

# Applegater

Photo by Marilyn Terry

applegater.org



WINTER 2017  
Volume 10, No. 4

Applegate Valley Community Newsmagazine  
Serving Jackson and Josephine Counties — Circulation: 11,000

Celebrating  
~24~  
Years

## Heroes in the Applegate

BY SHELLEY MANNING

On August 14, 2017, a series of lightning storms moved through the Applegate region. Lightning strikes ignited 25 wildfires, 20 of which became known as the Miller Complex Fire, which burned almost 40,000 acres. As of November 9, the Miller Complex Fire was at last 100 percent contained.

To support fire suppression efforts, a fire camp sprang up, seemingly overnight. Across from Cantrall Buckley Park in a field on Hamilton Road, a bunch of heroes suddenly arrived to save us from the fires. (Fire camp is a co-ed experience—women currently make up seven percent of firefighters according to the national average.) Nine incident commanders directed this fire camp over the months. Three were from Oregon; others came from California, South Dakota, Washington, and Montana.

At the height of the Miller Complex Fire, the Incident Base housed over 1,000 individuals—firefighters, camp crew, information officers, management, and service providers—who came from all over the country, including Alaska and the East Coast. Approximately 10 to 15 percent were from southwest Oregon and Northern California. As the fires roared on, for more than two months, these folks



Morning briefings at the fire camp were held at 5:30 am. (Photo, above: Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest.)

Located across from Cantrall Buckley Park, the fire camp provided everything necessary to house firefighters and support personnel for the duration of the Miller Complex Fires. (Photo, right: Shelley Manning.)

lived in tents under basic conditions. Firefighters began their day with a daily briefing at 5:30 am and fought fires until about 9 pm. At the end of the day, little energy was left for anything more than food and sleep.

Fire camp in action is fascinating. Public Information Officer Meg Cicciarella gave me a tour, starting with the supply area. Outside was everything needed to fight fires, from pumps to hoses. A large supply tent housed other items like the Nomex fire-retardant clothes firefighters wear. Supplies were supervised and organized by a nine-person crew, who told me they were Apaches from Arizona.



Signs directed us to the different areas and services of the camp. One important service was a mobile laundromat, cleverly set up in a semitruck trailer. Contracted by the US Forest Service, Granny's Alliance Holdings cleans 10,000 pounds of laundry a day. They service other types of disasters, too, like Hurricane Harvey.

Keeping everyone and everything clean is of utmost importance for health and safety. Camp crews are responsible for keeping the camp clean and organized, and

See **HEROES IN THE APPLGATE**, page 14

### The Applegater at the Literary Arts Festival

Applegater board members Chris Bratt and Diana Coogle represented the Applegater at the Ashland Literary Arts Festival at the Hannon Library on the Southern Oregon University campus on October 28.

Chris Bratt was featured in Maureen Battistella's presentation of *Stories of Southern Oregon*, and Diana Coogle served on a panel titled "Literary Citizenship: Building Literary Community at the Local Level," moderated by Phil Busse, publisher and editor of the *Rogue Valley Messenger*.

Chris Bratt's segment was titled, as is his column in the Applegater, "Behind the Green Door," subtitled for this presentation, "Pioneering Environmentalist with a Carpenter's Union Card." He talked about the history of environmental activism in the Applegate and sang, "When I'm on my journey/Don't you weep after me." He passed out copies of the Applegater, which were received with praise for the quality of the publication, its educational capacity, and its wide distribution.

Diana Coogle talked about *From the Heart of the Applegate*, the anthology of Applegate writers published by the Applegater, as representative of so many of the very good writers in the area, both professional writers and "citizen writers." She also explained that the Applegater was a vehicle of expression for all voices in the Applegate, publishing all points of view. One member of the audience, Kim Neiswanger, a teacher at Ruch School, corroborated that point by talking about the columns in the Applegater dedicated to students' school activities and voices.



Drowsy Chaperone by Jenny Graham was produced by the Oregon Cabaret Theatre.

## The Applegate is rich in nearby theatrical opportunities

BY DIANA COOGLE

Whether you want to be on stage or in the audience, whether your theatrical taste runs to musicals or drama, whether you enjoy

an intimate theatrical experience or the excitement of a large crowd, whether you prefer community actors to out-of-town professionals, Rogue Valley theaters offer Applegaters great theatrical experiences. And that's not counting the Oregon Shakespeare Festival.

Theaters range from Medford's **Craterian**, founded in 1924 and bringing in nationally known artists, to **Signpost Theatre**, founded in 2016 to "present plays that are less familiar to audiences and more challenging for actors to prepare and present," as founder D. Eugene Bahn explains. **Rogue Music Theatre** (founded in the 1980s) specializes in

See **THEATRICAL OPPORTUNITIES**, page 15

Local Postal Customer

Nonprofit Org  
US Postage  
PAID  
Permit #125  
Medford OR

ECRWSSDDM

HOLIDAY - ARTS

## OBITUARIES

**Arthur Nelson Cauble**

February 28, 1927 - June 9, 2017

Arthur Nelson Cauble, known as Nelson, died in Roseburg, Oregon, on June 9 at the age of 90. He was the seventh of 12 children who lived on Missouri Flat in the Applegate. The Cauble family moved from Missouri to Oregon during the depression, and Nelson lived here until he and his brother, Robert, at ages 17 and 15, respectively, joined the merchant marines during World War II. Nelson always considered Applegate "home" and visited often with his wife, Shirley.



Medford stacking full boxes of pears. Due to a bad back, he quit after two weeks. When he learned that a bus trip from Medford to Grants Pass would cost \$8, he walked across the street to a used-car lot and bought a "well-used 1924 Chevrolet coop" for \$8, which barely got him home to the Applegate. Soon after, he sold the tires off the Chevy for more than he paid for the car. Nelson, a long-time car enthusiast, bought, traded, and sold

numerous cars. He also survived his share of car accidents, including flipping a Model T in a stranger's front yard, accidentally shooting a hole in the roof of a neighbor's brand-new 1937 Chevrolet sedan, and rolling a 1940 Buick sedan down an embankment into Thompson Creek with his parents and brother in the car. No one was injured.

While working as a merchant marine after the war, he met his future wife, Shirley. When they married, they moved to Pomona, California, where their four children, Michael, Terry, Sandra, and John, were born. In 1956 the family moved to Orland, California, where he and Shirley opened a successful flooring business. Nelson joined the Masonic Lodge and Shriners and was involved in the Orland Volunteer Fire Department. In 1993 they moved to Sutherlin, Oregon, where they lived for 24 years.

Nelson is survived by Shirley, his wife of nearly 70 years; brothers Robert (Janell) and Donald (Jackie); sisters Bernice Row and Rachel Buff; sons Terry (Phyllis) and John; nine grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his children Michael Cauble and Sandra Grimshaw (Steven).

Nelson learned to drive a 1931 Model A truck when he was 12 years old. Soon after, miners on the Applegate River hired him for \$3 an hour to transport all their equipment from the river up a slick and muddy road on the Cauble property. Nelson raked in a total of \$15, which "suddenly made me the richest kid on Missouri Flat Road."

About five miles from Nelson's home was a popular swimming hole on the Applegate River on the property of the Meeks family. One day a family friend in the middle of the river was screaming for help. His daughter had a "death grip" on her father and had pulled him under. They were struggling to stay afloat when Nelson jumped in and got them safely to shore. The grateful father repeatedly shared this story over the years, knowing Nelson had "most certainly" saved his and his daughter's lives.

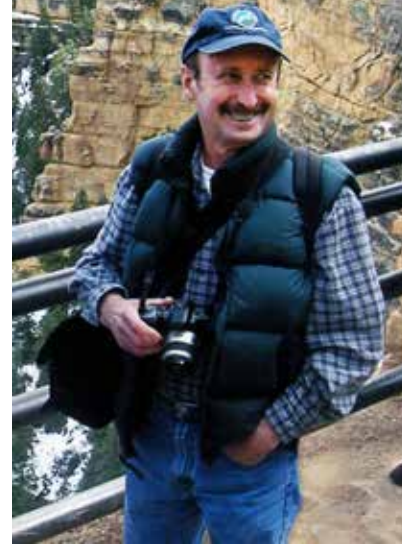
As a freshman at Grants Pass High School, Nelson made the varsity football team. Soon after, he left school thinking he had "already learned all I needed to know."

At 14, Nelson took a job with a sawmill on Williams Creek and became a truck driver—"one of my best jobs," he declared. He also worked for Bear Creek Orchards in

**Michael James Kuzma**

September 28, 1946 - October 9, 2017

Michael James Kuzma, a 41-year resident of the Applegate Valley, passed peacefully on Monday, October 9, 2017, at the age of 71 with his family by his side. He is survived by his wife, Gail, children Michelle and Tim, and three younger siblings, Patricia, Kathleen, and Joseph.



After graduating in 1964 from Junipero Serra High School in Los Angeles, Mike moved to Vancouver, Washington, to live with his grandmother and attend Clark College. Having drawn a losing number in the draft lottery, he enlisted in the US Navy in 1967. He took his service to our country very seriously, as he did with anything he endeavored to do. After serving on the USS Coral Sea off the coast of Vietnam, he was transferred to New Jersey for further training. He was ultimately stationed as a flight services weather observer at US Fleet Weather Central in Rota, Spain.

Mike reunited with service buddy James Baxter of Weaverville, California, and in 1973 married Jim's little sister, Gail (who spent much of her career teaching our children at Ruch Elementary School). Mike graduated from Humboldt State University with a degree in geography, with an emphasis in cartography. Maps became a lifelong passion for him.

Mike and Gail became our neighbors in Ruch in 1976. Mike went to work for the US Forest Service doing fuels reduction work. As always, Mike moved up the ranks doing cartography, revising the "fire map" for the Star Ranger District, and working as a civil engineer technician. After several years Mike left federal employment for work at Allan Cartography of Medford.

While there, he helped produce amazing pictorial topographical maps that are truly beautiful. He then went to work for the Bureau of Land Management, where he helped develop the Hyatt Lake recreation area. This put him back outside, which he loved. All told, Mike logged more than 27 years of federal service.

Mike loved hiking, camping, and woodcutting and

always carried a special bag with him so he could "carry out more than he brought in." He took his role as dad very seriously and taught his children to read maps. When his son, Tim, became interested in soccer at age six, Mike was an avid soccer dad and was soon coaching the team. And when Tim got interested in snowboarding, you guessed it, Mike was soon sliding down hills with the best of them.

Mike was an early and long-time organic gardener and avid recycler. He believed in community service and was a long-time member of our volunteer fire department. As always, he moved up the ranks and retired as battalion chief of the Ruch fire station with over 18 years of service. Mike had an extensive vinyl collection and always enjoyed a microbrew and good music. We will all miss his amazing smile.

There was a celebration of life for Mike at the Schoolhaus Brewhaus on Saturday, November 11. To make a memorial donation in Mike's honor, please consider The Nature Conservancy, Oregon Public Broadcasting, or the Alzheimer's Association.

Richard Goodnough  
richgoodno@gmail.com

**Dennis Dragon**

January 6, 1947 - September 25, 2017

It is with deep sadness that the family of Dennis Dragon announces his death. He passed away unexpectedly on September 25, 2017, in Williams, Oregon.



Dennis was born in Los Angeles, California. He was the youngest son of world-famous arranger, composer, and conductor

Carmen Dragon and opera soprano Eloise Dragon. Shortly after his birth, the family moved to Malibu, where they became a local fixture for the next 50 years.

At the age of five Dennis was "banging" on the drums," with brothers, Doug and Daryl, at the keys. From an early age, he played in various bands. One of the first bands was The Malibu Music Men Plus One, featuring his neighbor, the very young Natalie Cole as lead vocalist.

In the mid-seventies, he got a call from his brother Daryl to engineer the first Captain & Tennille record at A&M Records. The result was a long string of hits and a Grammy award for "Love Will Keep Us Together," which was Record of the Year in 1975.

These successes opened the door to professional audio engineering and producing gigs for many years. When Dennis established his own recording studio in Malibu, he was "booked solid." Among the many well-known artists he worked with were Carole King and Johnny Rivers.

In 1976 he formed the rock band The Surf Punks and utilized all his talents simultaneously. He produced, engineered, drummed, sang, wrote tunes, and produced videos for the band. The group was signed to Epic Records in 1970 and had a "wild" ten-year run.

In 1990 he moved to Montecito where he married and had two boys, whom he adored. He was truly happy in Montecito, taking his boys down to Miramar beach every afternoon.

In the final years of his life he moved to Oregon to run his "dream studio," originally built by Steve Miller, at Pacifica Garden in Williams. He quickly became a local favorite and fixture in the community. Local musicians coming alive around him was a true testament to the amazing effect he had on those with whom he worked. Some local artists Dennis worked with include Alice DiMichele, Intuitive Compass, J.D. Rogers, and The Evening Shades band.

In winter, he hopped over to Hawaii for an extended stay with his good friend, John Hunt. Body surfing, ping pong, and sound gigs became his life during this time. He loved the beauty and awesome power of Hawaii.

To summarize Dennis Dragon's legacy in a single page is nearly impossible. His journey spanned decades, but he was most proud to be a father to his amazing sons, Cody and Jack.

Dennis was preceded in death by his parents and two sisters, Kathy and Carmen, whom he loved deeply. Dennis is survived by his former wife, Heather, and their children, Cody and Jack, who will continue to honor his life and cherish their times with this extraordinary man.

A paddle-out to honor and celebrate his life and passion for the ocean was held on November 19 at Carbon Beach in Malibu.

Dennis Dragon was a revolutionary and refreshing individual, and his accomplishments were innumerable. Growing up in Hollywood in its golden era, he literally played a strong hand in engineering the surf sound. Playing drums was one of his earliest passions, followed closely by audio recording and video work. One of his bands, The Surf Punks, had an immense influence in the surf and skateboarding scene, to put it mildly.

I first met Dennis in Williams, Oregon, shortly after we had both moved to the area. While I was rigging an aerial silk at Pacifica, he emerged from his recording studio and proceeded to observe me and make commentary. We had a nice exchange, the first of many. He was one of the few people I have encountered in this valley whom I didn't have to be concerned about offending. We seemed to have a similar sense of frustration and disgust with the low-quality modern day and a shared enthusiasm for the "old school."

Later, when my band, Intuitive Compass, began recording with him, his commitment to the old school became that much more evident, and working with him in the studio was so refreshing! He was not interested in making subpar

See DENNIS DRAGON, page 20

# Applegate winners (again!) at Smoked Salmon Festival

BY PAUL TIPTON

Pleasant fall weather was the order of the day at this year's Southern Oregon Smoked Salmon Festival on September 23, held as before at Medford's Pear Blossom Park. This year a panel of five judges chose first-, second-, and third-place winners, and event attendees voted for the People's Choice Award.

Once again, the Applegate was well represented in the winners' list. Mike Gervais, from the Upper Applegate, who won first place in 2016, was given the People's Choice Award. In the judged competition, Luke Grimm, of Portland, won top honors (after placing in previous contests). Second place was awarded to Cyn Torp and the Applegate Country Club in Applegate, while third place went to Todd Wolgamot of Central Point. Congratulations to all of them! (The author didn't even place, but had a good time anyhow.)

Only nine contestants took up the challenge this year, making it necessary for the tasting public to get there early to sample the offerings. As usual, though, a large crowd came out for the event, and the tastings were supplemented by smoked salmon from several local vendors. Adult beverages flowed, live music resounded, the sun shone, and there was plenty of smoked salmon to sample. Who could ask for more?



Cyn Torp, owner of Applegate Country Club, displays her winnings for placing second in this year's Smoked Salmon Festival.

The festival, of course, is a major fundraiser for the Maslow Project of Jackson and Josephine Counties, which supports homeless youth in our area in a variety of ways, making sure their basic needs are met. Thanks to the support of a large number of sponsors, as well as the contestants, who provided the best smoked salmon possible, the group raised nearly \$28,000 at this year's event.

Fans of smoked salmon should consider firing up their smokers and entering next year or simply come out to taste the best smoked salmon around while supporting a valuable nonprofit organization doing good things for kids who need help.

Paul Tipton  
541-846-7501  
ptipton@frontier.com



## Community website update

We are making progress! Our plan is to have the Applegate Valley Connect (AVC) website completely functional at the end of January 2018. In the meantime, visit [applegateconnect.org](http://applegateconnect.org) to see what we've done so far. You can also do the following right now:

- **Register** and log in.
- **Post** your events on the calendar.
- **Add** your information to the directory of local businesses and service organizations.

Here are some additional features that will be available in early 2018:

- **Community projects.** Learn about projects of interest to the public and submit your own community projects.
- **News and Stories.** Read about local organizations and submit your organization's news and stories.

The intent of this new community website is to become the primary connection and source of information about what's going on, where you can find services, and who's doing what throughout the Applegate Valley.

Thank you to The Ford Family Foundation and Community Systems, LLC, for their ongoing support of this project.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please email [gater@applegater.org](mailto:gater@applegater.org).

*Note:* Effective December 1, 2017, the *Applegater's* calendar of events will be transferred to the calendar on AVC. The *Applegater's* Facebook page will be accessible through the AVC website too.

### WANTED Ad representative for Josephine County.

Existing book; generous commissions.  
Great for retired or self-employed person.  
Must know Excel and be able to meet deadlines.  
Email [gater@applegater.org](mailto:gater@applegater.org).

## ••• BIZBITS •••

**Gentle Heart Animal Advocacy.** A new local nonprofit organization, Gentle Heart was founded by RiverSong Sanctuary helper Chris Fifield "to be a support system and advocate for all animals in our community and region." Chris says cats are the species especially at risk. Through donations by the community, Gentle Heart Animal Advocacy helps to create multiple animal sanctuary spaces and foster homes, coordinates and provides spaying and neutering of feral cat populations, and helps pay for emergency medical care for animals. To donate, go to [gentleheartanimaladvocacy.org/donate](http://gentleheartanimaladvocacy.org/donate). For other ways to help, call Chris at 541-450-1669. 3600 Cedar Flat Road, Williams • [gentleheartanimaladvocacy.org](http://gentleheartanimaladvocacy.org).

**Onyx Restaurant.** Nestled in the carriage house of the Nunan Estate in Jacksonville, Onyx Restaurant offers an eclectic menu, with classics like burgers and steaks, as well as some creative Asian-influenced dishes like shrimp pad Thai and fried rice. There are small, medium, and large plates with a variety of flavors sure to please any palate. Chef and owner Mario Chavez, a veteran of the southern Oregon food scene, has worked all over the valley, including at a restaurant that used to be in the Nunan Estate. The elegant location made such an impression on Mario that when it was time to open his own restaurant he chose the Nunan Estate. Onyx has an open kitchen, surrounded by the onyx counter for which the restaurant is named. Diners can watch the magic of their meal being cooked, sit in the beautiful bar or dining room, or take in spectacular views from the patio.



We were delighted with our meals and can't wait to return for another Onyx experience. Tuesdays - Saturdays, 4 to 9 pm • 635 N Oregon Street, Jacksonville • 541-702-2700 • [onyxjvilleor.wixsite.com/onyx](http://onyxjvilleor.wixsite.com/onyx).

BizBits highlights businesses new to the area, holding special events, or offering new products. If you are a business owner, let us know when you move into the area or to a different location, hold a special event, expand your business, or mark a milestone. Email Shelley Manning at [manningshelley@icloud.com](mailto:manningshelley@icloud.com).

**Rebel Heart Books.** Rebel Heart Books brings the dream of owning a bookstore to fruition for proprietor Eileen Bobeck. A writer and former ER doctor, Eileen finds excitement as a business owner, without the life-and-death drama of the emergency room. The inviting environment of Rebel Heart Books beckons you in from California Street. Peruse interesting selections or special order almost anything. Check out their website for special events like book readings and book clubs. Open every day from 10 am to 6 pm. 157 W California Street, Jacksonville • 541-702-2665 • [rebelheartbooks.com](http://rebelheartbooks.com).



**Suzanne E. Sky, L.Ac., MTOM.** Suzanne is expanding her Ashland-based acupuncture and Chinese medicine practice to offer her services several days a week at Jacksonville Chinese Medicine. Practicing since 1989, Suzanne integrates gentle acupuncture with nutritional and herbal medicine to support wellness and healing from stress, injury, and pain. Some of her specialties are women's health, digestive issues, mental and emotional issues, supportive cancer care, and healthy aging. Voted one of Ashland's best acupuncturists since 2004. 235 W Main Street, Jacksonville • 541-887-7742 • [ashlandacup.com](http://ashlandacup.com). (See Suzanne's ad on page 16.)

**Time Machine Records and Boutique.** Time Machine Records and Boutique specializes in vinyl records of every genre, from underground to classics. Owner Jessie Ostreicher not only buys and sells record collections but he also stocks his shop with vintage clothing, art, and other interesting creations by local artists. In addition, Time Machine Records hosts special events like live music. And, because the Speakeasy Taproom and Wine Bar share the same building, event attendees can even enjoy a cold beer or glass of wine. Check out their new stock and upcoming events on Facebook at [Facebook.com/Timemachinevinyl](http://Facebook.com/Timemachinevinyl). Open Tuesdays - Saturdays, 12 to 6 pm • 208 NW 6th Street, Grants Pass • 541-292-8186 • [timemachinerecords.com](http://timemachinerecords.com).



# Losing everything to fire

BY GREELEY WELLS

In the 1979 Laurel Canyon Fire in Los Angeles, I lost everything—the house in which my children were born, my car, my wallet, almost all my artwork, and all my possessions.

The Santa Ana winds were blowing hard as I was outside sweeping and cleaning and moving a pile of firewood. I saw that a tiny fire at the bottom of my hill—a quarter-mile of dry chaparral—was going to be at my house in moments. But it took me three times to properly dial the fire department number that was on the wall near my rotary phone, and what I finally got was an untrained girl (pre-911) who never seemed to fathom the information I was trying to give her. Ultimately, I said to the girl, “It’s here at my house!” and threw the phone down. I ran to the neighbor’s above my house where I had sent my two young girls and jumped in the back of their car with them. As we sped down the steep hill in reverse, I got one last look at my house: the flames came up the hill and swirled by the roof overhang, rose 30 or more feet into the air, and swept across the roof. The house was doomed, and so were 23 other houses that afternoon. Mine was the first.

At the Canyon Country Store at the bottom of my hill, I got out of my neighbor’s car with my two little girls, holding each by the hand. There we stood, after escaping with our lives. I was wearing speedos and a pair of flip-flops, sweat was pouring down me, and fear was probably in my eyes. I phoned my ex, Cathleen, and my girlfriend, Laurie. They both showed up—the girls went to their mother’s house, and I stayed with Laurie for a time. The next day my home’s ashes and chimney made the front page of the *LA Times*.

The next six months were spent talking about almost nothing else and replacing necessary items: checks, driver’s license, etc.

But that stuff is just details. What I was really feeling was the loss of my identity as a person and an artist. How could I be an artist if I had no work? Without a driver’s license, who was I? At least I still had a job and was recognized there, even in borrowed clothes. When I sat at my desk, I could still work on animation. So my identity slowly began to come back, even if I was homeless.

Generous friends and acquaintances came forth with all sorts of gifts—household items, clothing, and other thoughtful stuff. The insurance company immediately sent me a check to see me through this initial period. But the most difficult thing I had to do for the insurance company was list every single one of my possessions,



Like Greeley’s house, this is all that remains of a neighboring house after the devastating 1979 Laurel Canyon Fire. (Photo: LA Times.)

room by room. It was terribly hard; I cried during the process. All that was gone was still in my memory, and it was deeply sad to be forced to think about every object I once had and to put a price on it.

The rollercoaster continued for about six months. I got a small apartment on Venice Beach and a VW bus and began to feel whole again. Slowly, things began to fall into place. My identity returned. After all, I *am* an artist, with or without any art.

Surprisingly, within two years I had about as much stuff and art as I’d had before the fire and had to move to a bigger place. That’s when I started to realize that I wasn’t defined by my possessions; I was a complete person who simply *had* possessions. My being has nothing to do with the objects in my life; I am fully and completely myself.

How else could I learn a lesson like that? So many other insights and growths continued to appear that the overall “good” of the situation began to outweigh the “bad.” By a long shot. A certain confidence and strength became mine. I was remade. I could talk about plenty else after that six-month period.

This summer, after almost 40 years, I faced fire again. I was put on Level 1 evacuation notice due to three fires in the Miller Complex, each about 1-1/2 miles from my home of 27 years on Carberry Creek Road. This time my mind played with the possibility of loss again, but, luckily, in a sort of slow motion and with knowledge and experience. Having lost all of my worldly possessions and learning first-hand that it is not the end of the world allowed me to relax this time around and simply prepare to evacuate. Luckily, we didn’t have to.

I’m hoping that my story may have some meaning to my Applegate neighbors, who may have been facing some of what I’ve already been through. There is a tomorrow. All *will* be all right. Life comes back in all its wonderful ways with some new learnings, insights, and growth that you can have no idea about at the time.

Let’s all thank the firefighters who got us through this. In Laurel Canyon I never even *saw* a firefighter; it was all over for me before they could respond. Here they worked tirelessly for months and, finally, our skies are clear.

Greeley Wells  
greeley@greeley.me

*Note: If any of our readers have gripping experiences like Greeley’s that you would like to share, please submit them for publication to gater@applegater.org.*

## BOOK REVIEW

### Petty, the Biography

Warren Zanes

I’ve read quite a few biographies about musicians over the years because, as I told my ninth-grade school counselor, I was going to be a rock star, so who needs school? My counselor pointed out to me that you still need to know math, English, etc. I responded with “I’ll be rich enough to hire folks who know all this BS.” I didn’t learn much, but I finished school and became the “unknown rock star.” Hey, if you can’t dream big, why dream at all? Tom Petty always dreamed big, and Warren Zanes, an accomplished musician himself, captured Petty’s dreams, successes, and failures beautifully in what’s become one of my favorite biographies.

A few days after I told our editor, Barbara, that this was the book I was going to review for this issue, she called and said, “Did you hear? Tom Petty died of a heart attack.” I hadn’t heard that dreadful news yet. When I did, I needed an adult beverage or two.

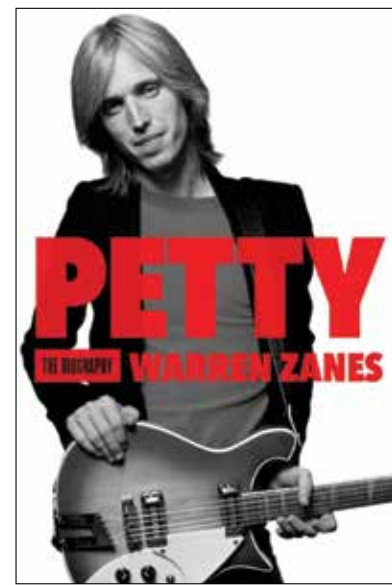
Tom Petty was born in 1950 in Gainesville, Florida, to Earl and Katherine Petty. He was the first of two sons. Earl was half Cherokee, making Tom a quarter Cherokee. This never bothered Katherine, but in America at that time, 99 percent of the population favored laws banning interracial marriages. There has never been any shortage of screwy laws, has there?

Petty’s father had a horrendously bad temper, was very abusive (subjected Tom to severe beatings with a belt), and had a taste for the bottle. His mother was the nurturing parent.

Like for most kids at that time, life in the Petty home was nothing like “Father Knows Best” or “Leave it to Beaver,” which was one of my favorite shows as a kid (Eddie Haskell was my favorite character). Like Petty, a lot of kids I knew sat at the dinner table with lunatics.

At the age of ten, Petty’s Aunt Evelyn took him to meet Elvis Presley, who was starring in the film, *Follow that Dream*, which Tom’s uncle was involved with. A few days after shaking the King’s hand, Petty traded his slingshot for a box of 45 records. A few years later, after seeing the Beatles on the Ed Sullivan Show, Tom, like many of us, knew what his calling was. Music!

Petty started out playing six- and twelve-string guitars with his first band, the Sundowners. As Petty came up through the ranks, there were a lot of soon-to-be-famous guys playing in the music scene in Gainesville, Florida. He made music with



some of them—David Mason (Utopia and Jackson Browne’s touring band), Dan Felder (The Eagles), Bernie Leadon (Flying Burrito Brothers and The Eagles), Stephen Stills (Buffalo Springfield and Crosby, Stills, and Nash), and Duane and Gregg Allman (Allman Joys and The Allman Brothers). Those guys all became power hitters in their own right.

From Gainesville to Los Angeles to the top of the music charts, Petty had a wild ride. A lot of his hit songs are classics, like “Breakdown,” “American Girl,” “Refugee,” “Free Falling,” “Mary Jane’s Last Dance,” and “I Won’t Back Down.” The list goes on.

Bob Dylan had Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers backing him for an 18-month-long world tour. They also backed Johnny Cash on one of his best recordings, *Unchained*, that won a Grammy for Best Country Album. Petty was also one of The Traveling Wilburys, a supergroup that included Bob Dylan, Roy Orbison, Jeff Lynne, and George Harrison.

I love this part: Petty was the first musician to successfully challenge his record label in court after he realized just how bad his contract was and how the label had screwed him out of his publishing royalties. Then, when the Heartbreakers record *Hard Promises* was ready for release, MCA Records decided to raise the customary price for a record from \$8.98 to \$9.98. Petty told the label he wouldn’t release the record unless they lowered the price back down to \$8.98. The war was on and MCA finally gave in. Most artists never win a major battle with their record label. Tom won two!

From the dream (rock star) to the dark (depression and heroin) and back, *Petty the Biography* is an excellent read about one of America’s great artists. Tom Petty will be greatly missed.

J.D. Rogers • 541-846-7736

## POETRY CORNER

### Winter Solstice

by David C. Shiah

Sun returns, sheds light but no warmth  
Mighty Orion commands the pure night sky  
Moon rides low, quiet  
Life giving rains nourish the land  
While streams swell and forests rest  
Timid deer and hoot owls hunker down  
Siskiyou peaks don their snowy blankets  
as woodstoves devour their offerings  
Season of inner contemplation, renewal  
Ahhh, welcome winter’s tranquility



## Christmas tree permits available



For many families, venturing out onto public lands to cut a Christmas tree is an annual holiday tradition, but be sure to obtain your permit first!

Required permits are available at locations across southwest Oregon, including the US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and multiple local vendors. Permits, which allow the cutting of personal-use trees for Christmas and other holiday events, are \$5 per tree and are nonrefundable. There is a limit of five tree permits per household, and the permits may be used only on those lands open to Christmas tree harvesting that are administered by the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest and BLM.

For more information about permits, visit [Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest at fs.usda.gov/detail/rogue-siskiyou/about-forest/offices](http://Rogue-River-Siskiyou.National-Forest-at.fs.usda.gov/detail/rogue-siskiyou/about-forest/offices) or call the Medford District BLM at 541-618-2200.

~ FINE PRINT ~

**WHO WE ARE**

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

**Our Mission**

The Applegate Valley Community Newspaper, Inc. (AVCN), provides the many rural and diverse communities of the Applegate Watershed with a communications vehicle, the *Applegater* newsmagazine, 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* newsmagazine, 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* newsmagazine 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 Diana Coogle, Margaret della Santina, H. Ni Aodagain, and Paul Tipton for copy editing; Diana Coogle, Kathy Kliewer, Paul Tipton, and Debbie and Don Tollefson for proofing; David Dobbs for bookkeeping; and Webmaster Joe Lavine.

**Board of Directors**

- Diana Coogle, Chair
- Shelley Manning, Secretary
- Chris Bratt, Treasurer
- David Dobbs, Assistant Treasurer
- Barbara Holiday
- Debbie Tollefson
- Don Tollefson
- J.D. Rogers (Honorary)

**Editorial Committee**

- Chris Bratt
- Tom Carstens
- Barbara Holiday, Editor
- Sandy Shaffer
- Greeley Wells
- Rauno Perttu (Honorary)

All articles, stories, opinions and letters that appear in the *Applegater* are the property and opinion of the author, and not necessarily that of the *Applegater* or AVCN.

**PROTECTION OF COPYRIGHTED MATERIAL**

All materials submitted for publication must pertain to the Applegate Valley, be original (no reprinted articles, please), and be the intellectual property of the author unless otherwise credited.

All articles submitted to the *Applegater* are subject to edit and publication at the newsmagazine's discretion and as space allows. When too many articles are submitted to include in any one issue, some articles may be placed on our website or held until the following issue.

Letters to the editor must be 450 words or less. Opinion pieces and articles cannot exceed 700 words. Community calendar submissions must be brief.

All photos submitted must be high resolution (300 dpi) or "large format" (e.g., 30" x 40"). If you have questions, email [gater@applegater.org](mailto:gater@applegater.org).

Photos submitted for the masthead are on a volunteer basis. Credit is given in the issue in which it appears on our website and on our Facebook page.

All submissions for the next issue must be received at [gater@applegater.org](mailto:gater@applegater.org) by the deadline.

**A huge THANKS to these generous donors to the Applegater.**

**SUSTAINER**

Tom & Kathy Carstens, Grants Pass, OR

**CONTRIBUTOR**

- Anonymous, Jacksonville, OR
- Frank & Evie Ault, Jacksonville, OR
- Dan Barker, Jacksonville, OR
- Chris Bratt, Applegate, OR
- Neal Anderson & Hope Robertson, Jacksonville, OR

Joan Peterson, Applegate, OR

**SUPPORTER**

- Anonymous (3), Jacksonville, OR
- Anonymous, Williams, OR
- Steve Armitage, Ashland, OR
- Jeffrey Bellamy, Grants Pass, OR
- Criswell Family, Jacksonville, OR
- Karan Dump, Jacksonville, OR
- Jack & Cindy Luce, Murphy, OR
- Patricia Perkins, Wilderville, OR
- Robert Scheel, Grants Pass, OR
- Dr. Jim & Karen Van Delden, Grants Pass, OR

**SPONSOR**

- Anonymous (2)
- Anonymous, Citrus Heights, CA
- Anonymous (4), Jacksonville, OR
- Anonymous (2), Williams, OR
- Lou & Jeanne Aguirre, Jacksonville, OR
- Linda Althouse, Grants Pass, OR
- Dan & Claudia Beausoleil, Williams, OR
- Sylvia Bolton, Applegate, OR
- Danny & Lorraine Boone, Grants Pass, OR
- Jan Buur, Santa Barbara, CA
- ByGeorge Farm, Jacksonville, OR
- Diana Coogle, Applegate, OR
- Dennis & Barbara Crawford, Williams, OR
- Richard Dobbs, Sequim, WA
- John & Chris Dutcher, Medford, OR
- Crystie Hawkins, Albany, OR
- David Haynes, Grants Pass, OR
- Karen Horn, Ashland, OR
- Max Kachinsky, Williams, OR
- Louise Nicholson, Applegate, OR
- Ann Offenbacher, Jacksonville, OR
- David & Mary Sergent, Jacksonville, OR
- Betty Lou & Bernard Smith, Grants Pass, OR
- Sue Olson & Bryan Teal, Grants Pass, OR
- Thalia Truesdell, Applegate, OR

**Editorial Calendar**

ISSUE	DEADLINE
<b>SPRING</b> (March - May)....	<b>February 1</b>
<i>Commerce-Community</i>	
<b>SUMMER</b> (June - Aug)....	<b>May 1</b>
<i>Environment-Fire-Recreation</i>	
<b>FALL</b> (Sept - Nov).....	<b>August 1</b>
<i>Agriculture-Wine</i>	
<b>WINTER</b> (Dec - Feb).....	<b>November 1</b>
<i>Holiday-Arts</i>	

**Advertisers!**

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

With a circulation of 11,000 and a readership of more than 20,000, we cover Applegate, Jacksonville, Jerome Prairie, Murphy, Ruch, Williams, Wilderville, Wonder, and areas of Grants Pass, Medford, and Ashland.

**For more information, contact:**  
**Ron Turpen • 541-601-1867**  
**[ronaldaturpen@gmail.com](mailto:ronaldaturpen@gmail.com)**

**Next deadline: February 1**

**Featured Advertiser  
Green Leaf Lab**

Here is the story of Green Leaf Lab, a valued, long-time advertiser. See ad on page 8.

Green Leaf Lab is a full-service cannabis analytical laboratory that provides quality control testing of cannabis and hemp products. All testing is performed in-house. Some of the many services Green Leaf Lab offers include pesticide analysis, residual solvent analysis, potency and terpene testing, as well as sampling and product research and development.



Green Leaf Lab was established in 2011 by Rowshan Reordan. Living in Williams and surrounded by the cannabis community, Rowshan realized the need for scientific information to legitimize the industry and ensure that cannabis was safe for consumption. Green Leaf Lab's mission has been to provide accurate information with the highest standard of integrity.

In 2011, the cannabis industry was still in its infant stages and no one had thought about quality-control testing for cannabis. Looking back, the idea was a no-brainer. All products that are consumed in the United States are required to undergo strict quality-control testing. However, applying that standard to cannabis was a novel idea at that time.

While the industry has undergone its hurdles and quality-control testing for cannabis has developed since 2011, there is still need for more oversight. Even though Oregon requires cannabis analytical laboratories to be accredited and licensed in order to operate, there is no oversight or enforcement to ensure compliance.

Green Leaf Lab has been a leader in the industry and is proud to be the oldest cannabis laboratory in Oregon. It was also the first cannabis laboratory in the nation to become accredited and licensed by a state agency. Rowshan is proud that during the process of owning and growing her business, she has been able to maintain ownership to ensure that Green Leaf Lab is 100 percent Oregon grown and owned and continues to support its local roots through local employment and donating to important local causes.

Green Leaf is excited to announce that they have expanded their instrumentation and personnel to ensure faster turnaround times. Says Rowshan, "Our goal is to continue offering our clients informed and educated assistance from the start of the sampling process to interpretation of test results at the end. If you want to ensure the cannabis you consume is tested with integrity and accuracy, ask for Green Leaf Lab tested products."

For more information about Green Leaf Lab, visit [greenleaflab.org](http://greenleaflab.org) or follow it on Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook. To order testing, contact Paul Burton at 541-670-6679 or Shawn Butler at 541-690-6803.

**Help us** ensure that we have the ongoing support needed to publish the *Applegater* newsmagazine.

All contributions are tax-deductible and receive recognition in print.

- Patron \$1,000+
- Sustainer \$500 - \$999
- Contributor \$200 - \$499
- Supporter \$50 - \$199
- Sponsor \$5 - \$49

Please make your checks payable to *Applegater* and mail to P.O. Box 14, Jacksonville, OR 97530

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

**Masthead photo credit**

**Marilyn Terry** took this photo of a rotund robin perched on a 200-year-old white oak tree on her property in Williams. Thank you, Marilyn!

**PERSONAL MAILING LABEL**

**One year: \$14.99**  
**Two years: \$24.99**  
**Mail us a check or pay online at [www.applegater.org](http://www.applegater.org).**

**Inside the Gater**

- ATA receives grant for new trailhead* ..... 12
- Behind the Green Door: Entrenched in conflict* ..... 19
- Bird Explorer: The bird tree* ..... 11
- Cantrall Buckley Park news* ..... 10
- Dirty Fingernails and All: Structure, function, and vision* ..... 9
- Local fruit-tree propagation effort*..... 20
- Nonprofit News and Updates*..... 7
- Opinions*..... 17- 19
- River Right: Good government, good parks*..... 18
- Starry Side: Telling the future* ..... 8
- Stories on the Land, excerpt 3* ..... 14



Jackson County  
**Library**  
Services

## — Applegate Library —

To our regret, Lisa Martin, our Applegate librarian, has resigned.

Over the years, so many of us have grown more deeply connected to our library, which is clearly the center of our rural Applegate community. In large part thanks to Lisa, it has become our safe, warm, inviting home away from home, a place to pick up books and movies, spontaneously chat with friends, use the computers, attend an event, or be greeted by familiar, forever friendly, smiling faces behind the library counter or inside the wee office.

Library patrons will miss Lisa's genuine greeting that was her gift to each one of us at first sight: her bright, shining energy, creative spirit, and assertive, yet gentle, larger-than-life countenance. It is an understatement to say that she will be sorely missed.

And our Friends of the Applegate Library meetings will lose something terribly important without Lisa's presence: her ideas—for holding more events, for raffles, for many library activities.

But beyond all, we will miss her exuberance and honest opinions. She deeply touched our rural community with her inimitable humor and goodness, this young, smart, classy woman, whose presence we shall never forget.

A couple of months ago, Lisa attended a class in learning to play the ukulele in Salem and signed up our library to obtain a ukulele learning kit, with a booklet of instructions, a tuner, and (can you believe it?) a ukulele! We are sharing the cost with the branch manager in Medford to bring the ukulele teacher from Salem to teach a workshop in Applegate. We will advertise the dates of the workshop and when the ukulele learning kit will be available to check out.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, February 11, 2018, at 2 pm for a poetry reading, "For the Love of Poetry," in the meeting room. It will last as long as the poets can sustain their readings. There will be refreshments and a book table featuring works by Applegate poets.

Keep in touch with the Applegate Library on Facebook. We will add the programs and dates for you to share. And join us in wishing all the best to Lisa.

Applegate Library is located at 18485 North Applegate Road, Applegate, and is open Tuesdays and Fridays from 2 - 6 pm and Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10 am - 2 pm.

Kristi Cowles  
Joan Peterson  
Friends of Applegate Library  
joanpete5317@gmail.com

## — Ruch Library —

**Welcome Bret!** We now have our own tech support hanging out in our library. On Tuesdays from 10 am until 12:30 pm, Bret Fearrien is at your service, with knowledge about tablets, smart phones, computers, e-readers, and other devices. Call Ruch Library to schedule an appointment or stop by on Tuesdays. The best kind of question is one that is asked. Do not hesitate to call on him!

**Celebration of Mind.** Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 13, 2018, when we will once again celebrate the birthday of Martin Gardner, famous mathematician, logician, and master of mind games. This October we had such an excellent program, presented by Krista

Kohler, in harmony with celebrations throughout the world heralding this ingenious man. Krista had activities for people of all ages, with plenty of activities to stump the chump. Who knew math games could be so much fun? You will not want to miss this next year!

The library is hopping on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons when all eight classes at Ruch Community School visit the library. In an effort to acquaint the children with the available resources, technology, and programs, at least one visit a month will include an activity to support science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM) skills. The children will repurpose some books, create self-portraits



My library  
works for me.

## — Josephine Community Libraries —

### Williams branch chess club and storytime

The Williams branch of Josephine Community Libraries hosts a chess club every Tuesday afternoon from 3 to 5 pm. All ages and skill levels are welcome. Chessboards and pieces are provided. Registration is not required.

Bring the whole family to the weekly children's storytime and craft at 3:30 pm every Wednesday. Registration is not required.

The library is located at 20695 Williams Highway in Williams and is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays from 1 to 5 pm. For more information, contact branch manager Evelyn Roether at 541-846-7020 or [eroether@josephinelibrary.org](mailto:eroether@josephinelibrary.org).

### Property owners outside new library district can opt in

This October some property owners saw a new tax rate on their annual tax bill—for Josephine Community Library District (JCLD)—at a rate of \$.039 per \$1,000 assessed value. Voters approved the formation of a library district in May 2017 for Grants Pass, Williams, Wolf Creek, and Illinois Valley. The new tax rate is assessed at a total of \$1,358,236 for the library district, which will allow the four branches to stay open additional hours and improve materials in early 2018.

Because the new library district area is now smaller, some residents might not see the library district on their tax bill. To find out if your property is in the district, visit [josephinelibrary.org](http://josephinelibrary.org) or [co.josephine.or.us](http://co.josephine.or.us) to access the district's interactive map.

Taxpayers who would like to add their property to the library district may do so through the annexation process and should call the library to be added to the "opt in" list for next steps. Residents of properties within the library district do not have to purchase a library card for full borrowing privileges. The explanation regarding the process for withdrawing from the district can generally be found in ORS 198.870 to 198.882. The process requires that an individual property owner within the district be included for the first two years before requesting withdrawal.

For more information about the tax statement, call the Josephine County Treasurer at 541-474-5235 or the Josephine County Assessor's office at 541-474-5260. To be added to the library's annexation "opt in" list, call the Grants Pass branch at 541-476-0571 or email [info@josephinelibrary.org](mailto:info@josephinelibrary.org).

For more information about Josephine County libraries, contact Brandace Rojo at 541-476-0571 x112 or [brojo@JosephineLibrary.org](mailto:brojo@JosephineLibrary.org).

or shadow boxes about themselves, write poetry, revisit some of the math puzzles we shared during our Celebration of Mind program, go on library scavenger hunts, enjoy book and author talks, and more.

**Soul Box Project.** We know that art helps heal and can promote social change. In November at the library we created small origami boxes, each to represent a victim of gun violence such as the recent tragedy in Las Vegas. Soul Box Project, a national organization, will be displaying the collection of boxes across the nation to represent the number of victims since 2014, which is 119,833. It is hoped that the visual displays will encourage conversations on gun safety at home and support strategies nationally to reduce this tragic loss of life. Community members, staff, and schoolchildren folded the simple boxes with pictures from repurposed books, sheet music, and an atlas. (For more information about the Soul Box Project, visit [soulboxproject.org](http://soulboxproject.org).)

**Holiday book sale in the Community Room.** We are holding our Annual Holiday Sale, with books that just might be the perfect gift for family and friends, on December 5, 7, and 9. It's a wonderful

way to purchase great books without breaking the bank and a great time of year to introduce others to a new author, holiday stories, decorating tips, recipes, gardening ideas, inspiration, humor, and more. There might even be a few stocking stuffers and holiday treats. Plus, you are helping to support your library and its community programs and services. Raffle to be announced. The sale will be open Tuesday, December 5, from 10 am - 5 pm; Thursday, December 7, from 1 - 7 pm; and Saturday, December 9, from 11 am - 4 pm.

**Storytime.** We offer preschool story time and a craft each Tuesday at 11:30 am. For those children 0 - 3, we have Babies and Wobblers, an early literacy program that keeps the little ones dancing and singing. It starts at 10:15 am on Tuesdays. Bring your small friends and join us for these fun storytimes!

Ruch Library is located at 7919 Highway 238 in Jacksonville (Ruch) and is open Tuesdays from 10 am to 5 pm, Thursdays from 1 to 7 pm, and Saturdays from 11 am to 4 pm.

For more information, contact branch manager Thalia Truedell at 541-899-7438 or [ttruedell@jcls.org](mailto:ttruedell@jcls.org).



*We Deliver!!!*

**FRESH, HOT,  
WOOD-FIRED  
PIZZA**

**NOW OPEN EVERY DAY EXCEPT TUESDAY  
FROM NOON TO 9PM**

Visit our website for info on Sun. Fire Circle,  
Mon. Night Football, Our Beer/Wine List, Limited  
Local Delivery, By The Slice Options,  
and Much More...

[www.ApplegateCountryClub.com](http://www.ApplegateCountryClub.com)

**541-846-1666**

## For the Love of Poetry

A Reading by Applegate Poets



Sunday, February 11, 2018  
2 to 4 pm

Book table featuring works  
by Applegate Poets.  
Refreshments provided.

Applegate Library, 18485 North Applegate Road, Applegate

## NONPROFIT NEWS AND UPDATES

### — A Greater Applegate —

#### Cantrall Buckley Park: From community management to community involvement

The Board of Directors of A Greater Applegate (formerly GACDC) has unanimously decided to transfer management, operation, and responsibility for Cantrall Buckley Park to Jackson County Parks on or before February 1, 2018. The decision was made in consultation with A Greater Applegate's Cantrall Buckley Park Committee, which has been leading efforts to maintain and enhance the park over the years.

If you have lived in the Applegate Valley for a while, you may remember how a financial crisis in 1996 led to Jackson County's decision to close Cantrall Buckley Park. For many local residents, then and now, Cantrall Buckley Park is central to the life and history of the area as one of the few places of public access to the river. Community leadership refused to allow Cantrall Buckley to close and formed the "Parcommittee" under the Applegate Partnership to keep the park open under community operation through a Participatory Agreement with the county. That agreement was later assigned to GACDC in 1998.

Now, more than two decades later, we have come full circle. The county budget has been strong for several years, and Steve Lambert, program manager of Jackson County Parks, has been working hard to upgrade the county park system. The recent construction of a large RV facility at the Jackson County Expo in Central Point was completed in-house—using county staff, equipment, and knowledge—and has been a huge success. A Greater Applegate's board and Park Committee believe that the community can look forward to similar successes at Cantrall Buckley, including needed upgrades at the campground.

In its decision to transfer the park back to the county, the board was mindful of the tremendous work of so many community volunteers who kept the park going these past two decades. It is equally appreciative of this opportunity that the county has offered to ensure that the park continues to serve the community and the region far into the future. Cantrall Buckley is a crown jewel of the Applegate Valley, and A Greater Applegate has appreciated Jackson County's sensitivity and commitment to a smooth and participatory transition.

Over the years, people throughout the Applegate Valley and beyond have done so much to celebrate and enhance the natural

beauty of Cantrall Buckley by leading and participating in numerous volunteer-driven projects. If you are one of those volunteers, we expect these opportunities to continue. We envision the county, A Greater Applegate, and others continuing to work together in a strong partnership to ensure that the park remains open year-round and that environmental projects like the Monarch Wayside Garden and family projects like the playground rebuild and artwork continue to prosper.

For more than 20 years, the people of the Applegate Valley have stepped up to fund, clean, plant, weed, decorate, and manage Cantrall Buckley Park. That's an amazing accomplishment in an unincorporated rural area. So many have so much to be very proud of that it's impossible to list all who have contributed to this effort.

There are still many details to work out, and we appreciate Park Committee Chair Tom Carsten's continued dedication to moving this transfer forward. We also wish to acknowledge Park Supervisor Rick Barclay's many years of dedicated service to Cantrall Buckley Park, as well as his support of the transition.

A Greater Applegate will work with the county on a Memorandum of Understanding detailing our ongoing role in supporting the park and ensuring that it remains a special place for all. Once the management transfer is complete, the park will be staffed year-round by a Park Host. (See message from the county on page 10.)

As A Greater Applegate begins to transition Cantrall Buckley back to the county, it is also engaged in a planning process to reclaim its original vision to sustain and enhance the vitality of the Applegate Valley. One example of that is our partnership with the *Applegater* on the new community website, Applegate Valley Connect. Our board is currently engaged in a planning process to identify other priority projects for the new year. We will have much to share in the next issue!

If you have questions or comments, please submit them on the Contact page of our website at [gacdc.org](http://gacdc.org). Everyone is welcome to join us at an upcoming community meeting hosted by the Park Committee. (See box at top of page 10 for more details.)

Seth Kaplan

Chair, A Greater Applegate

[sethkap55@gmail.com](mailto:sethkap55@gmail.com)

Paul Tipton

Vice-chair, A Greater Applegate

[ptipton@frontier.com](mailto:ptipton@frontier.com)

### — Pacifica —



Pacifica's Annual Winter Arts Festival is always full of interesting items from local vendors.

#### New and in progress

We finally have a new septic system... after many years of hoping! Hopefully this will be followed soon by real restrooms. A big thank you to Tony Hyde for doing such a great job of shepherding the project through "the system," getting it constructed and then approved. Also, another big thanks to Tony for the volunteer hours he put in with his excavator to fix a drainage problem. *You're great, Tony!*

Irrigation and plans are forming for a Fragrant Garden with a labyrinth and for a pollinator garden with sections for bees, butterflies, hummers, moths, and beetles. It's infinitely fascinating, so come and enjoy the interpretive signage next spring. In the meantime, we can *always* use help with planting and weeding.

We are very excited to be making plans to offer an outdoor school in spring 2018. Outdoor School can be a three-day, two-night visit or intensive daylong field trips for one to three days. Fourteen years of experience with the Caterpillar (Pacifica's science-nature trailer that goes to schools) will help a lot with this new program.

With the patient, never-ending volunteer help of Rose Nelson (*Thank you Rose!*), more children's animal costumes have been added to our collection, which now totals 20 with more to come. We have a rabbit, a worm, a squirrel, a mouse, grass, and a flower. If you like simple sewing, this is a fun, ongoing project. The costumes will be used by children in fun games and discussions about how our world fits so intricately together.

#### Contributions

It's nearing the end of the year, when many of us think about making tax-deductible donations to nonprofits. We hope you'll remember Pacifica in your plans. Anything and everything helps (especially for the Caterpillar program). We've learned that those who are 70½ years old are required by law to make withdrawals from their retirement funds. Some, or all, of the withdrawal can be donated to a nonprofit, thus avoiding having to pay tax on that income. One Pacifica board member has already done so. We thank you for any support you are able to offer, in any form and at any time.

#### 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Winter Arts Festival

This year's arts festival will be held on Saturday, December 2, from 10 am to 4 pm. Admission is free. Works of 30 local artists will be on display, including high-quality, hand-made jewelry, ceramics, fiber creations, leather, photographs, paintings, and more. A variety of live music will be presented by 12 groups at two sites, along with good food and a friendly country atmosphere. Children's activities include cookie decorating, photos, birdhouse making, costumes, and more. And don't forget: art vendors, live music, and great food can be found at the beautiful Pond House, too! Just hop on the continuous covered shuttle service between the two buildings. Pacifica is located at 14615 Water Gap Road in Williams.

Peg Prag

541-660-4295

[peg@pacificagarden.org](mailto:peg@pacificagarden.org)

### — McKee Bridge Historical Society —

After local residents, including McKee Bridge Historical Society board members, were at Level 3 evacuation notice ("Go! Evacuate now!") due to the Miller Complex fires, the annual meeting was postponed until October 21. Highlighting the October meeting was a very informative presentation by Jan Wright, author of an upcoming book about the life of John Beeson. Volunteers who helped with our Centennial Celebration were honored and presented with Centennial t-shirts.

Centennial t-shirts are still available in limited numbers at Ruch Country Store, Tiffany's Outpost, and the Applegate Store and Café. Get yours before we run out. In addition to supporting McKee Bridge,



the t-shirts will make great holiday gifts!

Coming in March, look for more information about our special event on the history of the Upper Applegate. What happened in your neighborhood 100 years ago? Or before or after? Stories of the local history from a variety of speakers will be featured in this neighborhood event, along with a sharing of food and drink.

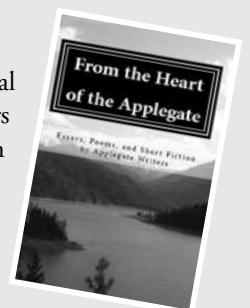
If you are interested in helping out or have a story to tell, we want to hear from you. Contact Paul Tipton at 541-846-7501 or [mckeebridge1917@gmail.com](mailto:mckeebridge1917@gmail.com) or Dolores Lisman at 541-899-9929.

Paul Tipton • 541-846-7501  
Chair, McKee Bridge Historical Society  
[mckeebridge1917@gmail.com](mailto:mckeebridge1917@gmail.com)

### — Gift ideas from the Applegate Valley —

#### Help support the Applegater by purchasing these unique items!

**Book.** *From the Heart of the Applegate* anthology of original essays, poems, and short stories contributed by Applegate Valley writers in support of the *Applegater*. Available now for \$16 at Amazon.com and [applegater.org](http://applegater.org); Applegate Valley Realty, Jacksonville; Bloomsbury Books, Ashland; Oregon Books, Grants Pass; Rebel Heart Books, Jacksonville; and Terra Firma, Jacksonville.



**Planter.** Beautiful planters called "Applegaters," built with donated local wood and volunteer labor, are available to purchase. See these useful and long-lasting "Applegaters" at Applegate Valley Realty, 935 N. Fifth Street, Jacksonville. A price of a stock planter box (see photo), 12" wide x 22" long x 14" deep, starts at \$40. For more information, call Chris Bratt at 541-846-6988.



## THE STARRY SIDE

# Telling the future

BY GREELEY WELLS

The nighttime starry sky is a wonder to me, just as the daylight sky is with its mysterious clouds and blazing sunrises and sunsets. Just as the daytime skies look different in spring, fall, winter, and spring, the starry night sky of the Applegate, with its predictable constellations that represent each of the four seasons, presents marvelous visions, stories, and surprises for the awake to see.

But there's something interesting that the night sky *always* does with the seasons that the daytime sky does not. Because of the earth's rotation, the stars during the first half of the night correspond with the season we are actually in—winter stars in a winter sky—but after the middle of the night, the stars of the next season appear! So each predawn morning sky is telling the future. In effect, we get to see two seasons in one night if we wake up early enough to see that beautiful predawn sky. What a sweet gift!

This season, arching straight overhead is one of my favorite constellations: Auriga. It's a pentagram (five sides) whose brightest star is Capella. Next to it, quite visible, is a small triangle with another triangle, even smaller and dimmer, across from it at the bottom. I've never heard this little one mentioned, but I see it and love it! It

has the same shape and angle of the larger triangle, and it's pointing in the opposite direction! That's symmetrical and beautiful to me.

Auriga is a shepherd. The main triangle is the kids (baby goats) he holds with his arm. It's an almost circumpolar constellation

and is in our sky about three-quarters of the time, so it's easy to see most of the year, depending on how big the mountain is north of you. This season Auriga follows north over Orion's head, and while Orion is south-ish overhead, Auriga is *directly* overhead and goes through the zenith.

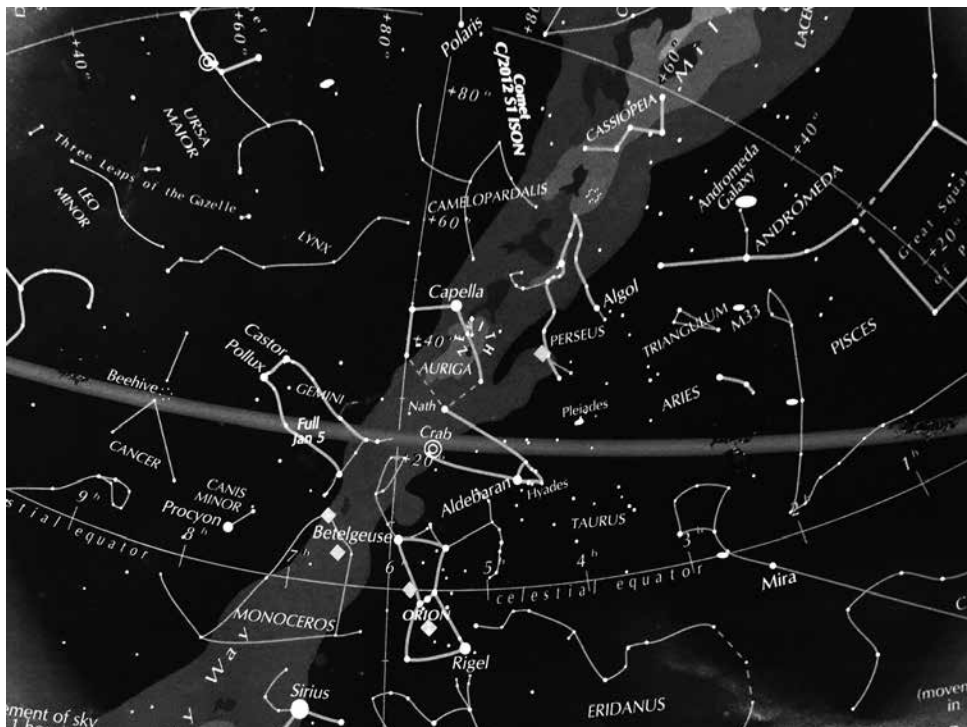


Illustration from stellarium.org.

### Of note

Gemini d meteor showers, from December 7 to 17, have almost no moon and will be good this year. They peak December 13-14 mid-evening to dawn. They'll radiate from the Gemini twins and, at best, could produce up to 120 meteors per hour.

The winter solstice on December 21 marks the longest night of the year and the first day of winter.

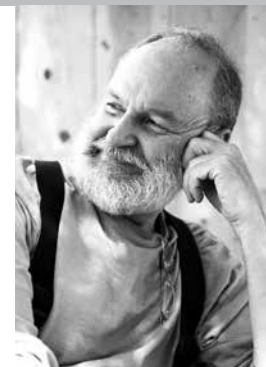
Jupiter is in our dawn sky for months this season. Venus is out of sight behind the sun for months. Mars is in our dawn continuously.

The blue moon on January 31 simply means a somewhat-rare occurrence of two full moons in one month. The blue moon on March 31 is the second one next year, making it even more rare.

A total lunar eclipse on January 31 will be at its maximum at 5:30 pm around moonset. The moon gradually turns rusty then blood red. It's caused by the earth's shadow falling over the moon.

Greeley Wells  
greeley@greeley.me

*Note: Be sure to read Greeley's article on page 4 about the devastating loss by fire that he personally experienced.*



Greeley Wells

**PRUNING - REMOVAL  
FIRE MITIGATION**  
**NO JOB TOO SMALL**  
Senior Discounts Available

541.500.8004  
plumas3333@gmail.com  
CCB# 212867  
Licensed - Bonded - Insured

**Southern Oregon Mediation Center**

**Claudia Beausoleil**  
mediation.center@oigp.net  
**Cannabis Contracts  
Conflict Resolution  
Confidentiality**  
Grants Pass, OR  
541.226.6654

**Mediation,  
A Wise Alternative**

**BOB THOMAS  
AUTOMOTIVE, INC.**

**FOREIGN / DOMESTIC  
SERVICE AND REPAIR**

"We care about your repair."

Robert Thomas, Owner  
535 Rossanley Drive  
Medford, OR 97501  
www.BobThomasAutomotive.com

Mail Tribune  
**Readers' Choice**  
2008 - 2009  
541-734-3743  
Fax 541-245-3784

**STIHL • CARHARTT  
CRATER CHAIN SAW CO.**

541-772-7538

1321 N. Riverside  
Medford, OR 97501

**52 Years  
1965 - 2017**

**Jacksonville  
INN**

Gourmet dining in historic Jacksonville  
Wine & gift shop • Fine hotel accommodations

175 E. California • P.O. Box 359 • Jacksonville, OR 97530-0359  
541-899-1900 • 1-800-321-9344  
jvinn@mind.net • www.jacksonvilleinn.com

**Visit the A-Frame Bookstore  
@ Ruch Library**

Used books from \$1 to \$1.50

Tuesdays 12 - 4  
Thursdays 1 - 5  
Saturdays 12 - 4

Managed by Friends of  
Ruch Library. Join us!

8 miles from Jacksonville

**Your full-service  
cannabis testing  
laboratory.**

Sampling service throughout Southern Oregon five days a week.

- ✓ All testing performed in-house
- ✓ Competitive pricing
- ✓ Fast turn around times

**Green Leaf Lab** greenleaflab.org  
503-253-3511

**Oregon's most  
EXPERIENCED  
marijuana law group**

**LONEY  
LAW GROUP**

- ✓ Marijuana business law
- ✓ Recreational marijuana law
- ✓ Cannabis compliance & more

**ASHLAND  
OFFICE**  
541-787-0733

LONEYLAWGROUP.COM



DIRTY FINGERNAILS AND ALL

# Structure, function, and vision

BY SIOUX ROGERS



Sioux Rogers

The overstated-but-underrated “Wow, I can’t believe it’s winter already” just happened! In cold climates with well demarcated seasons, winter is often when you pore over all the plentiful seed and plant catalogs. It’s a wonderful time to hunker down, plan ahead, review, and preview. Most likely your garden is rather bare, so it’s a great time to check things out. Finally, look...you can see the trees through the forest.

Gardens age, change, need a new “address,” don’t eat well, miss a friend who used to live next door but was eaten by a gopher, really want to be left alone or are no longer serving the intended purpose. Time to reevaluate.

A “successful” garden is comprised of several features, easily expressed in a variety of ways. For example, a garden has structure, function, and perhaps a vision, be it large or small. OMG, what am I talking about?

**Structure**

Structure can be created by paths, large boulders, big or small pots, permanent planting beds, and garden art of any



Create structure in your garden with permanent paths. (Photo: mgnova.files.wordpress.com.)



Create a quiet spot in your garden for yourself. (Photo: i.pinimg.com.)

shape, size, or theme. When I think of garden “structure,” I mean that which you can easily see in the middle of winter. It is basically the permanent part of your garden; even if you rearrange your plants, structure remains. Paths can be well-worn foot trails comprised of pea gravel, flagstone, broken concrete, trails

of walkable ground cover, or just grass. The size of your garden, unless it is on your windowsill, is unimportant. What is important is trying to incorporate the trio previously mentioned: structure, function, and vision.

Most gardens have a “better” structure when the garden area is not completely flat. I like big mounds, irregular ground swells, boulders, rocks, and garden art to delineate and separate areas. “Garden art” can be formal weatherproof artwork or old rusty stuff like bicycles, tricycles, and wagon wheels. No right or wrong, just your preference. Perhaps you can mentally divide spaces easier if you think of garden structure as outdoor rooms—divided spaces can be “hints,” like a bench partially dividing one area from the other. That is my skinny on “structure.”

**Function**

Now for the “function” of your garden. Once again, this is a very loose interpretation. At the far end of “function” can be a ghastly and messy place for you to look at and complain about. I guess that works if complaining can be labeled a “function.” On the other hand, feeding birds and wildlife is a wonderful and generous garden function. (If you haven’t already, next year remember to leave some food in the garden for the winter birds.)

We had large grape and tomato crops this year. The grapes were too numerous to easily pick and the tomatoes ripened or did something weird, but the chickens and wild birds told me their treats are A-1

perfect. Great! So function can have many facets. I have mentioned two: a complaining focus and bird food.

Other functions are more likely a combination of several attributes. The garden feeds you, the birds, and your friends. Tending your garden is very meditative if you allow yourself to be present as you “work.” If you are designing your own garden from start to finish, allow for a “quiet” spot. If you move to an existing garden, see what you can rearrange in order to create a quiet spot. This is your choice of where and what, a formal or an informal quiet corner. For example, a log you can sit on that’s tucked into a corner works fine as a quiet spot.

Because my own garden is psychotically overlarge, it serves many functions. We feed the birds, etc., but I can also run around on the paths and not get my feet wet (my sweetheart’s idea), pick and share bundles of flowers, and take spring asparagus as a hostess gift. Those are just a few of my garden’s functions.

**Vision**

Lastly, do you have a vision for your garden? This can be as simple as wanting to grow grapes over a small metal arbor that originally was a “space divider.” Or it can be monumental, like planning a garden as a teaching place for a nearby school, a “smelling” garden for the visually impaired, or a learning space where all plants are labeled in Latin and common names. Wow, that could be a full-time endeavor!

Just enjoy your garden—it will love you back.

Dirty Fingernails and All,  
Sioux Rogers  
541-890-9876  
dirtyfingernails@fastmail.fm

**Ramsay Realty**  
The Applegate Jacksonville Experts  
www.ramsayrealty.com

Evelyn Winningham  
Principal Broker  
cell: 541-951-7055  
evelyn@ramsayrealty.com

7604 Hwy. 238 Jacksonville OR 97530  
Office: 541-899-1184 Fax: 541-899-1772

**899-1113**  
Call or Text  
**RuchHardware.com**

Hardware Grow Supplies Feed Sporting Goods  
**Ruch Hardware** Check Us Out On Instagram & Facebook!  
181 Upper Applegate Rd Ruch, OR 97530  
Your Friendly "Savin' MORE Trips to Town" Store!

**Natural Products Used**  
**The Cleaning Crew, LLC**  
Professional Cleaning Services

Homes • Offices • Rentals  
Windows, Gutters  
Pressure Washing

**541-601-6236**  
Licensed Bonded Insured

**TheCleaningCrewOnline.com**

**PACIFIC BUILDERS RESOURCE, LLC**

Manufacturer's Rep for:

Structural Insulated Panel Systems  
Excell  
Gerkin  
InsulStone by CastleRock

**Pacific-Builders.com**  
**541-973-3538**

**Applegate Store & Cafe**  
Deli & Picnic Supplies  
Breakfast • Lunch • To-Go Orders  
Gas • ATM • Espresso  
Beer & Wine  
15095 Hwy 238, Applegate, OR  
541-846-6659

**Horsefeather Farms Ranchette**  
Guesthouse Stayovers B&B  
13291 Hwy 238, Applegate, OR  
Stay at a real country farm on the Applegate River!  
Call for information and reservations:  
541-941-0000  
www.horsefeather-farms-ranchette.com



## Cantrall Buckley Park news

BY JEREMY CRISWELL

Hooray! The restoration of our playground restroom is complete! This long overdue renovation is the final phase of our playground restoration and it looks great! The broken-down wooden screening has been removed, fresh access sidewalks have been poured, and a new gable end roof has been installed just in time for winter. With a fresh coat of paint, new tile, and all new fixtures throughout, we finally have a bright and sanitary restroom to appropriately serve our park users. The finishing touches will include an ADA access path leading from the playground to the restroom, several benches, and the addition of native plants in the surrounding planting beds.

With the bathroom restoration now done, work can resume on the Community Mosaic Mural that we began all the way back in 2015. Over 200 community members have already made tiles for the project and it is now time to get back to work on bringing this mural to life. In the coming months, we'll make the last of the tiles and set them in concrete panels that will be installed on the river-facing wall of the restroom. I'll be looking for ways to pull community members back in for the last parts of this project, so keep an eye out for chances to get involved!

Keeping our beautiful park beautiful, local community volunteers participated in the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual SOLVE Beach & Riverside Cleanup, presented by the Oregon Lottery, on September 23, 2017. Cantrall Buckley Park was one of the 130 sites for this statewide event, and we had 13 adult and youth participants.

A big thank-you to our volunteers, who removed 30 pounds of trash, six truckloads of invasive blackberry vines, and two truckloads of dead branches and debris from several areas of the park. Janis Mohr-Tipton organized the event and provided snacks and a butterfly glider craft for the youth at the end of the work time. Janis also provided educational material from SOLVE (solveoregon.org) to show what native plantings can replace invasive blackberries. She also explained the role



Jackson County Park Rangers Jonathon Bernhardt and Dustin Stafford at work on the day-use restroom. (Photo: Tom Carstens.)



Tim Zacha, daughter Zyris, and son Zennon sign in as volunteers at the SOLVE cleanup event at Cantrall Buckley Park. (Photo: Tom Carstens.)



**Winner!** This photo of Tom and Kathy Carstens ready to collect trash at the Cantrall Park cleanup event was one of four winning pictures in SOLVE's statewide photo contest for this event. (Photo: Janis Mohr-Tipton.)

of SOLVE in cleaning up Oregon. The focus has changed since 1969, when S.O.L.V. stood for Stop Oregon Litter and Vandalism. Today, the word SOLVE more accurately reflects the actions of volunteers, like the ones in our community, to improve our park's environment.

Jeremy Criswell  
jerr37@jeffnet.org

### Public Invitation

**You are cordially invited to a special community meeting of the Cantrall Buckley Park Committee.**

**Where:** Applegate Valley Fire District Community Center, 1095 Upper Applegate Road, Ruch

**When:** Wednesday, December 13, 6 - 7:30 pm

**What:** 1. Learn directly from Jackson County Parks about plans for management of Cantrall Buckley.  
2. Find out what the Park Committee is planning.  
3. Bring your own ideas for the future of the park!

### Message from Jackson County Parks

*The following is excerpted from a letter dated October 31, 2017, to A Greater Applegate from Jackson County Roads and Parks about the transition in the management of Cantrall Buckley Park.*

When GACDC [now A Greater Applegate] took over operations of Cantrall Buckley Park, the Jackson County Parks program was at an unprecedented crossroads where all funding for park operations was removed from the county general fund budget. This change forced many hard decisions regarding park management, one of which was the potential closure of Cantrall Buckley.

Instead, GACDC stepped up to maintain and operate the park over the past two decades. Fortunately, due to a series of changes within our parks program, we are no longer at the level of crisis we were at 20 years ago and are much more stable—not rich, but stable.

I share this brief background for two reasons. First, a big thank-you to GACDC is in order for stepping up and operating the park while the county sorted out its park program. GACDC provided a bridge for the county until we reached the point where we can, and should, step back in and operate the park, which we agree is a real gem. Second, I want to assure you that discussions of closing the park are *not* going to resurface the first time we hit a bump in the road. The park is safe, will stay open, and will be taken care of.

Steve Lambert will continue to be the point of contact for the county and will lead the process to complete this transition from our end.

We look forward to working with you in a partnership role in the future to continue to improve this special place.

John Vial  
Director, Jackson County Roads and Parks

*The*  
**HONEYSUCKLE**  
**Café**

7360 Hwy 238, Ruch, OR 97530  
(541) 702-2525

**Open Weds thru Sunday 8 am - 3 pm**

*Comfort* ♡ *Catering* ♡ *Scratch Cooking*

Located in the Sunshine Plaza next to the Ruch Country Store

**APPLEGATE VALLEY REALTY**  
HOUSES • VINEYARDS • LAND  
935 N 5th St. Jacksonville (541) 218-0947

**Debbie Tollefson**  
Principle Broker  
Owner  
541-973-9184

**Don Tollefson**  
Principle Broker  
Owner  
541-973-9185

**Carol Milazzo**  
Broker  
541-415-1844

*"We Focus on Relationships, not Commissions."*

**Your local, hometown realtors.**  
**If you want personal, individualized service and great communication, call us!**

**Applegate Valley Office**  
7380 Highway 238 / Ruch, OR  
Next to Ruch Country Store  
**541-261-0949**

**Jacksonville Office**  
935 North Fifth Street / Jacksonville, OR  
By the Gas Station  
**541-218-0947**

**R.W. CASSIDY, INC.**  
**Design & Building**  
541-846-1248  
Applegate Valley, OR  
CCB # 166059

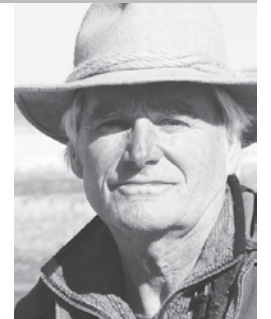
Custom Homes  
Remodeling  
Alternative Energy  
Small to Large Jobs

Call for an Estimate  
**846-1248**  
www.RWCassidyInc.com

**BIRD EXPLORER**

**The bird tree**

BY PETER J. THIEMANN



Peter J. Thiemann

The golden autumn is coming to an end with all the colorful leaves falling to the ground. This is the time for many birds of several species to gather in certain trees to forage for vertebrates like arthropods. This story is about one tree in particular: an Oregon ash on our land. It is a large, mature tree that had golden leaves just a few weeks ago, but is now bare, and its branches are covered with lichen. This is where the arthropods are, in the lichen and flying around.

Like a magnet, the Oregon ash attracts large flocks of birds, often all together. Here are the most prominent species—those that can be seen in a single day when the sun is out: Black-capped Chickadee, Oregon Junco, Pine Siskin, Bushtit, Oak Titmouse, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Yellow-crowned Kinglet, Brown Creeper, and Downy Woodpecker.

While Chickadees, Juncos, Bushtits, and Pine Siskins show up in large numbers and flocks, Kinglets of both species, creepers,

the Oak Titmouse, and woodpeckers are small in numbers but nevertheless can be seen every day. If you are inclined to do some bird photography, try to find a tree like our Oregon ash, which will almost guarantee lots of bird sightings.

But a word of caution about whether to look for these birds with binoculars or with a camera: they are very busy picking up tiny arthropods, which means that they hardly ever sit still, making it difficult to follow with binoculars or focus a camera

lens. In addition, the camera has to be in a telephoto setting, which reduces the field of vision. Using autofocus is a must, as is a sunny day, to allow shooting with a short shutter speed, like 1/1600 second. Most of the species listed above are not particularly shy, so it is quite useful to take a chair, sit down, and let the bird show unfold.

Peter J. Thiemann  
peterjthiemann@yahoo.com



Oak Titmouse



Ruby-crowned Kinglet



Pine Siskin. All photos courtesy of Peter J. Thiemann flickr photo stream.

**You can't miss the supersized Ceanothus Silkmoth**

BY LINDA KAPPEN

The Ceanothus Silkmoth (*Hyalophora euryalus*) is a moth of the Saturniidae family. This very large moth has a wingspan of three and a half to five inches. Its wings are reddish to brownish-red and rosy-colored with borders that are black with white. There are two oval black spots on the top of the forewing. The hindwing spots are long and resemble the Nike swoosh or a boomerang. The underside of the wings has more of a brownish color, with the rest of the markings similar to the upper side.

Females will glue their eggs, single or clumped, on the leaves of host plants. Cocoons are spun on the host plants. The larvae are generalist feeders and will feed on species of ceanothus, willows, madrone, Douglas fir, cherry, and a variety of woody shrubs and trees.

Adults are nocturnal and will come to light. Like other large silkmoths, the Ceanothus Silkmoth does not feed as an adult. They can be seen early spring to late summer. Timing can depend on local climates, but usually they are seen

in daylight resting with their wings folded over their back.

The Ceanothus Silkmoth ranges are from British Columbia throughout the Pacific Northwest, to extreme western Idaho and Montana, and down to Baja California. Habitat for this species include a variety of forests and rangelands from low to higher elevations in conifer and hardwood forests, coastal areas, chaparrals, riparian areas, and sagebrush steppe, to name a few.

Many Ceanothus Silkmoths are seen locally in southern Oregon. Their large size makes them amazing to see. Many times over the years, students and staff at Applegate School have alerted me to a sighting on the school grounds. The photo shown here was taken in May 2017. The smaller children found it sitting in the bottom of an empty trash container and were very concerned about it. I brought it into the classroom to show them that it was, indeed, all right and healthy. It is possible they thought it would die since they also find and bring me many broken moth wings.

Linda Kappen  
humbugkapps@hotmail.com

Side view of silkmoth (left) taken by Linda Kappen. Hand photo (below) by Kellie Crowe Halsted.





**evergreen**  
LAW GROUP, LLC

CALL TODAY  
888-871-6222  
541-471-2222

**SPECIALIZING in CANNABIS LAW**

[www.evergreenlawgroup.net](http://www.evergreenlawgroup.net)

**GROW YOUR BUSINESS**



**Natalie M. Wetenhall**  
Licensed in:  
Oregon, Washington,  
New York  
and the  
District of Columbia.

Natalie provides legal services for entrepreneurs, and companies of all sizes throughout the state of Oregon.

- ❖ Assistance with Transitioning from Medical to the OLCC Rec Program
- ❖ OLCC Licensing Assistance and Advice
- ❖ OLCC Regulatory Compliance
- ❖ Business Entity Formation and Structuring
- ❖ IRS Code 280E Planning and Advice
- ❖ OMMP Regulatory Compliance
- ❖ Vendor Contracts
- ❖ Commercial, Industrial and Agricultural Lease Negotiations
- ❖ Land Use Regulations and Zoning Compliance
- ❖ Transportation Concerns
- ❖ Real Estate Investment Structuring
- ❖ Purchase and Sale Agreements
- ❖ Employees and Independent Contractors
- ❖ Trademark Registration and Protection

542 Washington Street, Suite 104, Ashland



## ATA receives grant for new trailhead

BY DIANA COOGLE

The Applegate Trails Association's (ATA's) new trail, the East ART (East Applegate Ridge Trail) has already proven popular with hikers, who record enthusiastic responses. One blogger (The News-Review at nrtoday.com) said the East ART deserves a rating of 15 on a 1-to-10 scale, and adds, "A tip of the hat to the Applegate Trails Association for having both the vision and the acumen to bring this trail to actual fruition."

The tipped hat also goes to Travel Oregon, which has recently awarded ATA a grant to construct a second trailhead (there's already one off Sterling Creek Road), on Highway 238, between Forest Creek and Longnecker roads outside Jacksonville. Travel Oregon's awards of grants for a number of trail-related projects throughout the state show how impressed they are with the potential of economic impacts from nonmotorized trails. ATA is proud to be a part of that potential in the Applegate.

Hikers, we reminded the grant-awarding committee on our application, are usually outdoor enthusiasts who, whether local residents or visitors, will no doubt patronize the outdoor stores in the area, shopping for cool-weather jackets, water bottles, day packs, and other



Kiosk on the East ART trailhead off Sterling Creek Road. (Photo: Mike Kohn.)

hiking paraphernalia. Specifically in the Applegate, the Honeysuckle Café, in Ruch, so close to the trailhead, will surely see an increase in business from hungry hikers ready for lunch. Because the Honeysuckle Café buys local produce, bread, and wine, this economic benefit will be passed along

to other businesses. Trail users might buy energy bars or sandwich fixings at the Ruch Country Store and a bottle of wine at Fiasco or Valley View winery for their picnic. They might have coffee at the Pit Stop or breakfast at Cafe Ruch before setting off on the trail.

And that's just in Ruch. Visitors might combine a hike featuring beautiful scenery (i.e., the East ART) with a tour of the Applegate's excellent wineries. They might opt to take lodging in the Applegate so they could get up early and have a sunrise hike on the East ART. Hikers and mountain bikers might very well come off the trail and go straight to a local massage therapist—Haley May, at May Massage Arts, or Kyleen Brodie, at Elements Massage Therapy, both in Jacksonville, for instance—for relief for sore muscles.

The new trailhead will allow an easy shuttle, between Highway 238 and Sterling

Creek Road. Its visibility will encourage people to use the trail and, consequently, to patronize Applegate businesses. We at ATA are pleased to be a part of this economic development in the valley, proud that nonmotorized recreation is recognized for its economic, as well as its health and spiritual, benefits. We plan to begin construction on the trailhead this winter.

Keep your eyes open for the Highway 238 trailhead, and get out there and hike the trail! (*Hint:* The East Art hike is best if you make the Highway 238 trailhead the destination and start your hike from Sterling Creek.)

When you get off the trail, stop for a glass of wine or a cup of coffee in the Applegate. Or a massage.

Diana Coogle  
Board Member

Applegate Trails Association  
dicoo@gmail.com

### Applegate Trails Association Trail Maintenance Work Parties

Sunday, December 3, 2017  
Sunday, February 11, 2018  
Sunday, March 11, 2018



Help us maintain the *new* and stunning East Applegate Ridge Trail. You will meet new friends, develop camaraderie, get some exercise, help your community, and discover this incredibly beautiful trail. We meet at 8:30 am and quit in time to eat lunch at the trailhead at 1:30 pm.

The east trailhead is located at the end of BLM road 38-2-29.1. Coming from Jacksonville, turn right off Sterling Creek Road 150 yards past the 4-mile marker and proceed to the trailhead. Directional signs will be posted. ATA provides tools, snacks, and lunch. There is a variety of tasks for all skill levels.

An RSVP to david@applegatetrails.org is always appreciated, but not required. Just show up.

**Thanks to all volunteers and supporters!**

## After wildfire come wildflowers: A boon for pollinators

BY SUZIE SAVOIE

People who hiked the Boundary Trail through the Red Buttes at the headwaters of the Applegate River after the 1987 wildfires reported massive floral displays on the Siskiyou Crest within the burned area. After the 2012 Fort Complex Fire, which also burned in the Red Buttes, I saw for myself the same thing: more wildflowers than anyone had seen in decades—and happy pollinators, too.

The diversity and color of wildflowers responding to the Fort Complex Fire was truly staggering. Before the fire, much of the area was covered in dense stands of montane chaparral. The Fort Complex Fire burned in a natural mosaic of high-severity fire in the montane chaparral, burning off large patches and encouraging a lush growth of wildflowers where the chaparral had once been. The wildflowers benefitted from the wildfire.

After the Fort Complex Fire, wildflowers were blooming at the base of burned-off woody shrubs, responding to the lack of shrubby competition. Typically, before the fire, bluehead gilia (*Gilia capitata*) was seen only in the occasional rocky bald, but after the fire it carpeted the Boundary Trail in a spectacular display. Indian paintbrush (*Castilleja spp.*) and Oregon sunshine (*Eriophyllum lanatum*) bloomed in abundance—some areas were so thick with blooming Oregon sunshine that you could see the golden-yellow hue from miles away. Parish's nightshade (*Solanum*

*parshii*) also appeared more abundantly. This species is strongly fire-adapted and often associated with chaparral habitat. Considered relatively rare in Oregon, this species is more abundant in California. Chinese houses (*Collinsia spp.*) were found in dense masses on thin, rocky soils throughout the fire-affected area; however, it was phacelia (*Phacelia spp.*) that stole the show. Where stands of montane chaparral were consumed by high-severity fire, the area was transformed into flower fields dominated by phacelia.

Over the next couple of years, we are likely to see the same amazing wildflower response within the fire-affected areas of this year's Miller Complex Fire, which burned throughout the headwaters of the Applegate River as well as in the Red Buttes Wilderness. The majority of the Miller Complex Fire in the Applegate watershed burned at low to moderate severity, but some places, such as Azalea Lake in the Red Buttes Wilderness, did sustain some high-severity fire effects in the fire-adapted lodgepole pine forest. The trail into Azalea Lake will surely be a carpet of wildflowers within a couple of years, and it will be a boon for our native pollinators, creating colorful pollinator habitat out of the ashes.

Wildfires are a natural and necessary part of the ecosystem in the Siskiyou Mountains. Because the flora is fire-adapted—having evolved with natural lightning-caused wildfire and indigenous



An abundance of wildflower species growing along the Boundary Trail in the Red Buttes following the 2012 Goff Fire, part of the Fort Complex Fire.

burning over millennia—many species of wildflowers respond positively to wildfires and often produce larger plants and more abundant flowers.

Wildfires can rejuvenate the landscape. Many plant species need the heat of fire to reproduce or their populations will dwindle. For example, knobcone pinecones can remain closed for 80 to 100 years without fire, and rare Baker's cypress seeds are also released from their cones from the heat of wildfire.

Intense heat can break down seed coats and clear away competing vegetation, allowing wildflower seeds to germinate and the plants to thrive and grow. Recent studies have shown that chemicals from charred wood in the soil following wildfire also stimulate seed germination and plant growth. The seeds of many wildflower species can lie dormant in the soil for decades and then germinate by the millions following wildfire. The plants may have

been there long ago, but the area has since turned into chaparral or forest; after a fire the seeds finally have the right opportunity to germinate.

Wildfires enhance the world-class biodiversity in the Siskiyou Mountains. The massive floral displays following wildfires are not only beautiful but are also bountiful feasts for hungry pollinators reliant on nectar and pollen from wildflowers for food. Wildfires can increase the available food for native bees, butterflies, moths, hummingbirds, and other pollinators.

I look forward to continuing my exploration of the fire-affected areas in the Miller Complex Fire over the next couple of years. The flowers are going to be bee-eautiful!

Suzie Savoie  
Conservation Chair, Siskiyou Chapter  
Native Plant Society of Oregon  
klamathsiskiyou@gmail.com



**GRAPE TALK**

**A wine cocktail is more than just sangria**



BY DEBBIE TOLLEFSON

Holiday entertaining is in full swing, and I am ready with lots of great Applegate Valley wines, both white and red. This year I thought I would mix things up a bit and experiment with creating some wine cocktails. I started my research by reaching out to some of my wine-maker friends to see if they had any recipes for wine cocktails using their wines. I know this is risky because wine makers spend every waking hour trying to make their wines the best they can be, and mucking about with that finely tuned profile could be considered a major insult. Thankfully, Bill Steele of Cowhorn Vineyard answered that although he “doesn’t really make cocktails with wine,” his resident chef and tasting-room ambassador, Dawn Strickmeyer, makes a great cocktail with Cowhorn viognier. Thanks, Dawn, for this great recipe!



Wine cocktail made with Cowhorn viognier and Hopka. (Photo: Debbie Tollefson.)

- 4 oz. Cowhorn viognier
  - 1 oz. Hopka (hops-flavored liqueur)
  - 2 oz. LaCroix plain sparkling water
- Serve over ice.
- One of my favorite uses of wine is to create a great sparkling wine cocktail. Here

is one I created using Red Lily’s Cava (Aria Brut).

- 16 oz. Red Lily Cava (or brut champagne or prosecco)
- 2 oz. fresh lime or lemon juice
- 2 oz. simple syrup (equal parts sugar and water heated until dissolved)
- Fresh ginger (cotton-ball sized) peeled, chopped, and muddled in a cocktail shaker
- Splash of limoncello liqueur
- Club soda to fill glass
- Garnish with mint.

Traditionally I have altered red or rosé wine when creating sangria. Here is a holiday sangria recipe using cranberries that I particularly like. Using Herb Quady’s



Use Quady North Rosé in a holiday sangria recipe using cranberries. (Photo: Quady North.)

great rosé and Red Lily’s Night School port, it is one of the best and most unique sangrias I have ever made.

- 1 cup water, 1 cup sugar
  - 1 cinnamon stick
  - 1 star anise
  - 5 cloves
  - 2 cups fresh cranberries
  - 2 apples peeled, cored, and diced
- Heat water, sugar, cinnamon stick, star anise, and cloves until sugar is dissolved. Cool, then add cranberries and apples and refrigerate overnight. Strain the fruit and set aside the spiced water. To the fruit, add the bottle of Quady North Rosé and 1/3 cup Red Lily Night School port. Add 1/3 cup spiced water and chill. Serve over ice

with mint garnish. (Make another batch with the remaining spiced water or freeze for later use.)



Debbie Tollefson

I also found a quick red wine cocktail that is very refreshing and easy to make.

- ¾ cup any Applegate Valley red wine
  - ¼ cup lemon-lime soda
- Ice and garnish with a lemon or lime wedge.

Here is a recipe using pinot noir and tequila.

- 1½ oz. good tequila
  - 1½ oz. pinot noir (Schmidt 2012 pinot noir is a good choice.)
  - ½ oz. lime juice
  - ½ oz. agave syrup
  - 2 ozs. blood orange soda (I love Trader Joe’s blood orange.)
- Garnish with a lime wedge.

With any cocktail, either created from a recipe or invented on your own, I think you need to use the same rule that I apply whenever I use wine in cooking: If I don’t think the wine is good enough to drink, it probably isn’t good enough to cook with or to use in my wine cocktails.

I hope these recipes show you the versatility of wine cocktails. Include some in your holiday entertaining using our great Applegate Valley wines.

Happy holidays and a happy, healthy, and peaceful 2018. For everyone’s safety, be sure *not* to drink and drive!

Debbie Tollefson  
debbie.avreality@gmail.com

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

**Burn reminder**



Before burning outdoors any time of year, check with your fire district to make sure that day is an official burn day and not a **NO** burn day.

Jackson County • 541-776-7007  
Josephine County • 541-476-9663 (Press 3)

**Advertiser list available online**

Be sure to visit [applegater.org](http://applegater.org) for a complete list of advertisers.

...

Please support our advertisers! They help make this paper possible.

**— NOTICE —**

The Community Calendar, usually found on page 4, has been temporarily relocated to our website at [applegater.org](http://applegater.org).

**VOICES of the**



**APPLEGATE**

**Winter Concerts**

Where could you find autumn, Christmas, and jazz combined? At the winter concerts of Voices of the Applegate, of course!

Hope Harrison, our energetic and exciting director, has put together an amazing collection of both the stirring and the soothing. From “I’ll Be Seeing You” to “Autumn” to the fanciful “Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy,” the concert should be a showstopper. In addition to some very listenable, familiar Christmas pieces, we harmonize in a soul-moving rendition of “America the Beautiful.” Audience participation is always included, with a sing-along.

Concert venues are Jacksonville Presbyterian Church, 6th and California Streets, at 7:30 pm on Friday, December 1, and Applegate River Lodge, 15100 Highway 238, at 3:00 pm on Sunday, December 3.

There is never an admission charge, but donations are welcome and appreciated.

For more information, call Joan Peterson at 541-846-6988.

**A Great Fit for the Perfect Smile! ...**  
Serving Jacksonville for over a decade with 30 years of experience in the Valley

**Our Services include:**

- Full Dentures
- Partial Dentures
- Immediate Dentures
- Repairs • Relines
- Implant Dentures
- Great Service
- Custom Support

**Valley Denture Care**  
Diana Helvey L.D.

535 N. Fifth Street  
Jacksonville, OR 97530  
[valleydenturecare@gmail.com](mailto:valleydenturecare@gmail.com)  
541-899-9516

**@applegateoffense**

Contact us today we may be able to offer technical assistance and project development for upland fuels reduction, irrigation efficiency, riparian restoration, and stream habitat improvement projects in the Applegate Watershed.

Check out our Summer 2017 Projects Photos and Lecture Series Flyers on our Facebook page, Instagram or our website.

**www.apwc.info**

Jakob Shockey, Riparian Program Manager  
[riparianprogram@apwc.info](mailto:riparianprogram@apwc.info)  
541-890-9989

Janelle Dunlevy, APWC Coordinator  
[coordinator@apwc.info](mailto:coordinator@apwc.info)  
541-899-9982

“promoting ecological, economic and community well-being in the Applegate watershed through on-the-ground projects and strategic collaborations.”

## Discover Stories on the Land

*Below is the third excerpt from the unpublished 1996 book, Stories on the Land: An Environmental History of the Applegate and Upper Illinois Valley, by George McKinley and Doug Frank. The Applegate Valley Community Newspaper, Inc., will be publishing the book in its entirety in 2018.*

### Establishing the route

In the 1830s and '40s the expeditions of the Hudson's Bay Company established a known route through southwest Oregon. Ogden's journey (recounted in the Fall 2017 *Applegater*) was not atypical of the first Euro-American encounters with the region. Later, Michel LaFramboise guided several expeditions: in 1833 (under the leadership of Alexander McLeod) and in subsequent years. In September 1833, John Work's expedition camped along Bear Creek.

Many of these Hudson's Bay groups were large and of varied membership. Work's encampment comprised 63 men, women, children, and Indian guides. Ogden may have traveled with his wife. In some ways, these groups imitated the lifestyle patterns of the natives they encountered, moving across the landscape as nomadic hunter-gatherers and relying upon the land for sustenance. They regularly engaged the natives in trade relations. Their obligation, however, was not to the land and its long-term diversity, but to the furtherance of the commercial and imperial goals of their employer, along with whatever personal goals they may have had. Their relations with the Indians, in marked contrast to those of the later American settlers, were largely nonviolent.

When McLeod and his company moved through the area in 1827, they established friendly relations with the Kelawatset Indians, but when Jedediah Smith and 14 other men moved some 300 pack animals loaded with furs up the southern Oregon coast the following year, Smith, not long out of a Mexican jail in California, moved rapidly and recklessly across the land, losing animals to rivers and traveling hungry. In the vicinity of the lower Umpqua, Smith and company were attacked by Kelawatset Indians. Most of the party were killed.

In 1834 and 1837, en route from the Sacramento Valley to the Willamette, Ewing Young pushed cattle, horses, and mules along the Hudson's Bay Company trail. Besides hoping for personal economic gain, Young was aiming to promote the self-sufficiency of the Willamette region, to show that Americans "could settle in the Willamette Valley with an assurance of being self-supported," completely independent of the company. With the establishment of a viable cattle population, this possibility became apparent, and the Willamette region began a new era of development.

However, both the 1834 and 1837 journeys by Young through southwest Oregon were marked by skirmishes and tension with the native inhabitants. The reasons are perhaps matters of speculation, but it could be presumed that natives might consider Young's small band of men driving 700 cattle over the Siskiyou Summit or 300 up the coast an essentially different threat from that of McLeod's, Ogden's, and Work's nomadic bands of hunters and traders of differing age, sex, and ethnicity that they had previously encountered. In *History of Southern Oregon*, A. G. Walling attributes the success of the English in the fur trade to the overwhelming percentage of French-Canadian and mixed-blood participants, people known to display a

high level of professionalism and expertise. The Americans, on the other hand, were more interested in the lifestyle of drinking and rowdiness than in the need to run a successful company. J. Ross Browne describes the earliest Americans as "a wild, reckless, and daring race of men, trappers, and hunters, whose intercourse with the Indians was not calculated to afford [the Indians] a high opinion of the Americans as a people."

We can speculate other reasons for increased tension with the native inhabitants. Simply the numbers of people coming through could have raised concern. By the time Young drove his first band of cattle over the crest, some 250 British and Americans had already traversed this "Siskiyou Trail" between Oregon and California. Another reason might be that the natives were aware of settlement activity in the Willamette and perceived the connection between these large drives and their own future in the region. Or perhaps the ravages of disease, evidenced in original contact with natives across the continent, had already begun to appear in this region as well. At any rate, the hostile encounters between the first settlers and the natives stand in marked contrast to the earlier, more congenial relations between Hudson's Bay Company trappers and those same native peoples. This difference anticipates an era only a few years distant when all manner of civil relations failed.

### A well situated country

Though the earliest travelers through the region were inattentive to detailed record-keeping and the production of historically retrievable information, the Emmons party of the Wilkes Expedition marked a significant step toward cataloging the land.

Officially termed the United States Exploring Expedition and sent to explore the Antarctic, South Pacific, and Pacific Northwest, the Wilkes Expedition set out from Norfolk, Virginia, on August 18, 1838, with 346 men under the command of Lieutenant Charles Wilkes.

By the spring of 1841, they had reached the Pacific Northwest at the mouth of the Columbia River. Their arrival was less than glorious, though, as Lieutenant George Emmons, who had been sent ahead to scout the Columbia, ran his ship aground at the mouth of the river and could only stand ashore and watch as the ship came apart against the rocks.

By August, the whole of the expedition was reunited at Fort Vancouver. Emmons, having recovered from his ignominious arrival, was put in charge of an overland exploration south into California. He traveled with 76 horses or mules and 39 people including a surveyor/cartographer, a naturalist, an artist, two botanists, a geologist, a surgeon, a number of native guides, and a small band of settlers (four women and eight children among them). The exploration generated a wealth of information and carefully recorded observations, though not about the Applegate and Illinois valleys, as the company adhered to the well established Hudson's Bay Company route and did not enter this area.

After nearly a decade of exploration and reflection, Wilkes, writing in 1849, anticipated the contemporary discussion surrounding the Pacific Rim. "No country," he said, "is so well situated to communicate with all parts of the Pacific Ocean as Oregon."

*Note: Excerpted by Diana Coogle from pages 19-21 of Stories on the Land: An Environmental History by George McKinley and Doug Frank.*

### HEROES IN THE APPLGATE

*Continued from page 1*

there are showers in big semitrailers and a giant 2,500-gallon drum of water to keep them flowing.

Next we headed to Main Street, just past the big yellow awning where the early morning briefings are held. Here, in the communications tent, is where communication is facilitated among on-site fire crews, helicopter crews, and medical evacuations, and fire information and maps are updated.

Along Main Street were other offices and services, such as medical, ordering, planning, training, operations, air operations, safety, and public information, where Meg was based. We also visited the copy shop—they had thought of everything.

With firefighters out fighting fires, all was quiet in the open-air dining area. I could only imagine what a hub of activity this deserted place must be at mealtime. Many calories are expended fighting fires, and it must be hard to keep up with all

those hungry champions. What do the firefighters do for entertainment, you might ask? They sleep. (There is a no-alcohol policy at the camp.)

This pop-up town even had an airport! We trudged up the "Stairway to Heli" to get to the Helibase, which housed three different sizes of helicopters that could accommodate different jobs, environments, and weather conditions. Some features of the Temco Eurocopter—like the spacious interior that holds five to six passengers and the mechanism to which up to 2,400 pounds of external loads, like buckets of water, are attached—were pointed out to me by Ben Dean, a strapping helicopter crew member, with great relish. This enthusiasm was pervasive at the Helibase. Ben explained with a big smile, "We all just like to be outside."

### Donations

Our community was so grateful for the firefighters and many wanted to bring over a casserole or a pie. Through Meg, I learned that the most meaningful action the public can take is to donate to the Wildland

Firefighter Foundation, which benefits fallen or injured firefighters and their families. We can show our gratitude as a community by contributing to this worthy cause. To help, go to [wffoundation.org](http://wffoundation.org) or call 208-336-2996.

I left the Incident Base with a sense of awe and gratitude for all the individuals, teams, crews, resources, and equipment brought to our community to protect us. They travel across the country as fire season peaks in different locales. When a fire is contained, they move to the next fire.

By mid-October, the fire camp had vanished. The heroes had moved on. All that was left was a tidy, rain-drenched field.

Shelley Manning  
[manningshelley@icloud.com](mailto:manningshelley@icloud.com)  
*Note: See the Miller Complex Fire progression map online at [applegater.org](http://applegater.org).*



*Feidela Rivera, part of a nine-member camp crew from Arizona, organizes firefighting clothing in the supply tent at the Miller Complex fire camp. (Photo: Shelley Manning.)*

## Prevent flue fires!



In the past few years, the Applegate Valley Fire District has seen an increase in flue fires, most of which could have been prevented. Flue fires are especially dangerous because they can spread to the attic within minutes. The best way to deal with a flue fire is to prevent it. According to the Chimney Safety Institute of America ([csia.org](http://csia.org)), here are some ways to help prevent flue fires:

- Clean your chimney at least once each year, before the colder season begins.
- Use only seasoned hardwoods.
- Build smaller, hotter fires that burn completely and produce less smoke.
- Never burn trash in your fireplace or wood stove as this can spark a chimney fire.
- Do not store combustible items near flue and chimney pipes.
- Use a metal bucket when cleaning out ashes from the fireplace or wood stove.
- Be sure smoke alarms are working—early detection is key! Install a smoke alarm on every level of your home and outside each sleeping area. Test smoke-alarm batteries every month and change at least once a year.
- If you do have a flue fire, know how to recognize the sound (a rumbling noise like a moving freight train), and call 911. Then:
  - Immediately close down the air intake into the stove or fireplace. This deprives the fire of oxygen and will help cool and extinguish the fire.
  - Never, ever put water into the chimney. This can cause cracks to form in the lining of the flue and lead to a house fire.
  - Have your flue examined by a professional before using it again.

Wood stoves and fireplaces are great ways to heat a home and save money at the same time. Follow these safety tips to safely enjoy your heat source as the colder weather sets in.

Tallie Jackson • [tjackson@applegatefd.com](mailto:tjackson@applegatefd.com) • Applegate Valley Fire District #9

## Each theater nestles into its own niche of production specialties.

### THEATRICAL OPPORTUNITIES

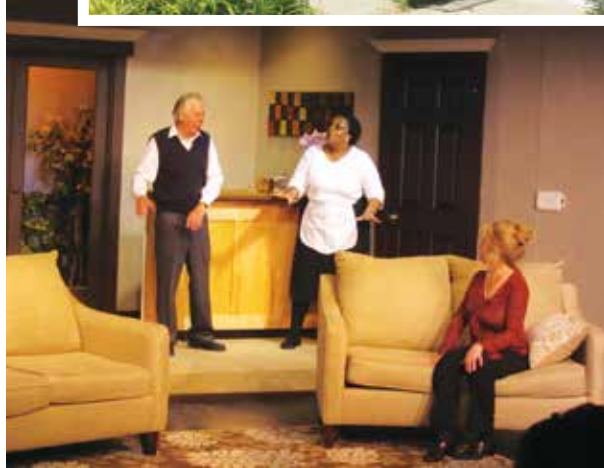
Continued from page 1

musicals; **Clarion Theater** in family-friendly, faith-based musical theater; **One Eleven Theatre** in shows for children. **Barnstormers**, founded in 1952 and the longest continuously running community theater in Oregon, accepts auditions from anyone interested, as do Rogue Music Theatre and Medford's new **Collaborative Theatre Project**. **Brava! Opera Theater** produces full-scale operas and focuses on training "the complete singer/actor." The **Oregon Center for the Arts** at Southern Oregon University uses only student actors and crew. **Camelot Theatre** in Talent seats 164, while Medford's 1,000-seat **Holly Theatre**, which closed in 1986, will be the largest indoor venue between Eugene and Redding when it reopens next year. Other choices for theater in the area include **Randall Theatre**, which produces plays in both Medford and Jacksonville; **Oregon Cabaret Theatre**, which opened the same year the Holly Theatre closed; **Ashland Contemporary Theatre**, now in its tenth season, whose motto is "Come play with us!" and **Madrone Theatre Company**, a small group of actors presenting unique, intimate drama in Jacksonville.

The theater buildings are as diverse as the productions. Signpost Theatre, without a building, turns non-theater spaces throughout the area into temporary black-box style theaters. The Craterian and Holly are historic theaters, built in 1924 and 1930, respectively; the Craterian for vaudeville and the Holly as a movie palace, the first theater in the region designed for talkies. The Oregon Cabaret Theatre is housed in Ashland's "old pink church," built in 1911 and renovated as a theater in 1986. Barnstormers also bought an old church, the 1923 First Church of Christ in Grants Pass, and turned it into a theater in 1961.

Each theater nestles into its own niche of production specialties. Oregon Cabaret, for instance, aims to "produce topnotch theater in an elegant nightclub-like atmosphere," says artistic director Valerie Rachele. Ashland Contemporary Theatre is the only regional company outside of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival to focus on productions and dramatic readings of plays by Rogue Valley playwrights. "We're all about local talent and thought-provoking writing that stirs the imagination," they tell us.

Madrone Theatre Company does dramatic readings, accompanied by music, of such classics as *Spoon River Anthology* and *A Child's Christmas in Wales*, which they call "a timeless holiday classic filled with laughter, nostalgia, and heart." David Gordon, a former singer with the San Francisco Opera, adds musical enhancement (guitar and voice) to the performances.



Barnstormers Theater (top photo) and a scene from *Self Help* by Norm Foster (bottom photo).

The Holly Theatre is primarily a concert venue, suitable for big-scale Broadway-style musicals. Barnstormers' niche is its dedication to community tastes, producing mostly comedies, a Christmas play, musicals, and maybe "something edgy," says Wayd Drake, theater manager.

The Craterian Theater, in the Collier Center for the Performing Arts, presents everything from dance to comedy, Broadway to rock 'n' roll, symphony to Shakespeare, and has three in-house production companies: the Teen Musical Theater of Oregon, Next Stage Repertory Company, and Craterian Music Hall. "The purpose of these companies is to focus on developing and showcasing local artists of all ages, while building on our commitment to make the arts accessible to all through affordable ticket pricing," explains Aspen Droesch, development manager.

Signpost Theatre neither holds open auditions nor brings in professionals. "We select a play, then offer roles to actors from the community who are right for the part [and] who want to dig deeply into the script and live the role," Eugene says.

Rogue Music Theatre fulfills a niche for lovers of musicals who, like board president, Mollie Means, feel that, "for a while, if you are watching a live musical show, you can take a mental and emotional vacation from life." Clarion Theatre's musicals are specifically intended to promote the Judeo-Christian ethic and world view.

Brava! Opera Theater is the only company in the area producing a full-scale opera annually. The 2018 show will be *Abduction from the Seraglio*, by Mozart.

Randall Theatre is unique in having a "pay what you want" ticket price at both venues, fulfilling its desire to make live theater affordable for all.

Camelot Theatre, founded as Actors' Theatre in 1982 and housed in the state-of-the-art James Morrison Collier Theatre

### Theater information and upcoming presentations

**Ashland Contemporary Theatre** • 541-646-2871 • ashlandcontemporarytheatre.org.

**Barnstormers**, 112 NE Evelyn Street, Grants Pass • 541-479-3557 • barnstormersgp.com. Playing *A Christmas Carol*, weekends, December 1 - 17.

**Brava! Opera Theater**, 2924 Siskiyou Boulevard, Suite 204, Medford • 541-261-5776 • bravaopera.com.

**Camelot Theatre**, 101 Talent Avenue, Talent • 541-535-5250 • camelottheatre.org. Playing *Mary Poppins*, November 29 - December 31.

**Clarion Theatre Company**, 1051 NE 6th Street, No. 5000, Grants Pass • 541-761-1733 • clariontheatre.wixsite.com.

**Collaborative Theatre Project**, 555 Medford Center, Medford • 541-779-1055 • ctporegon.org. Playing *The Snow Queen*, November 25 - December 31.

**Craterian Theater**, Collier Center for the Performing Arts, 23 South Central Avenue, Medford • 541-779-3000 • craterian.org. Playing Holiday Concert, Rogue Valley Symphony, December 1; *Gloria!*, Rogue Valley Chorale, December 2 - 3; *Seussical*, Teen Musical Theater of Oregon, December 8; Youth Symphony alumni concert, December 20; *A Celtic Christmas*, Tomáseen Foley, December 23; *Storm Large's Holiday Ordeal*, December 30; *Broadway's Guide to a Happy New Year*, mcubed, January 5 - 6.

**Holly Theatre**, 226 West 6th Street, Medford • 541-772-3797 • hollytheatre.org.

**Madrone Theatre Company**, 206 N 5th Street (New City Hall), Jacksonville • facebook.com/madronetheatre. Playing *A Child's Christmas in Wales*, December 8 - 10.

**One Eleven Theatre Company**, 205 SW 5th Street, Grants Pass • 541-450-9778 • oneeleventheatrecompany.com.

**Oregon Cabaret Theatre**, 241 Hargadine Street, Ashland • 541-488-2902 • theoregoncabaret.com. Playing *She Loves Me*, music by Jerry Bock and Sheldon Harnick, book by Joe Masteroff, November 16 - December 31.

**Oregon Center for the Arts**, Southern Oregon University, 1250 Siskiyou Boulevard, Ashland • 541-552-6101 • oca.sou.edu.

**Randall Theatre**, 520 N 5th Street, Jacksonville • 10 East 3rd Street, Medford • 541-632-3258 • randalltheatre.com. Playing, in Medford, *With Every Christmas Card I Write*, December 14 - 17. Playing, in Jacksonville, *Little Women, the Musical*, December 8 - 31.

**Rogue Music Theatre**, 830 NE 8th Street, Grants Pass • 541-659-0602 • roguemusictheatre.org.

**Signpost Theatre Project** • 541-761-1261 • signposttheatre.com.

### Opportunities to see *The Nutcracker*

**Miss Diana's School of Ballet**. Performances at Sjolund Auditorium, North Medford High School, 1900 Keene Way, Medford. December 16 and 17. 541-941-7007 • missdianas.com.

**Stillpoint Dance Studio**. Performances at Grants Pass Performing Arts Center, Grants Pass High School, 8th and Olive Street, Grants Pass. December 9, 10, 16, 17. 541-476-4641 • stillpointballet.com.

**Studio Roxander Academy of Ballet**. Performances at Crater Performing Arts Center, Crater High School, 655 N 3rd Street, Central Point. December 9, 10, 15, 16, 17. 541-773-7272 • studioroxander.com.

(Medford Civic Ballet's performances were in November.)

Building in Talent, is a "semiprofessional community theater" and one of the largest community theaters in the valley. It offers a Spotlight Series, defined by artistic director, Roy Rains, as "small concerts highlighting various musical artists as well as touching on their biographies with narration and video."

Besides using local talent, Oregon Cabaret brings in professional actors from all over the country. "Its intimate setting and fine dining options allow audiences to have a unique night out on the town," says Valerie Rachele, artistic director.

"Clearly there is a love of theater in the Rogue Valley," says Aspen Droesch. "Community members are passionate about the arts and have their own vision and sense of purpose."

Valerie Rachele points to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival as an influence: "We are theater savvy here, in part due to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival and its deep theatrical roots in southern Oregon."

Wayd Drake, however, just attributes the large number of theater companies in the Rogue Valley to theater itself: "The magic of theater is super appealing to people. Theater is such an amazing art form—the study of humanity itself."

That magic is never more apparent than in Christmas shows. If you are looking for holiday entertainment, take a look at what some of these theaters are offering (see sidebar). Good theater is only a few miles down the road from the Applegate, in any direction.

Diana Coogle • dicoog@gmail.com



**Siskiyou Security**  
541-846-1248  
Applegate Valley, OR  
CCB # 166059

**Rural Security Solutions**

We are Locally Owned and Operated  
Commercial & Residential  
Affordable OLCC Compliant Systems  
Instant Alerts to your Phone  
Remote Access by Phone or Computer  
24 Hour Monitoring Service Available  
Customized Solutions to your needs

Enjoy the peace of mind  
knowing what is going on  
around your property.

**alhua**  
STATE OF THE ART EQUIPMENT

[www.SiskiyouSecurity.com](http://www.SiskiyouSecurity.com)

**LEHI PUMP SERVICE, INC.** CCB# 96496

Pump Sales & Service -Hand Pumps-Solar Pumps

Filtration System-Flow Tests -Installations & Repair

Family Owned & Operated since 1976

**541-846-6662**

Ron, Jody and Dustin Hill      [lehimpump@gmail.com](mailto:lehimpump@gmail.com)

**Ramsay Realty**

541-899-1184

Cell 541-973-9105



**Jayda Wood**  
Licensed in Oregon • Principal Broker

7604 Hwy 238 • Jacksonville, OR 97530  
Fax: (541) 899-1772 • E-Mail: [jayda@ramsayrealty.com](mailto:jayda@ramsayrealty.com)  
Web Site: <http://www.ramsayrealty.com>

# Upper Applegate Watershed planning and the Miller Complex Fire

BY DON BOUCHER

Lightning in mid-August ignited over 30 fires within the Siskiyou Mountains Ranger District. Ongoing fires across the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest, including the Chetco Bar Fire and the High Cascades Complex, quickly overwhelmed firefighting resources. Of these 30-plus fires, all but five were quickly contained.

In late August an incident management team (IMT) arrived to help manage the fires, which were divided into east and west zones with the fires west of the Applegate River managed by the IMT as the Miller Complex, comprised of the larger Burnt Peak, Abney, and Creedence fires, as well as numerous small lightning fires. Fires on the east side were managed by a local team.

Within the Upper Applegate Watershed Restoration Project area, the Burnt Peak Fire burned approximately 4,600 acres in the Palmer and Kinney Creek drainages.

Based on the preliminary Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) report, an estimated four percent of the fire burned at a high severity, 28 percent at moderate severity, and 50 percent at low severity, while roughly 18 percent of the area within the perimeter of the fire was unburned. (The

BAER reports for all the fires are available at [fs.usda.gov/rogue-siskiyou](http://fs.usda.gov/rogue-siskiyou).) These numbers were estimated using a Burned Area Reflectance Classification (BARC) model, which is based on a satellite-derived map of post-fire conditions. BARC maps compare satellite images of near-infrared reflectance values to those of shortwave infrared reflectance values. Near-infrared light is largely reflected by healthy green vegetation, while shortwave infrared light is largely reflected by rock and bare soil.

Based on the preliminary BAER report, the US Forest Service (USFS) has determined several actions it could take to protect human life and property, to reduce or minimize threats to life and property, and to prevent unacceptable degradation to natural or cultural resources. For the Burnt Peak Fire, recommended actions include road-hazard signing, storm-proofing of roads in the burned areas, and patrolling the area after major storms to make sure drainage structures are functioning.

On August 1, the USFS distributed a scoping letter for the Upper Applegate Watershed Restoration Project (UAWRP) to interested parties, seeking comments

on proposed activities designed to address landscape resilience to disturbance and climate change. On September 7 we mailed a second notice, postponing the scoping deadline for the UAWRP due to ongoing fires in the Miller Complex, including the Burnt Peak Fire in the Upper Applegate Watershed. We wanted to delay scoping in order to take a close look at the fire and how it might affect the proposed action. Now that the Burnt Peak Fire has been contained, we are resuming the scoping. The revised deadline was November 22, 2017.

The proposed action would affect some areas within the Burnt Peak Fire perimeter: several units identified for prescribed burning (for oak and pine restoration), several units identified for noncommercial thinning (plantations), and 270 acres that fall within the Upper Applegate Road Hazardous Fuels Reduction project. The burn severity in most of these areas was low to moderate.

Although there may be minor modifications during implementation, the proposed activities that fall within



Burnt Peak Fire burning along Kinney Creek Road.

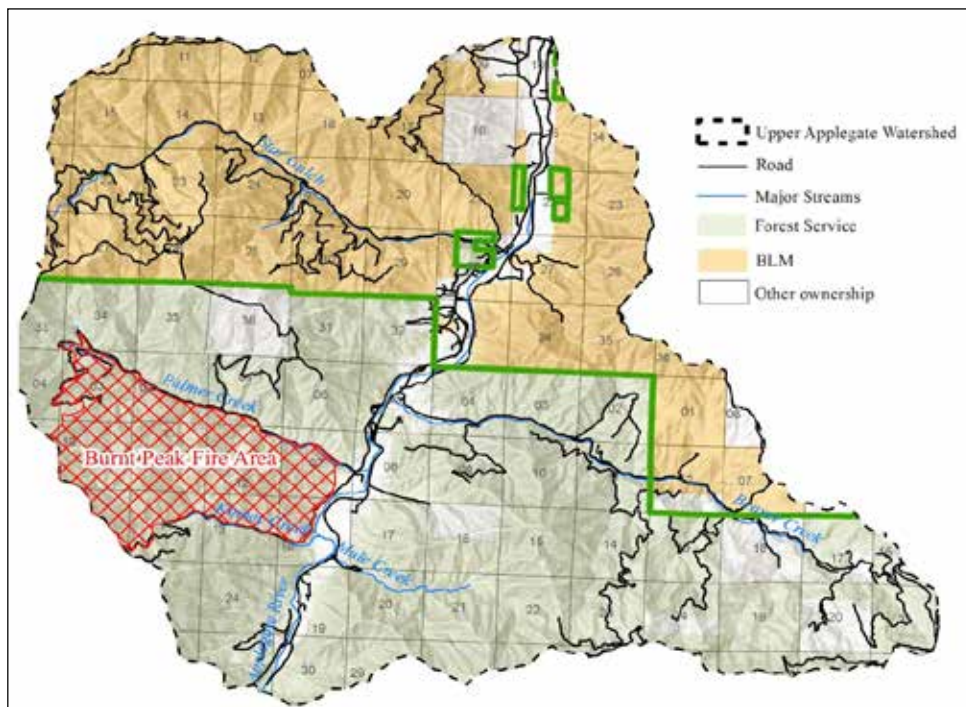
the burn perimeter are the same as in the original scoping project.

While the BAER report looks at emergency post-fire needs, the planning effort of the Upper Applegate Watershed offers an opportunity to look at long-term restoration needs within the burned area. Among actions that would answer those needs might be noncommercial thinning in patches of small trees scorched by the fire, prescribed fire to maintain burned areas, and the planting of native seeds or seedlings in areas with high-severity fire.

We look forward to having discussions with the community in regard to the fires. If you have questions or would like more information, please feel free to contact me.

Don Boucher • 541-899-3840

Upper Applegate Team Leader  
Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest  
[dboucher@fs.fed.us](mailto:dboucher@fs.fed.us)



The map on the left outlines the Burnt Peak Fire Area within the Upper Applegate Watershed Planning Area. The photo below shows the mixed-severity fire effects on the Burnt Peak Fire.



(541) 846-0540

## APPLEGATE PLUMBING LLC

David Kennedy

[applegateplumbing@pbpb.net](http://applegateplumbing@pbpb.net) CCB# 175451

541-772-3389 541-479-6935

## A-Affordable

Septic Pumping Installation & Repair

Portable Restrooms RV's & Holding Tanks

### Royal Flush

AAFFORDABLEROYALFLUSH.COM

A ROYAL FLUSH BEATS A FULL HOUSE ANYTIME

Mobile Automotive Windshield and Glass Repair and Replacement

**APPLEGATE AUTO GLASS**

Efficient, Dependable Automotive Glass Repair & Replacement

Call for a FREE QUOTE  
541-621-1889  
[ApplegateAutoGlass@outlook.com](mailto:ApplegateAutoGlass@outlook.com)

- Local Family Owned
- Mobile Convenience
- OEM Glass
- All Vehicles
- Classic Automobiles
- RV Windshields
- All Insurance Companies
- Competitive Cash Prices
- Licensed & Insured

CCB# 177466 NV 42066 CA 809835

**ACTION ELECTRIC**

Quality is doing the job right the first time.

Commercial • Residential • Design Build

[paul.actionelectric@yahoo.com](mailto:paul.actionelectric@yahoo.com)  
P.O. Box 537, Jacksonville, OR 97530

**GORILLA ACUPUNCTURE**  
Acupuncture and Chinese Herbal Therapy

**Sang Ly Montage L.Ac.**  
541.708.3953

Now located in Grants Pass and The Applegate!

House calls and In-office visits available.  
[www.gorillacupuncture.com](http://www.gorillacupuncture.com)

**Ramsay Realty**

(541) 899-1184 Ext. 229  
CELL: (541) 621-2480

**Jeanne Schattler, Realtor®**  
Broker

7604 Hwy 238 • Jacksonville, OR 97530  
Fax: (541) 899-1772 • E-Mail: [jeanne@ramsayrealty.com](mailto:jeanne@ramsayrealty.com)  
Web Site: <http://jschattler.com>

**Suzanne E. Sky, L.Ac. MTOM**  
Compassionate, holistic health care for body, mind, & spirit  
Masters in Traditional Oriental Medicine - In practice since 1989

Herbal & Nutritional Consulting  
Acupuncture • Jin Shin Jyutsu

**JACKSONVILLE CHINESE MEDICINE**  
235 W. MAIN STREET, JACKSONVILLE  
[www.AshlandAcup.com](http://www.AshlandAcup.com) (541) 887-7742

**Bella Union**

JOIN THE 20 YEAR TRADITION!

Every Thursday until April, it's Oysters & Ale night. Live music - A new beer each week from local breweries and distributors - Specials throughout the night. And of course oysters on the half shell. It's always a great time at the Bella Union!

\$1 Oysters and \$3 Beers

541 899-1770 [www.bellau.com](http://www.bellau.com)  
170 West California St. Jacksonville, OR



## OPINIONS

## Real climate change versus fake climate change

BY ALAN VOETSCH

I see we're starting to have the same old political propaganda show up here again. I had originally decided to let it slide as I have been having great fun responding to ridiculous alarmist articles on Yahoo daily, but I now know that a response is needed here also. Why? Because this subject is being used to alarm voters into electing politicians who are willing to raise taxes on everyone who lives in the Applegate Valley based on bad computer models, lies, and confusion.

Alarmists seldom define the version of "climate change" they're referring to. Why? They want to take advantage of our perceived ignorance of the subject, and they believe that if something is repeated often enough, it will be believed.

Alarmists believe that global warming has happened only recently and only because humans burn fossil fuels. This is untrue, and anyone who says this is ignorant. Global warming (or cooling) can happen for a variety of reasons and has happened many, many times without our help. This excludes human-caused greenhouse gasses as the only culprit.

Let's define climate change by giving an actual example that most of us should be familiar with. There have been several ice ages over the last million years, separated by warm interglacial periods. Ice ages last 80 to 100 thousand years, interglacial periods from 15 to 20 thousand years. Until about 12,000 years ago, we were in an ice age with ice sheets thousands of feet thick where Chicago is now.

What happened, you may ask? Real climate change happened. Our planet warmed and melted the ice, which raised sea levels over 400 feet. Ice sheets receded, and we were left with a welcoming climate and a beautiful continent, all without an increase in CO<sub>2</sub> from fossil fuels.

Since then there have been many smaller warmings and coolings, including the Roman, Medieval and Modern warmings, with the last two separated by the Little Ice Age. The Dark Ages coincided with a global cooling period. These were difficult times for many. This is real climate change that happens due to natural variability that humans can never control. Milankovitch cycles are the major driver of ice ages. These are variations of our orbit, including eccentricity, axial tilt, and precession of Earth's orbit that result in cyclical variation in the solar radiation reaching the Earth.

Then there are many various solar cycles that also help to drive our climate. CO<sub>2</sub> is not a major climate driver, just an essential trace gas and mild greenhouse gas.

Fake climate change information is all around: on the internet daily and from the mouths of people who call the other side "science denier" or "climate deniers." And they like to say that 97 percent of scientists believe blah, blah... That lie is easily refuted—just do a quick online search. Or they ask, "Do you believe in climate change?" This is not only idiotic, but it's also a trick question.

Most of our politicians do not understand this subject well enough to answer intelligently. What the alarmists do understand is how to make the other side look bad because they know how to take advantage of political theater: if they attack first, they hold the advantage. I know *real* climate change happens, and only a fool would swear that there is no way we have zero impact on our surroundings.

My point: If this subject is important enough to you to make it a deciding point in whom you will vote for, then it is imperative that you do your own research and not listen to anyone with an agenda.

Alarmists have an agenda: increase taxes, regulations, and government power, and attack corporations in general and fossil-fuel companies in particular. The belief that CO<sub>2</sub> is a primary driver of global temperatures is ludicrous. It starts losing effectiveness above 100 parts per million (ppm). We are slightly above 400 ppm, and each additional unit loses even more effectiveness. We do, however, have a larger impact locally than globally, and we must be thoughtful with farm and agricultural methods.

My agenda is to get as many people as possible to do their own research, so they can form their own opinions independent of those who like to bully others into "believing."

Please recycle and leave every place you visit cleaner than you found it.

Good read: *Lukewarming: The New Climate Science that Changes Everything* by Patrick J. Michaels and Paul C. Knappenberger. Covers every base.

Note: Be prepared for an avalanche of new propaganda blaming fires and hurricanes on climate change.

Alan Voetsch

alan\_voetsch@yahoo.com

## Appreciate the Applegate life

BY SANDY SHAFFER

I first read about the Northern California wildfires in October as we were driving home from a week-long vacation on the Washington coast. I was rendered frozen and mute. Hubby and I had both spent our working years in the San Francisco Bay Area, and we have many friends who still live in that area. We discovered wine in the Napa-Sonoma regions. I worked with several clients building new businesses in Napa. An architect friend from Calistoga visited Buncom to help us design our home in the Applegate in the late 1990s.

I still chill at the thought of the damages, the loss, the enormous change in so many people's lives that a single weather event caused. Powerful winds were throwing power lines around like cooked spaghetti—so ferociously that multiple fires sparked and spread in minutes. Ten days later the count was over 100,000 acres burned and at least 8,700 structures destroyed, most being single-family homes. I was reminded of the Oakland Hills Firestorm in 1991, listening to the news coverage while painting a fence at home in the East Bay (not that far from the fire). Again, grieving for our friends who we knew lived in that part of town. At the time I thought it couldn't get any worse. Sonoma proved me wrong.

I've continued to read about the Sonoma fires to try and see if there are any lessons to be learned. Could something like this happen here in the Applegate? I started comparing the two areas physically. We have a lot more *natural* fuels, and our elevation is much higher than Sonoma's is at barely above sea level. However, their annual rainfall is *very* similar to ours!

After more research, I decided that the differences between Sonoma and the Applegate were more social than physical. An example: land-use regulations and ownership have spread *our* population out, with 20- to 100-acre parcels intermixed with federal lands.

Sonoma had historically *set aside* state parklands, nature preserves, and designated open spaces. However, after massive fires in 1964, things changed. The townsfolk began rebuilding, extending the city limits, and developing *all* lands. Vineyards were sold off despite protests from old-timers! Local land-use rules (such as an ordinance prohibiting building on hilltops surrounding the Santa Rosa Valley) were *ignored* as residents, builders, and county officials all embraced the development of their city's new economic life.

Decades later neighborhoods were packed, two-story homes were "crowded on 60-by-100-foot lots" <sup>(1)</sup> and vegetation was overgrown everywhere. When the winds came up this August, conditions were ripe for disaster.

Here in the Applegate our land-use development codes address parcel sizes as a way to control population density and to protect federal lands. They also require we keep vegetation thinned and managed around the home and along access routes. So, *we can't do* what Sonoma did way back then, even if we wanted to, without bucking county government! As a result, we continue to have high rates of defensible space in the Applegate.

In August when the Miller Complex was burning in our area, our Fire Chief McLaughlin worked alongside *three* different Incident Commanders (ICs) on the numerous fires. Every one of the ICs commented on our defensible space efforts!

One of them told Chief McLaughlin that "I have never seen a community have such defensible space around their residences as I have seen here in the Applegate, and it sure saved us a lot of work, not to mention freeing up resources to fight the fire instead of prepping properties."

Friends and neighbors, this compliment is something *we all* should be proud of. We have learned from past fires and we've taken advantage of lessons learned from other communities, not to mention the grants made available over the years! We appreciate the environment in which we live. As a result, doing annual fuels maintenance has become second nature to us here in the Applegate.

In my opinion, the Sonoma fires in October were the result of many combined social and physical changes over time that ripened the landscape for fire. I truly hope Sonomans can and will change as they begin to rebuild their lives and their neighborhoods.

To you, my neighbors in the most beautiful place in the world, I say "Pat yourselves on the back!" We are extraordinary here in the Applegate—let's keep it that way!

Sandy Shaffer

sassyoneor@gmail.com

<sup>(1)</sup>The Washington Post, October 18, 2017, Opinions: "Santa Rosa ignored nature's warning" by Gaye LeBaron, columnist for *The Press Democrat* in Santa Rosa, California.



**The Pit Stop**  
COFFEE & SNACK SHOP  
7386 Hwy 238 Jacksonville OR 97530  
541-899-STOP (7867)  
FUEL FOR THE HUMAN RACE



**EL ARRIERO**  
MEXICAN FAMILY RESTAURANT  
2366 WEST MAIN ST. MEDFORD, OR 97501 (541) 245-5872  
235 BARNETT ROAD MEDFORD, OR 97504 (541) 245-6778



ROADS - PADS - TERRACES  
ALL TYPES 8' FENCE  
WATER STORAGE SOLUTIONS  
BRUSH / FUELS REDUCTION  
STORM DAMAGE REPAIR  
DRIVEWAYS - CULVERTS - DITCHES  
PROJECT DESIGN & CONSULT  
CCB# 201660  
www.excavationoregon.com  
**541-890-5553**

12800 WILLIAMS HWY—APPLEGATE VALLEY—238 HWY BETWEEN PROVOLT STORE & WATER GAP RD



**Whistling Duck Farm Store**  
PROVOLT OREGON  
541-761-6772 | whistlingduckfarm.com | OPEN ALL YEAR | M-F:10-7 | S-S:11-5  
Natural foods & goods · Farmstead Ferments · Oregon Coast fish · Locally produced fine foods · Organic produce

## OPINIONS

**River Right | Good government, good parks**

BY TOM CARSTENS

This summer I visited Alaska's Gates of the Arctic National Park. While there, I took an exciting ten-day canoe trip paddling a wild John River through the Brooks Mountain Range. This is not a park in the traditional sense. For one thing, it's huge—about the size of Switzerland. For another, it's not very accessible—you can reach it only by bush plane. There are no roads, no trails, no infrastructure, and no human settlements. The grizzlies and the wolves are in charge.

Parks have always been a big part of my family's life. Over six decades, we've visited most of the national parks and many state parks throughout the nation. As much as Americans debate the proper role of government, I think most will agree that parks administration is justified. Our National Park Service issues a variety of inexpensive passes. Some are free—to disabled Americans, military personnel and their families, certain volunteers, and fourth graders. (Fourth graders? Who knew?) Check it out at [nps.gov/planyourvisit/passes.htm](http://nps.gov/planyourvisit/passes.htm).

We are fortunate here in Oregon to enjoy one of the nation's finest state park systems. It's easily accessible, well kept, and affordable. Did you know that Oregon's state parks and campgrounds are free for our disabled vets? What a thoughtful gesture! You can find out more about our state parks at [oregonstateparks.org](http://oregonstateparks.org).

Parks are one of the most beneficial services a government can offer to its citizens. They entice us to get active and outdoors. They provide a refreshing break



Sunday swimmers enjoy the Applegate River at Cantrall Buckley Park. (Photo: Tom Carstens.)

from our hectic, self-absorbed lives. They're family-friendly and hassle-free—just pack a lunch or a fishing pole and you're ready to go. Egalitarian by design, parks welcome citizens from all walks of life and different cultures. And far from being government giveaways, parks are generally financed by their own patrons. They form a model for the libertarian philosophy.

Here in the Applegate Valley, Jackson and Josephine County Parks fit this model: both are largely off-budget, funded almost entirely by park fees. Several of these lovely parks are located on the banks of the Rogue River. Paddlers use them to put in, take out, camp, or just have lunch. They're a delight: well-tended, user-friendly, and respectful of their natural environment.

And both counties offer inexpensive annual passes to the public.

In the past few years, Jackson County Parks has really stepped up to the plate. They've expanded the park system and run it like a business. Off the tax rolls for the past nine years, Jackson County parks are popular and self-sufficient. Have you visited any of these parks lately? They're top of the line.

This was not the case in 1996, when Jackson County's dependence on dwindling timber revenues forced the shutdown of several parks. This included our own Cantrall Buckley Park, one of the few public access points to the Applegate River—enjoyed by recreational paddlers for generations. Not surprisingly, the



Tom Carstens

Applegate Valley community rallied. For the last two decades, literally hundreds of volunteers have joined with the Park Committee to keep Cantrall Buckley open and vibrant. That they were successful was due in no small part to the hard work and skill of superintendent Rick Barclay, who somehow managed to keep things rolling on a shoestring budget.

Jackson County Parks, now robust and solvent, has come full circle and offered to resume its rightful role as park manager. Facing higher costs, an aging staff, and inefficiencies of scale, A Greater Applegate (formerly GACDC) accepted the offer. The Cantrall Buckley Park Committee will continue to support community projects in the park while the county promises a first-class enterprise. This is a new and exciting chapter in an already great story.

We'll paddle on.

Tom Carstens • 541-846-1025

*Note: Almost five years ago, J.D. Rogers, then editor of the Applegater, approached me about writing a conservative column to give some balance to the opinion section. I readily agreed—as long I had something to contribute. It's been a lot of fun and I've learned a lot. And I'm grateful that no one has toilet papered my house yet! I'm feeling less of a firebrand lately, so maybe it's time to deep-six this column to the bottom of the river. I hope to continue reporting for this wonderful paper in ways more suited to my newfound tranquility. Maybe another skeptical conservative will pick up the torch.*

**A summer of beneficial wildfire in the Applegate Valley**

BY LUKE RUEDIGER

On August 14, 2017, a spectacular lightning storm lit 25 small fires in the Applegate watershed. Within days most of those fires had either burned themselves out or were contained by fire-suppression crews. Of the original 25 fires, four smoldered and crept through fuels in the steep rugged terrain of the Upper Applegate. They grew slowly on the densely wooded slopes near Grayback Mountain, above Palmer Creek Road, and in the Middle Fork of the Applegate River. These fires, the Creedence, Burnt Peak, Seattle and Abney Fires, eventually became the Miller Complex. Over the course of 70 days, the Miller Complex burned nearly 40,000 acres in some of the Applegate's most remote backcountry, including the Kangaroo, Condrey Mountain and Collings-Kinney roadless areas, and the Red Buttes Wilderness.

Fire-suppression crews tried in vain to extinguish these stubborn blazes, but the terrain was just too steep, rocky,

and dangerous. Crews dealt with rolling boulders, logs, and both falling green trees and snags throughout the fire area. They built handline and prepared logging roads, but on numerous occasions, roll-out (burning material falling downhill) continued to fall across containment lines and the fires continued to grow.

Fire crews were spread thin across the west when the Miller Complex began, and our local fires, at that time far from homes, were some of the lowest priorities in the region. Fire managers worked to protect local communities and keep fire crews safe while steering the fires away from private timberland and protecting important habitats and natural values. They simply did not have the crews and resources available to contain the fires.

Thankfully, the fires were burning at low severity, maintaining healthy forest conditions and reintroducing fire into areas where it has long been suppressed. Burning predominantly in healthy, old

forest, the fire burned mostly in the understory, aided by a dense inversion layer. The inversion trapped smoke in the canyon bottoms, holding moisture, cooling the ambient air temperature, and reducing air movement, which all worked to limit fire severity. Despite the impact to local communities, which was significant, the smoke helped moderate fire intensity and maintain the beautiful forested habitat we enjoy in the Applegate Valley. The smoke was both a blessing and a curse, although most have only cursed it.

After enduring the long, smoke-filled summer of 2017, we have received the blessing of natural, characteristic fire. Our forests have been fertilized with rich mineral ash and armored with nature's fuel reduction. Our wildlife will feast on the new grass and fresh woody shoots sprouting from burned-off hardwoods and chaparral. Hollows burned in large, old-growth trees will become protection for winter's slumbering bears or natal dens for the Pacific fisher. Fire-scorched snags will both feed and house generations of woodpeckers and songbirds. Rich fields of flowering plants will carpet the burned soil, providing better habitat for many pollinators such as hummingbirds, butterflies, and native bees next spring.

Fire is a natural process, as much a part of the Applegate Valley as acorns on the oak trees, salmon in our streams, and towering pine trees. The return of fire brings renewal and life to a landscape intentionally starved of fire for decades. In fact, many plants have already sprouted back, transforming the white ash into green, verdant regrowth.



Low-severity understory fire on Kinney Creek in the Burnt Peak Fire. (Photo: Luke Ruediger.)

The Miller Complex Fire allowed the long-suppressed natural process of fire to once again create a multitude of ecological benefits. The forests of the Siskiyou Mountains are well adapted to wildfire, and the fire effects in the Miller Complex have been both characteristic and beneficial. Properly managed wildfire and intentionally lit prescribed fires are the most effective tools for maintaining healthy, fire-adapted plant communities and protecting nearby human communities from the threat of uncharacteristic wildfire.

The Miller Complex demonstrates that forests across the Applegate watershed can sustain healthy, mixed-severity fire, despite decades of fire suppression. The current rhetoric of catastrophic fire is a false narrative based more on fear than reality. When you actually walk and explore contemporary wildfires in the Klamath-Siskiyou Mountains, you will find more renewal than destruction and more life than death. These fires are not destroying our forests; they are making them healthy and whole again.

Luke Ruediger • 541-890-8974  
Applegate Neighborhood Network

**HIGH SCHOOL REPORTER WANTED**

*Great experience and volunteer opportunity!*

The *Applegater* wants to include information on Hidden Valley High School (HVHS) activities, events, sports, news, clubs, etc., in our quarterly newsmagazine. Any budding journalists, English majors, club members, parents, or staff members interested in representing HVHS for your local paper? The next deadline for articles is February 1.

**If you're willing and able,  
email [gater@applegater.org](mailto:gater@applegater.org).**

## OPINIONS

**Behind the Green Door | Entrenched in conflict**

BY CHRIS BRATT

With a new administration managing our country, more conflicts and attempts to dominate others seem to have erupted around the world. The added cultural, economic, and political struggles we face in the news every day have brought out increased negative emotions in many people and destroyed much of our ability to cooperate with our fellow humans.

I believe all this dissension is happening, despite mankind's so-called "higher intelligence," because we have chosen to live by a hierarchical system that gives little consideration to just and ethical principles. It is a political system that chooses unlimited population and economic growth, overuse of natural resources, and the accumulation of extreme wealth by individuals as the dominant ideas for living on the planet. Our health and prosperity are stuck in a win-lose model enforced throughout our world today.

I see many things wrong with our present social, economic, and political systems that may have taken us down the wrong path. We need some major policy changes and educational efforts that favor a more cooperative society

rather than one with never-ending conflict and fear. Perhaps we can develop a more harmonious society if we followed the more collaborative principles found in nature's intelligence and living systems.

But not all conflict is bad or unproductive. Conflict can be part of a process for positive change. For instance, many Applegate residents and groups are no strangers to conflict and disagreement over management of public forestland. Local conservationists have spent the past four decades struggling with federal land managers to find better ways to manage our public forests. Their efforts have resulted in less clear-cutting, less pesticide use, and less eradication of old-growth trees and other species. This long-term work by community members and others has caused the federal agencies to comply with our nation's environmental laws and has eliminated many destructive forest practices. Also, many of our community's ideas, objectives, and goals have been incorporated into regional forest planning and actions. This is the way conflict can work and bring about a collective success among all the concerned parties.

But today there seems to be no clear path to collaboration or cooperation. Regulatory changes, the extreme rigidity of some points of view, and lack of trust among participants are limiting our ability to work on issues that contribute to the greater good of all. My observations, as I watch people, organizations, and nations try to overcome conflict, reveal that those with the most power (military, political, economic, corporate, regulatory agency, etc.) have a distinct advantage in any collaborative decision-making process or action. These power players have more equipment, money, experts, and data to present in any collaborative effort. Unless the conflict-resolution process recognizes and overcomes these advantages, community concerns, beliefs, and values will be marginalized or dismissed.

A classic example of how we repeat or continue to be bogged down by conflict is taking place presently in the Applegate. Recently, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) discarded our well-known Applegate Adaptive Management Area Guide (AMA Guide) with no reason. For 20 years the AMA Guide provided many unsurpassed

public forest and public involvement opportunities throughout our watershed. After a sudden shake-up within the BLM, we were confronted with a new region-wide forest plan. In this new BLM forest plan, cutting a large volume of timber is the prime "purpose and need." This emphasis on the cutting of trees will certainly compromise other species and natural resources and undermine the public's ability to influence BLM decision-making.

Having abandoned what many of us considered a good forest management plan for a poor one, the BLM is now asking our community "to reset the conversation and develop a shared understanding of the situation." What the BLM means is, they have some set priorities that our community needs to understand and work under. Once again, the collaboration cards are stacked against us by more powerful forces. But I have the historical confidence that our community priorities will counterbalance those of the BLM.

Let me know your confidence level.

Chris Bratt • 541-846-6988



Chris Bratt

**Clean Energy Jobs a win-win solution for Applegate residents**

BY ALAN JOURNET

Win-win and no-regrets solutions rarely come our way, but in the Clean Energy Jobs Bill, our valley has a chance to hit that sweet spot.

Most Applegate Valley residents know that our temperature has been climbing for decades (for more information, visit [www2.usgs.gov/climate\\_landuse/clu\\_rd/nccv/viewer.asp](http://www2.usgs.gov/climate_landuse/clu_rd/nccv/viewer.asp)) bringing early snowmelt and heat waves. Less obvious is the transition from high-elevation snowfall to lower-elevation rainfall, resulting in reduced snowpack and water shortages during summer and fall. Additionally, rainfall is occurring more often as heavy downpours rather than light soil-replenishing drizzle, thus stimulating floods. Together with reducing soil moisture, these drying patterns stimulate wildfire risk. Furthermore, the trends will only become more severe unless we address their root cause: climate pollution inducing global warming.

Oregon alone cannot solve the problem, since our emissions are a small proportion of national and global totals. However, we can do our share by becoming part of the

solution rather than continuing as part of the problem. Unless we do our share, we cannot urge others around the nation and the globe to help protect our beautiful corner of paradise by doing their share.

In 2007, our legislature established statewide voluntary goals for climate pollution reduction, targeting a 70 percent reduction from the state's 1990 emissions by 2050. Regrettably, Oregon's transportation industries and utility sectors have not risen to the challenge of reducing their emissions sufficiently. Thus, we're not on a trajectory to achieve our target; voluntary measures have failed!

For several years, a statewide coalition has urged the legislature to address the issue. While they have approved studies and addressed components of the problem, legislation addressing the major sectors of the economy responsible for the climate pollution has been inadequate.

A statewide coalition of climate-concerned Oregonians, including legislators and representatives of the social-environmental justice community and labor, developed a bill that would

meet the concerns of these communities while also producing meaningful pollution reductions. The result of several years of effort, the Clean Energy Jobs Bill is a no-regrets proposal that not only addresses an urgent problem but also contains critical elements that address social justice and labor concerns and provides funds to assist rural Oregon.

The essence of the proposal involves capping statewide climate pollution emissions, including emissions resulting from electricity generated out-of-state that is purchased by Oregon. The goal is to be at least at 80 percent of 1990 levels by 2050. Rather than targeting individual polluters, the bill targets entities that emit over 25,000 metric tons annually. These major polluters are required to buy allowances that will limit their permitted pollution. Entities polluting in excess of their allowances suffer a penalty, while entities not using all allowances can trade them on the open market.

The state emissions cap is lowered annually to meet interim targets with the expectation that the auction price will rise and encourage polluters to reevaluate their energy sources. The proposal is a climate pollution cap and permitting process, not a tax.

Since low-income Oregonians would be most compromised by rising utility prices, the program provides some free allowances to utilities. These allowances are returned to the pool for sale. Funds thus generated are assigned to the utility to be used to subsidize the bills of low-income customers. These utilities must still buy allowances to cover their pollution.

Polluters can meet a small proportion of their emissions reduction goals by buying offsets, though these are limited to eight percent of emissions. Offsets comprise investments in certified activities that either reduce emissions (solar or wind farms, for example) or reduce atmospheric concentration of the pollutants (such as forests or regenerative agriculture).

States enacting climate pollution caps have exhibited economic growth that equals or outpaces the economies of neighboring states. This bill will help rural Oregon and our state's economy. Southern Oregon's representatives should support this win-win legislation. Our representatives should support this proposal.

Alan Journet

Applegate Valley resident and  
Co-Facilitator of Southern Oregon  
Climate Action Now  
[alan@socan.info](mailto:alan@socan.info)

**OPINION PIECES AND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

Opinion pieces and letters to the editor represent the opinion of the author, not that of the *Applegater* or the Applegate Valley Community Newspaper, Inc. As a community-based newsmagazine, we receive diverse opinions on different topics. We honor these opinions, but object to personal attacks and reserve the right to edit accordingly. Opinion pieces and letters to the editor **must focus on the Applegate Valley**.

Opinion pieces are limited to 700 words; letters are limited 450 words. Submissions will be edited for grammar and length. Opinion pieces **must** include publishable contact information (phone number and/or email address). All letters **must** be signed, with a full street address or PO Box and phone number. **Anonymous letters and opinion pieces will not be published.** Individual letters and opinion pieces may or may not be published.

•••

Email opinion pieces and letters to the editor to [gater@applegater.org](mailto:gater@applegater.org) or mail to *Applegater*, Applegate Valley Community Newspaper, Inc., PO Box 14, Jacksonville, OR 97530.

**BORED?**

Check out the new Applegate Valley Connect calendar with events all over southwest Oregon.

[applegateconnect.org](http://applegateconnect.org)



Happy Holidays to all  
from the  
Applegater Team.

May 2018 bring peace, joy,  
and prosperity!





## Offensive Water

with Tami Quinn Hollenbeck

Every home deserves the right filtration system to provide good quality water. As your professional WaterCare dealer, we can determine the precise home filtration systems to fix your needs. (And we will test your water for Free!)

Your home is probably the biggest investment you will make in your life. It is important to protect your investment.

You don't have to drink bottled water. You don't have to worry that you family or friends will be offended by your well water when they go to take a shower.

Nuisance iron and hydrogen sulfide minerals can really cause havoc in your home. We have systems that will self-clean using only air and water to backwash and flush the system of iron, sulfur, and other well water contaminants.

WaterCare Filtration systems are the solution to your pesky water problems! Call us today for more information!

*Water is a geological cocktail, so DRINK MORE WATER!*



**WELL PUMP & FILTRATION SERVICE**

Call us Mon. - Fri. 8 - 5, you'll have a live person answer the phone that is ready to help you!

Quinn's Well, Pump and Water Filtration is located at 6811 Williams Hwy. We install, maintain and repair complete water pumping systems, and we offer a complete line of water filtration equipment. Contact our professional staff by phone, e-mail, or visit our office. [www.quinnswell.com](http://www.quinnswell.com) CCB #192047

**541-862-9355**  
**541-772-7867**

## Local fruit-tree propagation effort

BY BRAD SMITH

Oregon's propagation fairs started with a humble seed swap in Eugene, hosted by Eugene's permaculture guild. Over the years the seed swap became the Lane County Propagation Fair, combining a seed swap, a scion exchange, and skill-sharing presentations centered around food plants, regenerative soil building, and building community resilience. This evolution has now resulted in a series of propagation fairs throughout Oregon every March and April, including one here in our valley.

These events provide visitors with a good selection of free scion wood. Scion is the fresh growth on fruit-tree branches (usually pruned off anyway). Once you select your variety, you can either take the scion home and graft it or have professional on-site grafters make the artful union onto rootstock for a small fee. You can walk away with some rare varieties of apple, pear, plum, cherry, medlar, grape, figs, and more.

These events are the perfect place to freely share cuttings of your favorite food plants.

The propagation fair organizers decided to decentralize the annual event in order to diversify our plant material sources so we won't have to depend on large, at-risk collections.

Our propagation material has mostly come from the legendary Nick Botner in Yoncalla, Oregon. Mr. Botner has over 4,000 varieties of apples alone. He has allowed us access to his orchard over the years, so our team has been able to observe it being progressively overtaken by anthracnose fungal disease. We also noticed the varieties that were showing resilience in the wake of this fungal infestation creeping across the northwest.

We need those of you who have good fruit trees to allow us to take a handful of cuttings in January or February to be shared freely at these events the following months. Our local Propagation Fair will



be held in March 2018 at the Williams Grange. Stay tuned for an exact date.

Although we started calling ourselves Agrarian Sharing Network (ASN), we're still just a loose-knit collective of folks that could include you too. Our aim is to enhance the availability of fruit diversity, counter to the trend of restricting access through bureaucracy inherent in a kakistocracy. It's up to the people to plant the future.

To be on the mailing list or be part of this 100 percent participant-driven effort, email [propagationfair@gmail.com](mailto:propagationfair@gmail.com) or write to ASN, PO Box 346, Williams, OR 97544.

Brad Smith  
[feralseed@unseen.is](mailto:feralseed@unseen.is)

### ■ DENNIS DRAGON

*Continued from page 2*

recordings and held himself and his clients to the highest standards. His studio offered the warm sound of bygone days, the days when sound and delivery was all there was.

We were involved in the filming of Dennis's brainchild television pilot, *Podunk Today*, a pretty genius talk/variety/music show about what it is to live out here in this environment. The host was Vince Herman of Leftover Salmon and we were the house band. There may be a memorial release of it in the near future.

In this fast-paced, modern-day society, where quantity often tops quality, Dennis Dragon was such a valuable resource and an irreplaceable character. He was as open-minded as he was stubborn. In the same way that some have trouble working under genius directors, working with Dennis was an exercise in excellence. I am honored to have had the pleasure!

Our song, "Heroes Unsung," was the last song to be recorded at the studio at Pacifica on September 25, 2017.

Aurelia Anne Cohen  
[booking@intuitive-compass.com](mailto:booking@intuitive-compass.com)



### Feeling the day turn

It was three or four years ago, and we were sitting on Enderts Beach in Crescent City. "Did you feel it?" Dennis asked. I had just felt it. Yes, I really had.

It happened at the hottest point of the day, when you could suddenly feel the sun going in the other direction. The day had peaked, and we had both felt that moment together.

The ocean is the place to feel such a shift. No one had ever spoken about this before; I had never even read about it. But, of course, such things exist. It's such a magical thing to feel the turning of the day!

Thanks, Dennis, for this great memory and so many others! You are much loved and missed.

Laura Zukowski  
[zukiezukie@gmail.com](mailto:zukiezukie@gmail.com)



I met "The Dragon" several years ago when I was looking for a studio to record some of my new songs.

Dennis was a very intense person with a great, dark, humorous side to him that I

related to. We had a lot of laughs working on that project. Where else but in the Applegate could I trade my homemade V8 juice for some extra studio time?

Through Dennis, I met some topnotch musicians with whom I still work. And the songs on my CD, *Just Like You*, that Dennis produced became a major hit five feet either side of my mailbox.

Johnny Trujillo, who coproduced with Dennis and played bass guitar on *Just Like You*, became a great friend and is producing my new CD. We laid down 12 rhythm tracks with Dennis engineering. Dennis was shocked when we knocked out eight tracks in one day. He called me many times after that session to tell me that my song "Twinkie Lips" was "the one." Then he'd laugh and ask how I came up with the lyrics.

Well, "Twinkie Lips" will be dedicated to you, Dennis, in that big mixing board in the great beyond.

J.D. Rogers • 541-846-7736



We miss you, Dennis.

Your unique creativity and willingness to help will always be in our hearts. Our world will be a smaller and sadder place without you.

Ray and Peg Prag  
Pacifica Garden  
[peg@pacificagarden.org](mailto:peg@pacificagarden.org)

**local color**

It all comes together at the Co-op.

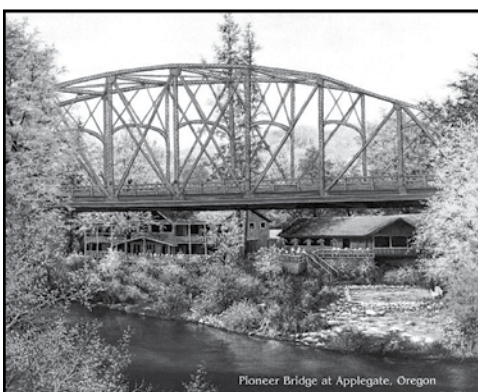
**coop**  
stronger together

Ashland Food Cooperative  
237 N. First, Ashland, OR • 541-482-2237

**Let our advertisers know that you saw their ad in the Applegater.**

• • •

**Support our local businesses!**



Pioneer Bridge at Applegate, Oregon

**Applegate River Ranch Lodge & Restaurant**

Restaurant open 4 - 9 pm, Wednesday - Sunday  
Lodge open 7 days a week  
Wednesday Night Live Music, open till 11 pm  
Local musicians jam in restaurant on Sunday

Lodge 541-846-6690  
Restaurant 541-846-6082  
Wedding/Special Events 541-660-0244  
[www.applegateriverlodge.com](http://www.applegateriverlodge.com)

**SALON**

**238**

**Sandy Reynolds**  
Owner - Stylist  
Color, Weaves, Perms,  
Women's & Men's Haircuts  
7390 Hwy 238 • Ruch, OR 97530  
Tuesday - Saturday  
Call for an appointment today!

**541-899-7660 • Like us on Facebook**

**OBITUARIES continued**

**Bridget Marie Nilson**

February 23, 1966 - June 24, 2017

Bridget Marie Nilson, 51, passed away on June 24, 2017, at Rogue Regional Medical Center in Medford, Oregon. Bridget was born February 23, 1966, to Larry A. Nilson and Wendy Ann Nilson in Bremerton, Washington. She graduated from Molalla High School in Molalla, Oregon, and attended Oregon State University.



to make everything clear. My life is infinitely richer from my friendship with her. Bridget was a light in my world. She made magic from the simplest ingredients—a life beautifully lived.

—Stacy Lund

Our amazing, loving, openhearted, sweet Bridget. A great appreciator of people, nature, and animals. She was truly a force of nature. So unique,

Bridget developed a deep passion for horses during her early childhood and, for the past 25 years, was a professional horse trainer and riding instructor. Bridget's style of living was always off the beaten track. The last several years of her life she lived in her beautiful home on Joe Bar over the California border along Elliot Creek.

Bridget is survived by her father and stepmother, Annie Nilson, of Medford. She was preceded in death by her mother and brothers, Eric and Ryan.

Bridget is the best friend I've ever had. She suffered the most profound, unfair loss of her family as a young woman, and from the ashes of her suffering emerged the bravest, truest, kindest person I have ever known.

When you were with her, she was with you, completely. She possessed the rarest gift: the ability to give you her perfect attention, to feel with you your suffering, and to celebrate your joy.

She knew how to stretch and mine every earthly pleasure possible from an afternoon at a secret swimming hole or a beautiful meal. She wasted nothing. She made the ordinary, extraordinary—I wouldn't be the first to call it magic.

Her commitment to being true to herself and living in integrity with the earth, people, and animals showed in every detail of her life. She left with little evidence of having been here, no debts or unfinished business. Just a huge amount of love and gratitude in the hearts of the many people whose lives she touched.

—Amber Guient

Few people who come into your life forever change you. For me, Bridget was one of those people. From the day we met I felt she was someone special. She brought beauty, adventure, and courage into the center of my world. She found inspiration everywhere. When shared with Bridget, meals, walks, and ordinary moments took on a sentiment of praise.

Bridget possessed true generosity of spirit, which she extended to strangers, acquaintances, and the many fortunate to know her as a friend. I admired her presence, sensibility, tenderness, her ability

beautiful, and rare. She was the queen of savoring life in its finest, being true to oneself, and dancing with unbridled abandon. And she had the special gift of being with you wherever you were.

Because of Bridget's friendship I learned how to be a better friend. She demanded we look at ourselves as much as she searched her own reflection. When I celebrated, she was my biggest cheerleader. When I felt I'd failed, she was there to say "It's okay" in that soft, sweet Bridget voice that I will always remember. I'm forever grateful to have known her. Love you B, ride free in the sky. —Ellen Cohen

Bridget the horse trainer would say: "Use as little as possible but as much as it takes." It was her formula for life. She was not only a horse whisperer, but a good friend who stood wholly present as she witnessed and guided us through life's struggles. By pushing "as little as possible but as much as it takes," she offered each of us the ability to grow both within ourselves and alongside her. Although that growth was not always comfortable, it came with deep rewards. Her formula for life and her carefree style gave Bridget the freedom and love for life that let her soar. She left behind many grateful horses and friends ready to embrace what is in front of us.

—Deborah Buoy

I met Bridget 13 years ago. She was sitting at the McKee Bridge bar wearing Wranglers and a pink cowgirl shirt. I plopped down next to her and the first thing she asked me was if I shaved my legs. We compared leg hair and I was sold.

Bridget was so uniquely Bridget. She radiated authenticity and enriched my life beyond words through her love, care, and ability to be the most dedicated friend I could imagine. Her friends received her complete attention.

Despite life's challenges, Bridget became the most beautiful flower, like the Washington lilies blooming behind her house the day she passed. Maybe that's why she was here such a short time: to hit us hard with her love and uniqueness, then leave us with it, raw and unfiltered.

Allie Parkin • mineekhoorn@gmail.com

**Clyde Clarence Wilson Jr.**

February 11, 1942 - September 26, 2017

Clyde Clarence Wilson Jr., 75, passed away in his sleep on September 26, 2017. He was born on February 11, 1942, in Lindsay, California, to Clyde C. and Gineva Y. (Wright) Wilson. He never met a stranger and was always welcoming and engaged.



morning walks with our dogs. When his wife, Andrea, passed away last year, Clyde and his dogs were frequent visitors to our home. Clyde's sense of humor was catching. He always had something comical to share and kept us laughing during our visits. But he was serious about politics and didn't

hide his biases. He wasn't afraid to speak out and always had something pertinent to say on any subject. The loves of his life were Andrea, his dogs, Wilson and Winston, and his work with the Rogue Gem & Geology Club. Clyde was always talking about how he loved visiting children in classrooms to share his knowledge of rocks and gems. Bill Strickland, president of the Rogue Gem & Geology Club, said, "For those of us who had the delightful opportunity to spend time with Clyde, his profound and contagious love of rocks was clearly evident to all age groups. His eyes sparkled and his face radiated when speaking about rocks. He gave sunstones to folks in the hospital during his last week with us, and they, too, experienced the joy Clyde felt for the earth, as thousands of children in the Grants Pass area can attest to."

He graduated from Lindsay High School in Lindsay, California, in 1960. After serving in the US Air Force from 1961 to 1981, he furthered his education, receiving two associates degrees as he moved from missile technician to computer programming and scheduling. Clyde most recently worked at Harry & David in computer programming and was previously employed at CP National and Sterling Business Forms.

Clyde was preceded in death by his wife, Andrea, and parents, Clyde Wilson Sr. and Gineva. He is survived by his sons Eric (Deanna) Wilson of Portland and Chris (Kristine) Wilson of Lynden, Washington; his sister, Pat Bray, of Tulare, California; his grandchildren, Elizabeth, Ashley, Katherine, and Robert; and his nieces and other relatives.

While no memorial service will be held, the family appreciates those who have been a part of Clyde's life. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations to benefit American veterans.

Clyde Wilson was a good friend and neighbor to many of us on Thompson Creek Road in Applegate. My friendship with him began years ago when he and Andrea shared stories around the tables at Ruch Library while folding the Applegaters for mailing, and our friendship grew on

wasn't afraid to speak out and always had something pertinent to say on any subject.

The loves of his life were Andrea, his dogs, Wilson and Winston, and his work with the Rogue Gem & Geology Club. Clyde was always talking about how he loved visiting children in classrooms to share his knowledge of rocks and gems.

Bill Strickland, president of the Rogue Gem & Geology Club, said, "For those of us who had the delightful opportunity to spend time with Clyde, his profound and contagious love of rocks was clearly evident to all age groups. His eyes sparkled and his face radiated when speaking about rocks. He gave sunstones to folks in the hospital during his last week with us, and they, too, experienced the joy Clyde felt for the earth, as thousands of children in the Grants Pass area can attest to."

If any of you have been on the receiving end of one of Clyde's rocks or gems, treasure it. It is a reminder of a wonderful man who will be missed.

Joan Peterson • 541-846-6988

Clyde was my next-door neighbor for 29 years. Over those years, we dealt with deer poachers, trespassers, kooks, bears, and lions—not to mention potlucks, laughs, and stories.

He would tell me about taking care of the nuke missiles when he was stationed at the air force base in Minot, North Dakota, when it was 50 degrees below zero. I could picture Clyde sitting on top of one of those nukes polishing its nose to a glorious shine.

Clyde and his late wife, Andrea, were very involved with the Applegater from its start. If they weren't on some back trail with their pack llamas, they'd be stuffing Applegaters into bulk mail bags.

Clyde was a great neighbor who will be missed.

J.D. Rogers • 541-846-7736

**Advertisers!**

For rates and other information, contact:  
**Ron Turpen**  
541-601-1867  
ronaldaturpen@gmail.com

**Next deadline: February 1**

**Grants Pass Water Lab**

Eric Schaafsma  
Technical Director  
eric@gpwaterlab.com

541-476-0733  
Fax 541-476-8132

964 SE "M" Street  
Grants Pass, OR 97526

**KT Reich Cleaning**  
Free estimates and \$25.00 off your second cleaning.

**ENJOY LIFE** Leave the cleaning to us

Office (541) 899-4497  
sales@ktreich.com

nomorecleaning.com

PO Box 292  
Jacksonville, OR 97530

**EYE CARE FOR YOU**

**Jacksonville Vision Clinic**  
Julie D. Danielson, O.D.

(541) 899-2020

950 North Fifth Street  
Jacksonville, OR 97530

Breakfast-Lunch-Dinner  
Microbrews on tap  
Pizza

**CAFÉ RUCH**  
CONVENIENCE STORE

181 Upper Applegate  
Jacksonville, OR 97530

(541) 703-2220

**NEXT GENERATION**

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

**Holiday season at Ruch School**

While the holiday season conjures up images of making time for a cup of hot chocolate, snuggling on the sofa with a favorite blanket and book, making gift lists so no one is left out on Christmas morning, and picking out that perfect outfit for New Year's Eve, students at Ruch Community School are on another mission!

Knowing that there are families out there who are hungry, uncared for, and unsheltered, students are embarking on one of their most important tasks of the year. Beaming with pride and contentment, knowing deep in their hearts they will be making a difference, students are creating, organizing, and orchestrating activities and opportunities to serve their community. Check out what our students are doing!

- Filling backpacks with school supplies and stuffed animals to be sent to children affected by the storms
- Identifying families who are in need of the basic ingredients to provide a Thanksgiving meal and collecting food to distribute
- Visiting elderly residents and sharing holiday stories, while sipping hot chocolate
- Collecting gifts for children to deliver over the Christmas break
- Engaging in lessons about *empathy* to help them understand the plight of some of our families and residents
- Visiting shelters to help serve meals to those who are hungry and homeless

It seems like the holiday season brings out the best in people, but students at Ruch engage in service-learning projects year-round. It is an ongoing process to determine the needs of our community members and groups and identify what it is that we, as a school, can provide.



*Ruch first grader Bowin Pitari visits Pioneer Village residents.*

By focusing on making these kids stewards of their environment and contributing citizens, we are increasing the sustainability, health, and wellness of our area. We are talking real, person-to-person giving, about really reaching out and helping our fellow human beings, about enriching others' lives without worrying about enriching our own.

From Ruch Community School to all of you, *happy holidays!*

Julie Barry

Principal, Ruch School  
541-842-3850

julie.barry@medford.k12.or.us

**Ruch School and the arts**

Two years ago, a team of educators gathered in Chile to address the world's education crisis. They determined, among other things, that "by the year 2030, less than half of the world's children will be considered educated." Which brings me to my story.

My husband, William, and I recently moved from the central coast of California and bought a home on the Applegate River. We came here with the intention of retiring. We were going to "slow down" and enter into the kinds of things retired folks do.

William had worked 28 years as a creative director with a large advertising firm on Madison Avenue in New York City, and I had spent the last 18 years of my career traveling around the country addressing educators and legislators about the importance of including performing and visual arts in their budgets and weekly curriculum.

In the Applegate, I heard some neighbors brag about a little school, called Ruch Community School, just 10 miles down the road. My curiosity was piqued, so I met with the school's administrator, Julie Barry. I had no idea if they had a current visual arts teacher, but I felt the nudge to find out. This is key: *ask!*

Julie informed me that the school's art teacher was stepping down and they were in need of another. My degree is in K-12 arts education, and when our daughters were young I was the art teacher at their school. This sounded like a good fit.

Julie walked me around the Ruch campus and introduced me to several students. It became immediately apparent to me that this little gem of a school had not only a welcoming feel but also an atmosphere of excitement for learning.

In my previous career, I saw many statistics and graphs concerning which states in our nation spent money on arts programs and which ones did not. Oregon, like California, has a poor track record for supporting the arts on a weekly basis at the elementary level. In middle school, Oregon students have more electives to select from, and some schools actually do have full-time arts educators.

Most high schools are likely to provide a broader arts program. The catch here, of course, is that if students are not given the basic fundamentals of art at an earlier age, their comfort level might be lacking and they may be more likely to select an elective other than art. We all lean toward the subjects in which we feel strongest and tend to avoid the areas in which we may feel deficient. Therein lies our nation's general lack of comfort when it comes to art, art history, and individual creativity.

Many Applegaters are familiar with the story of how Ruch Community School nearly closed. This community rallied to save it and continues to lend its support. Today, this rural school continues to provide a level of excellence to all children



*Second-grade art class with instructor Cheryl Whitney.*



*Ceramic art piece created by first-grade student.*

who live in the greater Applegate area. The school's PTO manages funds from an annual auction that supports unique and needed programs, including the visual and performing arts at Ruch School.

**Applegate Valley welcomes two new school leaders****Phil Centers**

Administrator, Woodland Charter School

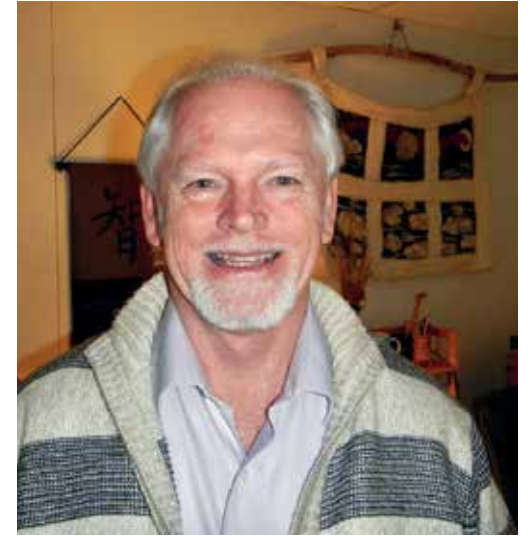
**Background:** A former marine, Phil has spent the majority of his adult life teaching in the Waldorf system, except for a stint in the business world. He has taught many years internationally. He comes to the Applegate from Monterey, where he was a principal at another Waldorf Charter School.

**Family:** Phil's wife, Juliane, is currently teaching in a Waldorf school in Sudan. They have two adult children, both college graduates.

**Immediate Challenge:** Finding additional funding for improving systems and structures.

**Outlook:** With family in Oregon, Phil says he's glad to be back. He finds the beauty of the Rogue Valley "nourishing for the soul," and finds the Applegate to be a great social community, especially the parents and kids.

**Guiding philosophy:** Maintaining a high standard for teachers.



*Phil Centers. (Photo: Tom Carstens.)*

**Steven Fuller**

Principal, Applegate and Williams Schools

**Background:** Steven came to teaching from the financial industry, making the switch at age 40. He's been teaching at Redwood Elementary in Grants Pass for the past 10 years. This is his first administrative position. He enjoys working in the Three Rivers School District, which he says has been very supportive of him in his new job.

**Family:** Steven and his wife, Robin, live in Grants Pass. They have three adult sons, all of whom are college graduates and gainfully employed.

**Immediate Challenge:** Getting to know the community.

**Outlook:** Steven is delighted to be a part of the Applegate. He says he's never seen such robust citizen involvement in community affairs, particularly among the parents and kids. "Working with families is exciting," says Steven.

**Guiding philosophy:** "All kids can learn!"

*Note: Darrell Erb Jr., the former principal of Applegate and Williams schools, is now at Lorna Byrne Middle School in Cave Junction. We appreciated his support of the Applegater over the years and wish him the best in his new position.*



*Steven Fuller. (Photo: Tom Carstens.)*

Every Wednesday, the art curriculum at Ruch School focuses on the basic elements and principals of art, introducing students to a variety of mediums and to famous artists. Each class opens with a song that lists the elements: line, shape, color, value, form, texture, and space. Students must evaluate their artwork and to be fluent in art vocabulary. Individual expression is encouraged and welcomed. At the close of the year, the school invites the community to view the culmination of students' efforts at the Annual Art Fair.

My opening statement about the condition of the world's education might seem like another tough statistic about what bad shape our planet is in. That was not my intention. Rather, it was a cry.

We have an amazing group of parents and volunteers who show up weekly at Ruch Community School. These volunteers come from many walks of life and represent many ages. We also have an amazing group of kids. When we teach to their hearts, their minds will follow. For our students to see the support of this community and feel loved and cared for, is an enormous thing. We need to invite students to use their hearts and souls to continually define and refine themselves. That's how they'll learn to believe in themselves, and in others.

Cheryl Whitney  
Art Instructor  
Ruch Community School  
artsmartz22@gmail.com

## Woodland Charter School celebrates the seasons

Entering our sixth year at Woodland Charter School, we have begun to really settle into our beautiful campus adjacent to Hidden Valley High School in



students with skills, like focusing on a target and refining hand-eye coordination. At our annual Harvest Faire, children also experienced seed saving, leather

Murphy, Oregon. Now we find ourselves eager to move beyond our rental buildings into sustainably crafted, permanent buildings that echo the beauty of the landscape. We envision our joyful students surrounded by bountiful orchards, sunlit classrooms nestled amid permaculture gardens, and a wonderful multipurpose building housing a gym, kitchen, and special subjects classrooms.

Woodland Charter School is a Waldorf-methods public charter school for grades one through eight, serving children from Ruch to Rogue River, Wilderville to Williams. Our curriculum integrates the arts with the academics as we strive to educate the heart, head, and hands, nourishing the whole child to develop self-confident students ready to find their places in the world. This year we have expanded our program and now have openings in some of our classes.

New to Woodland this year, Administrator Phil Centers brings a wealth of experience to our school (see article on page 22). Working with our outstanding team of teachers, Phil has already launched a student support system to further boost Woodland academics. In his introductory letter to the Woodland families, Phil wrote, "With deep roots in holistic education, I am committed to the well-being, healthy development, and success of children. I approach education as I do life—as a researcher, and the journey of discovery as a fascinating adventure! This innate quality has been strengthened as a result of my training and experience over the years, which have been cross-disciplinary, diverse, and transformative. I love working with students, parents, colleagues, council members, and the wider community to make education come alive for each and every student so that each may realize her or his full potential."

### Harvest Faire

An arrow pierces a handmade target in our upper field as a student practices archery at our Harvest Faire. Games help

crafting, and an Abundance Mandala of organic garden delights donated by the community. Festival life is an integral part of Waldorf education as we recognize and celebrate the rhythm of the seasons.

### Winter Faire

Woodland's winter faire is a cultural event as well as a school fundraiser. This year's event, Winter in the Woodlands, will feature handcrafts, such as handmade candles and tin ornaments, plus the gift of song from students, a secret gift room, and holiday shopping with local vendors and artisans. Winter in the Woodlands will be held on December 16, from 10 am - 2 pm, at Pacifica in Williams.

### May Faire

As the weather warms, May Faire brings the children outdoors adorned with floral crowns for a lovely spring dance around the Maypole. Parent volunteers create craft and activity booths for the children. From the making of flags to the crafting of clay pots and lavender wands, children refine their abilities as they grow. Many donors, from individuals to local organic farms and businesses, have been very generous in their offerings of materials and funds. Thank you!

### Spring Soirée

Woodland's Spring Soirée shines as an amazing success each year. We invite you to join us on April 28, 2018, at the Josephine County Fairgrounds Floral Building for an evening of music, dinner, drinks, and spectacular silent and live auctions.

Tickets for events are available through the school office by calling 541-846-4246.

For more information, please visit our website at [woodlandcharterschool.org](http://woodlandcharterschool.org).

Michelle LaFave Charter Council Member  
michelle.lafave@woodlandcharterschool.org

Christine Leonard Faculty Member  
christine.leonard@woodlandcharterschool.org



Local rancher shares sheep-shearing wisdom with third graders before shearing the sheep. (Photo: Christine Leonard.)



Applegate School JV volleyball team members. Back row from left: Sierra Fimbres, Kali Linn, Jasmine Noland, Zeyna DiBiasi, Izabella Haning, coach Diana West. Front row from left: Freyja Moeves, Hailey West, Natalia Sahr, Rachel Peterson, Autumn Koch. (Photo: Jim Ingraham.)

## Applegate School volleyball team scores again!

This was my first time ever doing a job like coaching. (I am currently the kitchen manager at Applegate School.) But when I heard the school needed a volleyball coach, I thought I would try for the position. My daughter was the main motivating factor in this decision. I want her to play school sports and to have pride in her school.

I took on the coaching position, and this season, we won six games and lost two. A varsity volleyball tournament in which we played was hosted by Ruch School and South Medford High School, with five teams competing. The Applegate School volleyball team won the Southern Oregon Middle School Athletic Conference (SOMSAC) small schools girls volleyball 2017 sportsmanship award, which was presented at Central Medford High School.

Overall, I think we did amazing. Six of the girls on our team have never played volleyball before, but I am glad they put themselves out there and gave it a try. The experience was very rewarding for everyone, and I look forward to gaining more experience throughout the next year for our 2018-2019 season.

Diana West  
Volleyball Coach, Applegate School  
diana.west@threerivers.k12.or.us

## Upgrade your home or business with a discounted ductless heating system

Applegate residents and businesses have an opportunity to learn about and purchase a discounted ductless heat pump system as part of a community-based energy efficiency campaign called Energize Rogue. The final chance to participate is at a free workshop on December 5 in Grants Pass.

Ductless heat pumps are highly efficient zonal heating and cooling systems that use 25 to 50 percent less energy than traditional electric heating systems. They have at least one head unit inside, usually placed high on the wall, a compressor placed outside, and a refrigerant line connecting the two. Because there are no ducts, these systems are often easily installed within a day.

Savings are considerable. In addition to a discounted group-purchase price and lower utility bills, residences served by Pacific Power may qualify for \$800 to \$1,000 in cash rebates through the Energy Trust of Oregon, if upgrading from another electric heat source. Oregon Residential Energy Tax Credits of 50 percent off the equipment cost are also available, if purchased before December 31, 2017.

Energize Rogue is funded by a USDA Rural Business Development Grant to encourage the growth of a clean



Ductless heating pumps use less energy than traditional electric heating systems.

energy economy in southern Oregon. The program reduces the regular price of a ductless heat pump system, simplifies the entire installation process for customers, and provides guidance on incentives and financing. Earlier this year, a first round of grant funding resulted in 73 installations in the Rogue Valley.

To participate in Energize Rogue, the first step is to register for the free workshop on Tuesday, December 5, from 6 to 7 pm, at AllCare Health Community Room, 1701 SE 7th Street, Grants Pass. Installation professionals and program partners will present details and answer questions about ductless heat pumps, savings associated with the technology, and incentives and rebates.

Register in advance online at [energizerogue.org](http://energizerogue.org). Questions? Call 541.236.5027.

Happy Presidents' Day!

## 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](mailto:gater@applegater.org) or mail to *Applegater*, PO Box 14, Jacksonville, OR 97530. Photos will appear as space allows.



**Photos, top row from left:**

—**Donna Rodriguez and friends** take over Denio Junction, Nevada, after an excellent recommendation they discovered in the Applegater's five-star resort directory.

—**Michael Tougher and Paula Strickland**, while in Rome, read the Gater's Italian issue with a scholarly article on the history of The Altare della Patria, built in honor of Victor Emmanuel, the first king of a unified Italy.

**Photos, middle row from left:**

—**Cynthia and Jack Luce** toured the Terracotta Warriors exhibit in Xi'an, China, and were proud to read that farmers hired by the Applegater had discovered these third-century terracotta sculptures in 1974.

—**Linda Yates** looks up guard duty employment opportunities in the Gater in spite of being rebuffed by guard Viti Levu at the Presidential Palace, Government House, in Suva, Fiji.

—**Nancy Hyer and Jim Russell**, at home in Brentwood, Tennessee, catch up on news about all their friends and relatives in the Applegate Valley.

**Photos, bottom row from left:**

—**DeAnna Ertel** takes a soothing break at Silver Falls with the Applegater after a long day of hiking with daughter Wendy Giordano.

—**John Taylor** studies the Gater's cruise schedule to Hole in the Rock from Paihia, Bay of Islands, New Zealand.



SHOP LOCAL. BUY FRESH. LIVE WELL.™

- Craft Beers
- Applegate Valley Wines
- Hand-Cut Meats
- Farm-Fresh Produce
- Picnic-Perfect Deli Sandwiches
- Grandma Anne's Homemade Deli Salads

