of herbicides and pesticides, and the threat to natural pollinators such as bees and butterflies may affect the health and livelihoods of many county residents.

We invite you to consider joining us at our next Grange meeting on Sunday, September 8, 2013, at 6 pm for a potluck and lively conversation, followed by a business meeting at 7 pm. Then, from October 2013 to February 2014, come join us at the potluck at 5 pm, and the business meeting starting at 6 pm on the second Sunday of the month.

For more information, contact Paul Tipton or Janis Mohr-Tipton at 541-846-7501.

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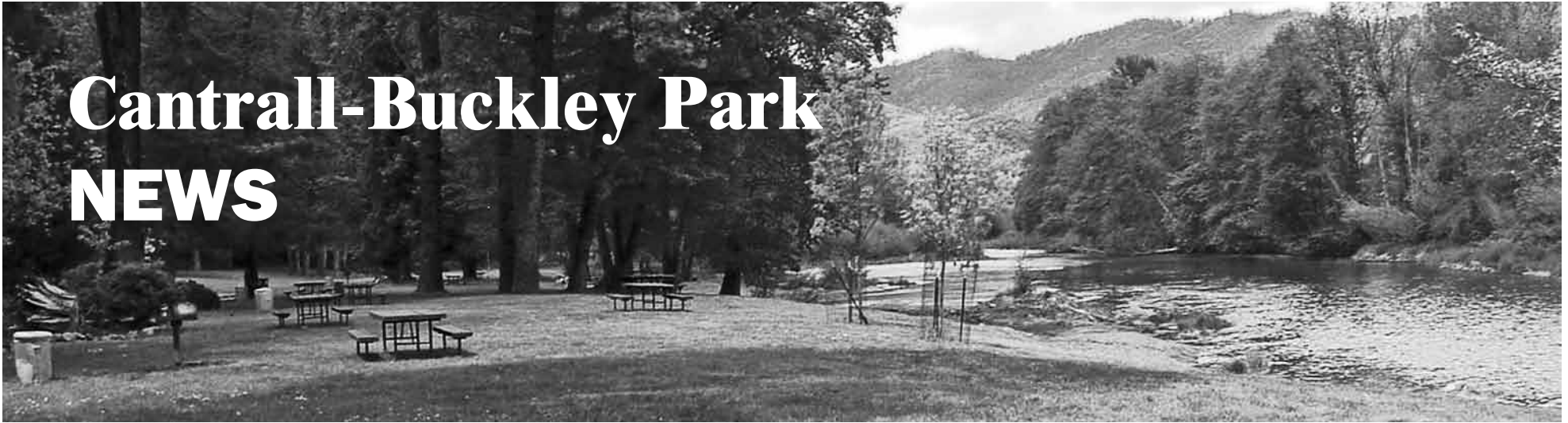
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Cantrall-Buckley Park NEWS

Applegate Valley Day 2013 enjoyed by many

BY DAVID LAANANEN

The second Applegate Valley Day, held on Saturday, June 22, was a success. In contrast with the chilly, wet weekend of last year's inaugural event, this time the weather was perfect. More than 600 people came out to enjoy the day. One of the goals of the weekend was to introduce people to Cantrall-Buckley Park, a Jackson County park that is operated by the nonprofit Greater Applegate Community Development Corporation. Visitors were delighted to see and tour this beautiful facility on the Applegate River. The park is funded by user fees, and in order to keep it going, we need people to come out and enjoy it throughout the year.

People who attended were able to spend time outdoors in a beautiful setting by the river and enjoy locally produced food and beverages. The Applegate Valley Lions Club barbecued tri-tip and chicken for lunch and throughout the afternoon. Rise Up! Artisan Bakery sold wood-fired pizza, and the Ruch Country Store provided roasted corn. Plaisance Ranch, Quady North, and Wooldridge Creek wineries poured their wines, and Café Ruch sold glasses of Oregon-produced craft beers.

Vendors showed off their local products, including arts and crafts and a variety of outstanding locally produced food items. Nonprofit organizations

provided information about what they do.

Hourly dog-agility demonstrations by Cooperative Canines (www.cooperativecanines.net) were a big hit.

The Oregon Department of Forestry brought a display of historic fire-fighting equipment, and the Applegate Fire District hosted an educational fire-safety exhibit for children. Jacksonville CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) had their emergency vehicle equipment there with staff to explain what they do.

Local musicians played by the river throughout the afternoon. Special thanks to the Sons of the Oregon Trail and to Christina Duane for arranging the music as well as entertaining the visitors.

Applegate Valley Day could not have been successful without the assistance of our sponsors. A donation from **Fields Home Improvement** in Murphy paid for directional signs in and near the park. **Applegate wineries** provided bottles of their products for raffle prizes, and the **Applegate Quilters** donated beautiful quilts as prizes. **Ray's Food Place** contributed bottles of water for sale to thirsty visitors, with proceeds supporting the park. **US Bank** also provided some much-appreciated financial support.

Due to safety concerns and limited parking available within



Folks enjoyed a tasty meal under the Applegate Valley Lion's Club tent at Applegate Valley Day on June 22 at Cantrall-Buckley Park.

Cantrall-Buckley Park, we arranged for free parking on Hamilton Road. Jacksonville's premier senior community, **Pioneer Village**, provided their bus and driver for regular shuttle service between the parking lot and the park. **Applegate Valley Day 2014**

Because we received lots of positive feedback about the event, we've already started planning for next year. If you have an interest in participating in any part of the weekend or have ideas for new activities, please let us know. **We need volunteers. We also need sponsors and will be happy to visibly acknowledge sponsorships.**

Information will be available beginning this fall at www.applegatevalleydays.org. In fact, if you haven't done so before, check out the website (created and maintained by Shelley-Ann Hincks of SA Web Engineering) and enjoy the beautiful pictures courtesy of Hincks Photography (www.hinckspphoto.com). Meanwhile, if you haven't yet purchased one of the beautiful Applegate Valley Days T-shirts, they're available for sale at the Ruch Country Store, the Outpost, the Applegate Store, and Pennington Farms.

David Laananen • 541-846-0500
david.laananen@asu.edu

ATA to host benefit dinner, fireside entertainment and campout at Jackson Campground

BY MICHELLE LAFAVE

On September 21-22, Applegate Trails Association (ATA) invites you to join us at Jackson Campground for a terrific family-friendly event. Our second annual benefit will feature a fresh, whole foods dinner, engaging entertainment and, if you'd like, stay the night and continue the fun the following morning with a campfire breakfast and the choice of two hikes. Relax and let us do the cooking! Enjoy our local treasure, the Applegate River, and visit with folks who love to walk, bike, and ride horses in the woods.

Both meals will feature a barbecue showcasing local and organic foods from our region's finest farms. Meat, vegetarian,

vegan and gluten-free options will be available.

Local musical duo Emily Turner and Danny Moore of The Turner and Moore Band (www.turnermooreband.com) will entertain us for the evening.

Last year's ATA dinner and campout succeeded in drawing a pleasant crowd who thoroughly enjoyed the event, but especially the campfire lecture. Legendary local author Dr. Diana Coogle kept the fireside audience spellbound with her tales of Siskiyou regional history. We are fortunate to feature Dr. Coogle again at this year's benefit.

Jackson Campground offers a lovely,

comfortable and convenient setting located ten miles past Ruch on Upper Applegate Road on the way to Applegate Lake. This accessible campground provides a perfect spot for a friendly gathering.

Overnight campers will appreciate the idyllic riverside accommodations, but those of you who choose to return home may join us again on Sunday for a hike.

After breakfast on Sunday, choose between an easy walk on the historic Gin Lin trail or a more strenuous trek to Mule Creek.

Cost

- Dinner only: \$30/person, \$50/couple, \$10/kids ages 3 - 12.
- Dinner, camping, breakfast, and hike: \$45/person, \$70/couple, \$15/kids ages 3 - 12.

Space is limited, so please make your reservations early! To purchase reservations, please email josh@applegatetrails.org or call Josh at 541-846-0738. Visit our

website, www.applegatetrails.org, for further information. All proceeds benefit the mission of ATA.

ATA wants to thank these folks for their food donations: Boulton & Son Butchers, Rise Up! Bakery, Happy Campers Gluten Free, Wandering Fields, SunSpirit, White Oak Farms, and Ken Chapman.

Applegate Trails Association works to protect, preserve and promote nonmotorized trails. The Applegate Ridge Trail is our main project and will result in a 40-plus mile ridge trail with amazing views of the Applegate Valley and beyond. We offer regular group hikes. We appreciate volunteers and would love for you to join us in any way you can. We also accept and need tax-deductible donations. Step forward with a gift to all generations.

Michelle LaFave
ATA Board Member
michelle@applegatetrails.org

The Siskiyou Crest: Hikes, History & Ecology
A new hiking and natural history guide for the Siskiyou Crest.
Including: The Red Buttes & Siskiyou Wilderness, the entire proposed Siskiyou-Crest National Monument, 19 roadless areas, & 76 hikes.
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APPLEGATE PARTNERSHIP & WATERSHED COUNCIL
HABITAT RESTORATION PROGRAM
Offering technical assistance, planting stock, and funding resources for fuels reduction, riparian restoration and stream habitat improvement projects

CURRENT 2013-2014 PROJECTS:

- Thompson Creek Habitat Restoration Project (2 miles of riparian & instream habitat work)
- Applegate Barrier Assessment Update Project (Thompson, Slate & Humbug Creeks)
- Little Applegate Measuring Device Project (Water Quantity & Irrigation Efficiency)
- The Pilot Projects in collaboration with BLM & the SO Small Diameter Forest Collaborative

If you are interested in participating in any of these projects or programs please contact us or check for more information and our meeting dates, times and locations on our website, www.apwc.info

Jakob Shockey, Riparian Program Manager
riparianprogram@apwc.info
Janelle Dunlevy, APWC Coordinator
Phone: (541) 899-9982
www.apwc.info

NEXT GENERATION

"Next Generation" features the talents of our local students and school news and updates. All schools in the Applegate Valley are encouraged to submit art, writing, photography and any other creative pieces to gater@applegater.org.

RUCH SCHOOL



Happy Birthday, Ruch School!
Celebrating 100 years of excellence.
Schedule of centennial celebrations
to be announced.

Fifth annual benefit for Applegate School

Enjoy an evening in the Applegate Valley wine country at the Harvest Dinner and Wine Auction benefit for Friends of the Applegate School. The fifth annual event will be held on Saturday, September 7, 2013, at 6 pm at Wooldridge Creek Winery. Proceeds will fund music, art and farm programs at Applegate School.

Tickets include a sparkling wine reception, a shrimp boil by Fulcrum Dining featuring Applegate Valley produce, an Applegate Valley wine auction and music from Andy Casad and the Fret Drifters.

Tickets are \$75 per person (\$50 of each ticket goes directly to Applegate School). For reservations please contact Kara Olmo at 541-951-5273 or kara@wcwinery.com. Wooldridge Creek Winery is located at 818 Slagle Creek Road, Grants Pass, Oregon.

APPLEGATE SCHOOL

Applegate School writing assignment

The children at Applegate School are fun to work with and have great imaginations. Every day this past spring they asked me if we were going butterfly hunting. Sometimes they play tricks on me or tease me by saying they have a butterfly in their net when they really don't. When they do net a butterfly, it is exciting. We put the butterfly in a small cage that they take back to class to show the other students and then we release them back to the outdoors. I have to say I was quite honored to have a story written about me by one of the best butterfly-netters for a third-grade imaginative writing assignment.

⌘

The Three Little Butterflies and the Big Bad Mrs. Kappen

Written & illustrated by Johanna DeVos

One day 3 little butterflies went to seek their fortunes. Their mom called after them and she said "watch out for the Mrs. Kappen." They all called back o.k. mom! After awhile they came to 3 different rivers and each one went a different way.

The first little butterfly was small and blue and weak. He built his house out of leaves. Then the big bad Mrs. Kappen came and she said little butterfly little butterfly let me open the door not by the dust on my wingy wing wing and then she said I'll huff and I'll blow your house down so she did. All of a sudden the house fell down and the little blue butterfly tried to fly away but Mrs. Kappen netted it first.

A while after that the next little butterfly who was lazy and bossy built his house out of moss. When he got all



Photo by Dakota Kappen, student at Hidden Valley High School.

snuggled in Mrs. Kappen came and she said little butterfly little butterfly let me open the door not by the dust on my wingy wing wing! Mrs. Kappen said then I'll huff and I'll puff and I'll blow your house in so she did and she caught the 2nd little butterfly.

In awhile the 3rd little butterfly built his house out of sticks and when Mrs. Kappen came she said little butterfly little butterfly let me open the door! Not by the dust on my wingy wing wing Mrs. Kappen said then I'll huff and I'll puff and I'll blow your house in so she tried but the house did not budge, so she hit the house with her net and it broke her net and she was so mad that she ran away crying.

A few hours later the 3rd butterfly went to Mrs. Kappen's house and let all the butterflies Mrs. Kappen caught go. He let go his brothers and when Mrs. Kappen woke up she was so upset that she moved away and the butterflies never saw Mrs. Kappen again.

Submitted by Big Bad Mrs. Kappen
 541-846-6280

Schoolwide Education Assistant
 Applegate School

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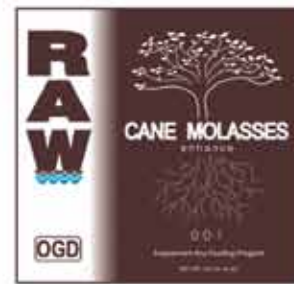
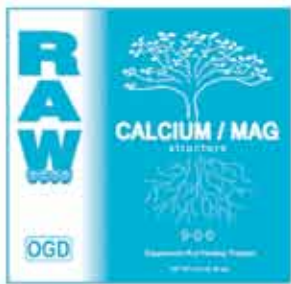
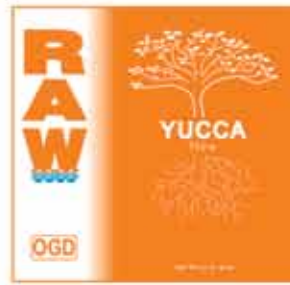
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Look who's reading the Gater

Take us with you on your next trip. Then send your favorite "Reading the Gater" photo to gater@applegater.org or mail to *Applegater*, P.O. Box 14, Jacksonville, OR 97530. Photos will appear as space allows.



Photo, top row, left:
—Former Oregonian **Linda Yates** carried the Applegater for protection outside the Church of our Savior on Spilled Blood in St. Petersburg, Russia, where Tsar Alexander II was assassinated.

Photo, top row, right:
—**Annette Parsons** (left) and **Maggie Purves** made use of the Gater's built-in GPS to make sure they didn't get lost while trekking with the Sierra Club to Grizzly Lake in the Trinity Alps.

Photo, left center:
—Prior to the ceremony, August bride **Hannah Longo** and bridesmaids (left to right) **Anna Phillippi**, **Brooke Nielsen** and **Ann Barry** checked the Applegater for singles ads. Photo: Mikellouise Photography.



Photo, lower left:
—Former Hollywood actresses **Jo "Topsy" Morrow** (left) and **Dee "Bahama Mama" Arlen** partied down with the Gater in Medford in honor of Dee's 90th birthday.



Fall is for Planting!

Make the most of fall weather with inspiration from Shooting Star Nursery

- **Fall classes and events** – how to plant a tree, ornamental grasses, apple tastings and more: www.roguevalleynursery.com/class
- **Bring the kids** to play while you shop and get expert advice
- **Check out our website** for fall sales and Rogue Valley plant info: www.roguevalleynursery.com



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Keep those articles, letters, opinions and "Reading the Gater" photos coming in. You are the Gater!

The Applegater Staff and Board

JOB OPPORTUNITY WITH THE GATER

SEE PAGE 3