



Yesterday and today

BY JANIS MOHR-TIPTON AND JANELLE DUNLEVY

A brief history of the Buckley's journey to the Applegate

The story begins in the early 1850s with James F. Buckley; his older brother, John; and other family members leaving Ireland for America during the potato famine. After getting separated from the family in New York, the two boys, then in their mid-teens, decided to make the long and treacherous journey to California on foot and by bumming rides on ox wagons. Sometimes they stopped to do stints of farm labor and other opportune chores. They were both very literate and kept diaries of their journey, which, alas, have been lost. After almost five years, they reached mining country and moved north toward what would become the state of Oregon. They worked along Poorman Creek and Forest (formerly Jackass) Creek among beautiful open acres and forest.

The quiet atmosphere of the valley convinced them to find their own land along the Applegate River. They squatted on adjoining 160-acre parcels that had been abandoned, and they worked to buy them. Through hard work, trading, and the advantage of becoming American citizens, each was able to buy the land he had

worked. In 1866 each brother received a good letter from the Land Office in Roseburg saying that the title to his parcel was clean.

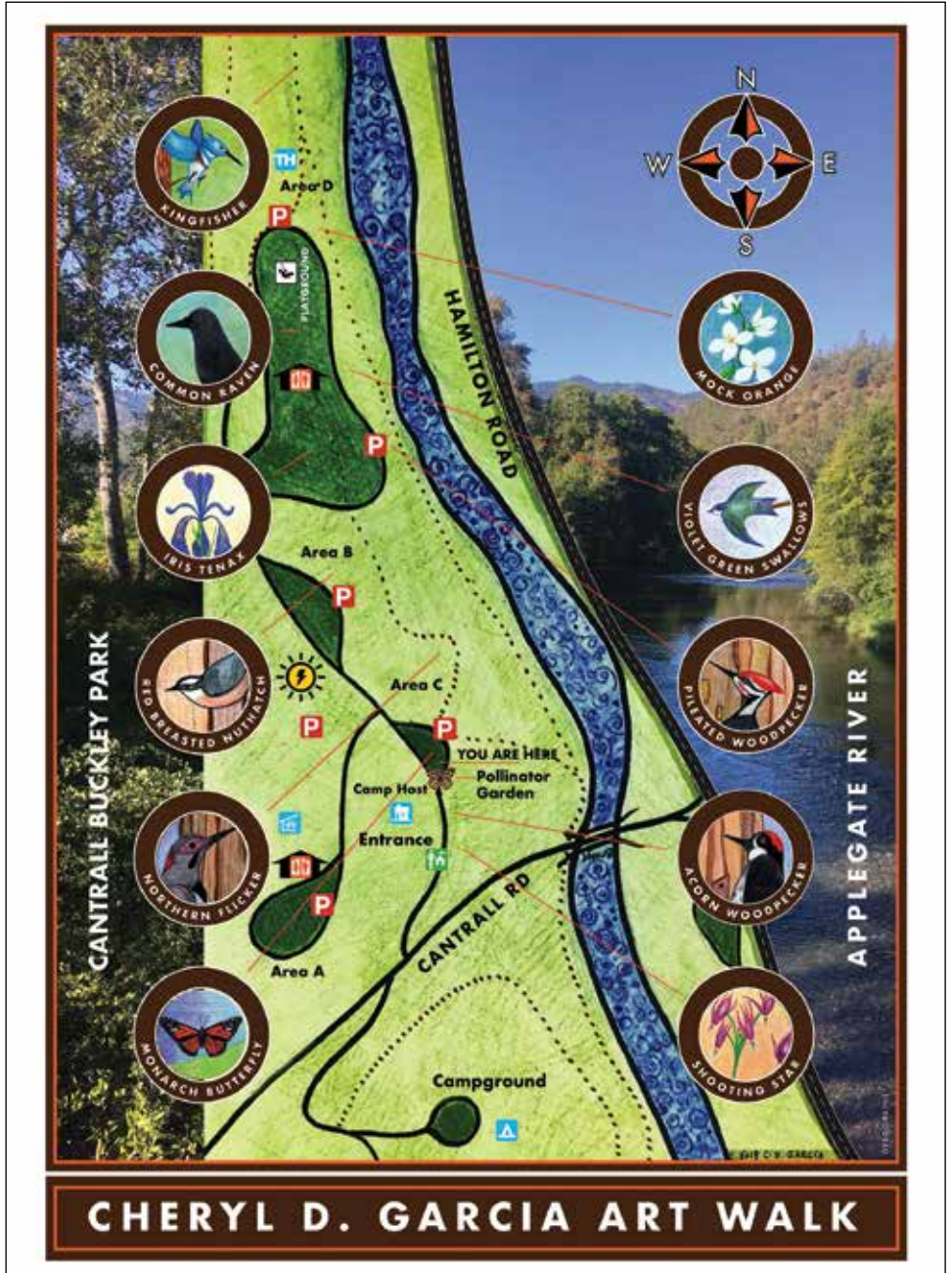
Later, in 1872, John's homestead deed arrived, signed by President Grant. James's homestead deed arrived in 1875. These were some of the earliest parcels along the Applegate River that were clear-deeded.

In 1912, Lewis Buckley was born to James Thomas (Jim) and Emma Buckley. His grandfather was James F., who had immigrated from Ireland. As the only remaining grandchild, Lewis eventually inherited the entire ranch. In 1965, Lewis demonstrated his love of this area by selling eight riverfront acres to Jackson County for a park. When Lewis's neighbor, Harlan Cantrall, agreed to sell 25 acres on both sides of the river, Cantrall Buckley Park was born.

Now our community is continuing that same passion of caring for this park with the partnership with Jackson County Parks and the support of community volunteers to help preserve this area for those who will come after us.

Let's celebrate that gratitude!

Save the date: 12-5 pm Saturday, April 20. Bring a picnic lunch and help us



While visiting the park, take a stroll along the Cheryl D. Garcia Art Walk to see her sculptures of birds, flowers, and a butterfly along the way.

recognize our donors, volunteers, artists, park hosts and personnel, rangers, and the founding of this park we love! There will be music, singing, community displays, and tours of the park.

- Here's what's happening at the park!
- The park's main irrigation waterline is being replaced and a new pumping system is being installed.
 - Hazardous and dead trees will continue to be taken down.
 - Outdoor education programs will begin again in April.
 - Various student groups will be doing service days throughout the park.

It's time for community volunteer opportunities

1. Weeding, removing invasive species, and general cleanup. All ages, dates to be arranged in March, April, and May.

2. Constructing a roofed structure in the campground. Older teens and adults needed; dates to be arranged.

3. Appreciation Day at Cantrall Buckley, 10 am-5:30 pm April 20. Two-hour shifts. Need teens and adults for setup, hosting, and cleanup.

To volunteer for any of the above opportunities, contact either Janis or Janelle to sign up for a weekend date that works for you or visit applegatepartnership.org/upcoming-events.

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Art, Wine & Music Fest

GREGG PAYNE GRAND PIANOPHONE

Limpy Creek Forest School

Now enrolling for spring 2024

Preschool children ages 3-5 years
Email limpycreekforestschool@gmail.com
limpycreekforestschool.com