



Tree-planting day at Sequoia Sanctuary at Pacifica. Photo: Brent Kehoe, Grants Pass Vitality Center.

## Off to a good start, the Sequoia Sanctuary needs your help

BY RICHARD REAMES

The Sequoia Sanctuary, a land art project at Pacifica Garden, in Williams, was planted in 30 minutes by over 60 enthusiastic volunteers on February 18. Currently, 113 young sequoia trees are stretching out their branches and roots to form the walls of a living cathedral. The event space occupies over 7,000 square feet of grass and young star thistle, and it is already being used by the community.

As you are well aware, we had a wet and cold spring, but sequoias thrive in those conditions. The first issue we had to deal with was horses stepping near the trees. After considering a fence, we realized the best and easiest solution was at hand in the form of a rock pile. About 100 years ago, when the site was being farmed, the farmer tossed the rocks into a pile that is very close to our sanctuary. So the job of placing rocks around our trees went like clockwork. The rock party was a lot of fun.

The evil invasive star thistle, the bane of ranchers and barefoot hippies alike, is attempting to take over and ruin the vibe. This inconvenient little demon of a plant needs to be rooted out and cast aside to dry out and die in the sun. So, if you visit, you may have an exciting opportunity to do a valiant and noble deed. Get 'em while they last!

The next big job is installing the drip system. Spit N Polish, a store that specializes in cool antiques, donated a half-horsepower pump that will feed a 700-foot drip line to keep our young trees happy and watered through the summer. Seeing that the trees get off to a good start has pretty much drained the donation fund.

This is where you come in. If you find this project worthy and are able to donate, please do. Your gift will support ongoing maintenance, the inevitable issues that arise, the all-abilities trail that will go to the center of the circle, and onsite educational information.

You can donate to the project through GoFundMe, PayPal, check, or whatever means you prefer. Visit the project page at [arborsmith.com/sequoia-sanctuary](http://arborsmith.com/sequoia-sanctuary).

If you are on Facebook, you can join the "Sequoia Sanctuary at Pacifica" support group for breaking news and work party announcements.

Thank you for your support and for helping to make the Sequoia Sanctuary a success.

Your tree-growing friend,  
Richard Reames  
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## What's new on Applegate Valley Connect?

BY CHRISTINA AMMON

Applegate Valley Connect is our valley's online resource for news, emergency information, business listings, a community event calendar and jobs and volunteer opportunities. Here's a summary of what you might have missed and what you have to look forward to when you visit [applegateconnect.org](http://applegateconnect.org).

### What's been posted

To view these past stories, go to Applegate Connect and click on "News & Stories":

- An interview with Seth Kaplan: The former executive director of A Greater Applegate says, "The Applegate doesn't want to become anything else. It doesn't want to be Napa, or Sonoma, or Portland. It just wants to be the Applegate."
- Rock hound: Applegate jewelry-maker Ron Skog talks rocks, teaching... and whether there's still "gold in them thar hills."
- The Poetry of Planning: Max Gimbel, from the Ford Family Foundation, recently



Applegate jewelry maker Ron Skog. Photo: Christina Ammon.

visited the Ruch Library and led a free workshop titled "90-Day Action Planning in 90-Minutes."

### What's coming up

The Applegate Paddling Club: This group has a goal to promote water safety and education, enhance Applegate paddling areas, and support active local paddling communities. Find out about their efforts to map the Applegate River's access points, hazards, and water levels.

Local Entrepreneurs: A Greater Applegate, with support from Business Oregon and Reinventing Rural, recently walked local entrepreneurs through the fundamentals of running a business and launched the Applegate Valley's first Co.Starters core program. We will hear from local community members who took part in the Applegate Valley's first Co.Starters Program.

Christina Ammon  
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## PACIFICA NOTES

### Community summer fun

BY PEG PRAG

Though Pacifica's main emphasis is education in a variety of forms, education always includes fun! So, this article lists some of Pacifica's summer fun. Watch our website ([pacificagarden.org](http://pacificagarden.org)) and Facebook page for additional information and activities or call 541-846-1100.



Siskiyou Audubon Society members make bird houses with Pacifica summer campers.

### Every day

(unless there's an event—check the website)

We're sorry that our insurance doesn't permit swimming in the ponds, but there are many other things to do.

**Disc golf.** Starting June 4, Pacifica's course will be set up in the front horse pastures. Parking will be in the first lot on the left, and hole one will parallel Water Gap Road. This area will provide disc golfers with a new and challenging object course that will have beginning and advanced targets on each hole. Moving the course will also allow access to play during special events, because the course now won't interfere with other Pacifica activities. Please check Pacifica's web page and information boards for information on upcoming work parties. Long-term goals for this course will include fundraising for baskets, benches, and tee signs. Please help make this switch to Pacifica Pastures Disc Golf Course a success.

**Hiking and horseback.** There are seven miles of trails through forest and meadow to walk or ride through while enjoying their serenity, birds, and wildflowers. There are maps and wildflower and butterfly identification sheets at the trailheads to drop off at trail's end.

**Trail rides.** Tess and Tara, experienced trail-ride leaders, are available to provide you with saddled horses and lead you on an enjoyable hour-plus ride along Pacifica's trails. They even include some history and natural history along the way. Contact them at [applegatetrailrides.com](http://applegatetrailrides.com) or 541-660-6796.

**Fishing.** Catch-and-release fishing is always available free in Heron Pond.

### Wednesdays

- June 21: Summer Solstice Nature Hike—birds, 10 am-noon; meet at the red door
- June 28: Music under the Stars, 8-10 pm
- July 5: Movie under the Stars, 8-10 pm
- July 12: Creek walk and water exploration, 1-3 pm; meet at the red door
- July 26: Nature Hike—butterflies and insects, 10 am-noon; Music under the Stars, 8-10 pm
- August 2: Movie under the Stars, 8-10 pm
- August 9: Family Picnic, ice cream social and Challenge Course fun, 9 am-1 pm.
- August 23: Nature Hike—plants, 10 am-noon; Music under the Stars, 8-10 pm

- August 30: Movie under the Stars, 8-10 pm

### Festivals

**June 4, Festival in the Forest.** A celebration of local talent along the Art Nature Trail (ANT). Along with local sculptures and kids' art activities, there will be musicians playing violin, harp, and flute, plus others performing along the trail. There will also be creation of a fairy village. Come for a picnic. Food available. 11 am and 2 pm.

**July 14-16, Celebrating the Siskiyou Crest: A Festival of Arts, Culture, and Science.** Art, poetry, hikes, speakers, vendors. July 14: Guided hikes and field trips; July 15-16: Keynote speakers and panels discussing the amazing place we call our backyard, what the National Wildlife Federation has designated as "one of the Earth's most extraordinary expressions of temperate biodiversity." (For more information, see article by Diana Coogle on page 16.)

**October 27-29, Harvest Fair.** A celebration of the harvest with live music, vendors, and yummy harvest food.

### Camps

- Earthwise Forest School Summer, June 19-23
- Earthwise Forest School Summer, June 26-30
- Nature Immersion Camp, June 19-23
- Nature Immersion Camp, June 26-30
- Wilderness Skills, July 3-7
- Creative Engineering, Fun Discovery, July 24-28
- Bookmaking camp, July 31-August 4
- Sewing Camp, August 7-11

(Check website and Facebook for updates.)

### Volunteer days

Pacifica's monthly volunteer days—which are fun, as well!—happen on the first Sunday of each summer month: June 4, July 2, and August 6. We will be working on the Natural Playground, on kestrel and owl boxes, on better signs, more benches, and anything else you'd like to suggest.

Have a great summer, but *always be careful*: no fires, watch where you park and when and where you run equipment. Thank you.

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[applegater.newspaper](http://applegater.newspaper)

  
Lodge Open 7 Days a Week  
Restaurant Thursday - Sunday 5pm to 9pm