



Williams Branch Library: The hub of the community

— Applegate Library —

With the passing of the Library District Measure in May, it's been a busy three months for the Applegate Library and the other libraries in the Rogue Valley. We all worked very hard to back the new, independently funded district and nearly 55 percent of the voters supported us. The library will now have its own district, with the accompanying levy operating and paying for all libraries in Jackson County. With stable backing, libraries will no longer have to endure the seesaw budgeting caused in large part by reductions in federal funding related to timber harvests.

The Applegate Library sponsored several library programs with a literary bent, beginning in May with six local authors reading from their work, including prose, poetry and essays. On July 12, Gay Bradshaw gave a reading for the Summer Reading Program from her new book entitled *The Elephant Letters, The Story*

of *Billy and Kani*, and on July 19, Ellen Levine presented a program with readings from her novels and short stories.

The Applegate Poets, a recently formed group of poets, held a reading in the meeting room of the Applegate Library on July 27. On August 2, Willy Whitefeather offered a program on survival in the wilderness for children.

We're planning a crafts fair to be held at the library on November 8. The hand-knitters are again making hats for sale, and many other crafts from the Applegate and Williams Valleys will be available. Read more information in the box below.

The next Friends of the Applegate Library meeting will be on Tuesday, October 14, in the meeting room of the Applegate Library at 5 pm. Come join us and help us out with our programs and activities.

Joan Peterson • 541-846-6988

— Ruch Library —

We are happy to announce future events at Ruch Library! Thank you, Applegate Valley voters, for approving the Library Special District and for assuring us a secure future.

If you would like to be more connected with this "library with a future," we welcome you. We are in need of volunteers on Thursdays and Saturdays for a couple of hours each day. We have special projects, books to shelve, bulletin boards to decorate, files to organize... something for everyone. Please speak to a staff person if you are interested. Volunteer Barbara Krack has created a magnificent scrapbook showing the 30-year history of the Ruch Library, and we urge you to come in and enjoy it.

We had an exciting three months with the Summer Reading Program. Fifteen teens and 55 children signed up and spent the summer devouring books. "Science" was the theme, and the kids (and adults) were able to attend six exciting programs and participate in a variety of activities. Thanks so much to the community members who shared their knowledge and enthusiasm with the children.

Preserving: Our life in the Applegate (while preserving our life

in the Applegate). Through the end of September there will be a community display of food preserved by local residents. Stop by and see some of the beautiful and mouth-watering canned, smoked, pickled, dried and otherwise preserved food from local kitchens.

The Friends of Ruch Library will be having their annual **Big Tent Book Sale** on October 11.

A new series of free **computer classes** begins in October with Basics II, introducing word processing, digital photo processing, file management, and graphic design. Classes will be held each Thursday from 1 – 3 pm, October 16 through November 13 at Ruch Library. Call now to reserve your space for these classes.

Earthquake Preparedness is the theme of a program featuring Mark Prchal on October 25. Contact Ruch Library for more details.

Please join us for **Preschool Story Time** on Tuesdays at 11:30 am, usually followed by a craft presented by one of our wonderful volunteers, and for Lego Fun on the first Saturday of each month at 1 pm.

See you at the library!

Thalia Truesdell
541-899-7438

The Williams branch of Josephine Community Libraries is at the heart of the Williams community, both in location and services provided. Children's programs, a wide selection of books and other materials, educational programs for all ages, a nonprofit meeting space, and free public-access computers make our library a resource that is growing in demand. Wi-Fi use, available 24/7, has doubled this year and our desktop computers will be upgraded soon thanks to a grant from the Four Way Community Foundation. Hours have been extended thanks to Herb Pharm and many other community donors.

The libraries in Josephine County closed on May 17, 2007. Four months later, committed community members formed Josephine Community Libraries, Inc. (JCLI), a nongovernmental, nonprofit organization dedicated to ensuring long-term library services for every county resident. By December 2009, JCLI had reopened all four shuttered locations. Over the last five years, the libraries have seen incredible growth in usage with an average of 350 new library cardholders every month. As the libraries continue to operate thanks to generous donations and the heroic contributions of 360 volunteers annually, they are also working to form a special library district to meet the ever-increasing demand for library services in Josephine County. Citizens will have an opportunity to vote on the library district on the November 2014 ballot.

How you can get involved

Anyone interested in getting involved with the library effort can send an email to info@josephinelibrary.org. Those interested in donating can send a check or



Young patron making solar lantern during the Summer Reading Program.

money order made payable to "Josephine Community Libraries" to P.O. Box 1684, Grants Pass, OR 97528 or make a secure donation on the website at www.josephinelibrary.org.

Keep Our Libraries Open (KOLO) is a registered Oregon political action committee (ID #14922) made up of a group of citizens dedicated to passing a library district measure on the November 2014 ballot. If you would like to get involved with the library district effort, send an email to info@keepourlibrariesopen.com. Those interested in donating can send a check or money order payable to "Keep Our Libraries Open" to 106 NW F Street, No. 258, Grants Pass, OR 97526, or make a secure donation at www.keepourlibrariesopen.com.

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Hats off to Applegate Library sale Saturday, November 8

The Friends of Applegate Library is pleased to invite you to join us on Saturday, November 8, 2014, from 10 am to 4 pm for our very first annual Holiday Craft Fair and second annual hat sale. We will be ringing in the holiday season at the beautiful Applegate River Lodge, 15100 Highway 238, in the heart of Applegate.

Our vendors are all local crafters selling unique handmade items. There will be jewelry, upcycled bags and totes, hand-thrown pottery, gift cards, herbs and salves, paracord bracelets, hand-knit hats, scarves, shawls and bags, children's clothing, aprons, leather bags and purses, hand-etched wine glasses, teddy bears and much more!

Vendor fees for the craft fair and 100 percent of the proceeds from hat sales will help fund Applegate Library programs. Hats will be on display inside the library for the entire month of October.

Come shop local and support your community! Many thanks to the Davis family at Applegate River Lodge for their support and generosity in hosting our events! For more information, contact Carol Hoon at 541-787-7261.

Frank D'Antonio
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