

# Applegater

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Photo: Barbara Holiday

WINTER 2009  
Volume 2, No. 1

Applegate Valley Community Newspaper  
Serving Jackson and Josephine Counties — Circulation: 9,000

Postal Patron

## Rogue Valley horse whisperer tames the wild ones

BY ANNETTE PARSONS

Local horse trainer, Jani Zigray-Cochran has a reputation as a horse whisperer of sorts. She has a special talent for training wild mustangs to be solid, calm, and dependable saddle horses. She trains domestic horses as well, but her niche as a mustang trainer is set. "I didn't plan to specialize in mustangs, it just happened that way."

The native of Brookings, Oregon, grew up with horses and spent much of her time on her grandfather's cattle ranch along the Chetco River. After high school, Jani spent several years in Colorado, apprenticing at some large horse facilities. She returned to Oregon in 1989, coming to the Rogue Valley to go back to school and to be closer to her family. She has been active in many local horse groups and



Rue learns to cross a creek.

See WHISPERER, page 8



## What a GRREAT ride!

Tiger owner, actress and lifelong equestrian meanders down memory lane

BY BARBARA HOLIDAY

Grants Pass denizen Dee Arlen lived a grand life in Hollywood in days gone by. She gave up that life—as an actress and an interior designer to the stars—to live with her tiger, B.C. (Beautiful Cat), in southern Oregon near Wilderville. When I visited her equine property recently, she recounted her glamour days while pouring her guests vintage white wine in crystal glasses and serving home-made hors d'oeuvres. Dressed in a full-length designer gown, which still fits her some 40 years later, she recalled the glory days of Hollywood.

But first B.C. B.C. has been gone for a while now, a victim of kidney disease, but she is not far from her owner's mind. She was just six weeks old when Dee saved B.C. from a life in the circus. At their first meeting, B.C. kept biting Dee. Soon after, though, the biting turned to cuddling. The cuddling continued for 20 years.

It was B.C. who was responsible for bringing Dee to southern Oregon. Los Angeles bureaucrats wouldn't allow her to keep a domesticated "wild" animal, so she moved around and about LA several times in an attempt to keep B.C. there—even staying in a Travelodge for three weeks with B.C. and two dogs. B.C. enjoyed her life in LA, even visiting bars where "she used to bite the butts of pool players." But eventually they had nowhere to go.

At the time, southern Oregon did not require a permit for exotic animals. So it was here that B.C. lived out her days. Like any cherished pet, B.C. slept on her owner's bed every night. Dee and B.C. were together 24/7.

Photo top: Dee has the original of this sketch, by artist and friend Valerie Vrooman, framed on a wall in her office, and has had its likeness printed on note cards.

See GRREAT, page 11

Benefit for the *Applegater*

## Art in the Applegate

Valley View Winery, February 28 and March 1  
Saturday and Sunday, 11 am – 5 pm



Carol Taylor

Over many years we, as a community, have enjoyed our *Applegater*. With this issue the *Gater* is going into quarterly publication—downsizing due to current economic constraints. Now is our opportunity to join some of Oregon's premier artists as we come together for our Annual Art Benefit Show at Valley View Winery.

J.D. Rogers will be doing a book signing of his recently published book, *Rambling Rants and Doggie Tales*. Meet the author and get your copy of his book signed while enjoying a fine glass of Valley View's best wines.

This year we are proud to welcome Peggy Bjerkan from St. Helena, California. Peggy began making masks a few years ago as a result of her fascination with masks as ritual objects. These masks are a commentary on life and the human condition,

See ART, page 12



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## Applegater now online!

The Applegate Valley Community Newspaper is now publishing a website that is a companion and expansion of the content and services that the printed **Applegater** newspaper provides.

Highlights of what this website will offer include:

- **Index and viewable/downloadable issues** of the *Applegater* starting from March 2008.
- **Expansion of content and pictures** of selected articles that appear in the printed paper.
- **Community calendar** that everyone can post to by contacting our webmaster via email.
- **Community services directory** with contacts, current activities and bulletins for all our major community services such as police, fire, library, BLM, etc.
- **Directory of local businesses.**
- **Listing of websites** that pertain to the Applegate Valley.
- **Changing collection of images** of scenery and activities within our beautiful valley.

We encourage you to log on to <http://applegater.org>.

Gary Brauer, Webmaster  
 AVCNGaryBrauer@gmail.com

## Shortage of fire starter

Now that I have your attention, The Applegater Community Newspaper will be published quarterly through at least 2009. As our finances become more stable, the paper may return to its previous bimonthly publication.

All community events and topics, timely or of current interest can easily be accessed on the *Applegater's* own website at [www.applegater.org](http://www.applegater.org). At this site you can easily submit information, dates, events, etc. and/or be added to the monthly calendar site. Best of all, your community organization can be linked to our website at [www.applegater.org](http://www.applegater.org), free of charge. Check it often.

J.D. Rogers, Editor

## Note to readers

Due to unforeseen technical problems, we are unable to use the winning logo created for us by artist Josie Mendelsohn. We sincerely regret this, and would like to thank Josie for her considerable time and efforts on our behalf.

So, instead of one logo, we have decided to graphically depict the different seasons on the front page. We hope you will enjoy the changing artwork.

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 of Directors

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Spring	March 1
Summer	June 1
Fall	September 1
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## WHO WE ARE

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

### Our Mission

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

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

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

### Acknowledgements

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

Special thanks to Carole Moskovita for layout; Barbara Holiday, Joan Peterson, Sue Maesen and Paul Tipton for editing; Barbara Holiday, P. R. Kellogg and homeschoolers Kelton and Jakob Shockey for proofreading; and Lisa Crean for bookkeeping.

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### PROTECTION OF COPYRIGHTED MATERIAL

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

Letters to the Editor cannot be more than 450 words. Opinion pieces and unsolicited articles cannot exceed 600 words. Community calendar submissions must be to the point. All submissions must be received either at the address or email below by March 1 for our next issue.

*The Applegater*  
 c/o Applegate Valley  
 Community Newspaper, Inc.  
 7386 Highway 238, PMB 308  
 Jacksonville, OR 97530  
 Email: [gater@applegater.org](mailto:gater@applegater.org)  
 Website: [www.applegater.org](http://www.applegater.org)

## Community Calendar

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

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

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

**Applegate Friends of Fire District #9** meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the Fire Station—1095 Upper Applegate Road—at 6:00 pm. New members are welcome. For more information, call Bob Fischer 541-846-6218.

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

**Josephine County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD).** Meets Thursdays at 6 pm. For meeting information, call Connie Young at 541-846-6051.

**Applegate Valley Community Forum (AVCF)** meets the third Thursday of each month, location alternating between Applegate and Ruch. For more information, call Pat Gordon at 541-899-7655.

**Greater Applegate Community Development Corporation** meets the second Wednesday of each month at 6:00 pm at the Applegate Library on North Applegate Road in downtown Applegate. For more information, call toll-free at 866-289-1638.

**American Association of University Women (AAUW)** Grants Pass area meets monthly from September to June. College degree required for membership. Days and locations vary. Contact Ann Kistler 541-471-1963 or Kathy Kirchen 541-846-9039.

**AA Meetings** Tuesday nights at 7 pm in Williams. Upstairs at the American Legion Hall. Contact Stan at 541-846-0734.

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

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

**Friends of Ruch Library Board of Directors** meets monthly. Check with the Ruch Library for schedule. 541-899-7438.

**Food & Friends.** Senior Nutrition Program invites local 60+ seniors to enjoy a nutritious, hot meal served at 11:30 am Monday through Friday at the Jacksonville IOOF Hall located at the corner of Main and Oregon Streets.

A donation is suggested and appreciated. Volunteers help serve meals or deliver meals to homebound seniors. For information about volunteering (it takes 40 volunteers to keep the Jacksonville program going) or receiving meals, call Food & Friends at 541-664-6674, x246 or x208.

**Williams Library Hours**  
 Sunday ..... closed  
 Monday ..... closed  
 Tuesday ..... closed  
 Wednesday ..... closed  
 Thursday ..... closed  
 Friday ..... closed  
 Saturday ..... closed

**Josephine County Farm Bureau** For meeting information, call Connie Young at 541-846-6051.

**Upper Applegate Grange #839** Business meetings: first Thursday at 7:30 pm. Potluck/Social meetings: fourth Friday at 7:30 pm, open to the public. Join us for informative meetings, fun and involvement in community service. Sponsors of Boy Scout Pack #18. Call 541-899-6987.

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

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

**Williams Grange Pancake Breakfast,** second Sunday of each month, 8:30 am to 11:00 am. Closed July and August. Bring the whole family! 20100 Williams Hwy, corner of Tetherow Road near the Williams General Store. For more information, call 541-846-6844.

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

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

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

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

**Applegate Lake Cub Scouts Pack #18** (Ruch Region) Outdoor activity (fishing, rafting, hikes, etc.) the first Friday of each month; regular meeting the third Friday of each month. Upper Applegate Grange from 10 am to 1 pm. All boys in grades first through fifth including homeschoolers, Ruch students, and non-Ruch students are welcome. For more information, contact Cub Leader Vic Agnifili at 541-899-1717.

**Email calendar information to gater@applegater.org.**



**Jackson County Master Gardener Association and Oregon State University Extension Service**

## Become an OSU Master Gardener

Learn the latest in gardening and horticultural skills. Be confident in vegetable gardening, landscape situations and environmentally sound gardening practices. No previous horticultural skills are required.

**What:** OSU Master Gardener training is both lecture and hands on training in basic horticulture skills and practices. The purpose of the training is to equip students in gardening and be able to answer questions from the general public at the OSU Extension office in Josephine County.

**When:** The training is offered once a year. Classes are every Thursday starting January 15 thru April 2, 2009. All classes start at 9:00 AM and end at 4:00 PM. Bring your lunch.

**Where:** Classes are held at the OSU Extension Auditorium at 215 Ringuette Street, in Grants Pass.

**Cost:** The training cost is \$100.00 which covers the Gardening Handbook and additional class materials.

**Requirements:** In exchange for training, participants contribute time as volunteers, working through the OSU Josephine County Extension Service to provide horticulture-related information to their community. Master Gardeners intern for 70 volunteer hours.

**Registration:** You can register at the OSU Extension Office on Ringuette Street in Grants Pass. An application can be downloaded at: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/josephine/Horticulture.htm>

**Questions:** If you have any questions or would like to discuss the program in more detail call 541-476-6613.

Lorena Becker • 541-476-6613  
 Lorena.Becker@oregonstate.edu

## Special Classes

**Saturday February 7**  
**GRAPE PRUNING**  
 Chris Hubert, Quail Run Vineyard

The emphasis of this class will be growing grapes in the home garden especially how, when, and where to prune. Participants will also learn terminology that applies to growing grapes, care of grapes, and solutions for common grape problems in the home garden. The class will conclude with outdoor practice in pruning grapes so dress for the weather and bring gloves and clippers. This class counts toward Master Gardener recertification hours.

**Saturday February 21**  
**FRUIT TREE PRUNING**  
 Terry Helfrich, Bear Creek Corp.

The emphasis of this class will be growing fruit trees in the home garden especially how, when, and where to prune. Selection of trees and planting site, tree structure, planting requirements, spacing, tree training, will also be discussed with the goal of producing more fruit. The class will conclude with outdoor practice in pruning fruit trees so dress for the weather and bring gloves and loppers. This class counts toward Master Gardener recertification hours.

The Jackson County Master Gardener Program, a program of Oregon State University Extension, educates local gardeners on the art and science of growing and caring for plants. Trained Master Gardener volunteers extend sustainable gardening information to their communities through educational outreach programs.

There is a fee of \$5.00 per class unless indicated otherwise. The classes are held at the OSU Extension Center located at 569 Hanley Road, Central Point, Oregon. 541-776-7371.

Saturday classes 9am-12pm • Weekday classes 7 pm-9 pm  
 To learn more about Jackson country Master Gardener Association go to: <http://extension.orst.edu/sorec/mg>

Chris Greene • 541-664-5898 (after 10 am)  
 cgreene00@juno.com

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## HEARD IT ON THE GRAPEVINE

# Organic and biodynamic wines — What's the difference?

BY CHRIS DENNETT

The wine industry has made much ado in recent years about organic and biodynamic practices. We are seeing shelves increasingly inhabited by bottles that advertise themselves under these two labels, but what do they actually mean, and which wineries in our local region are doing it?

Both “organic” and “biodynamic” are words that reference the methods in which grapes are grown rather than how the wine itself is made. In essence, both methods of grape production seek to minimize damage to ecosystems, and create stable, long-term agriculture.

Modern “organic” farming began in 1946, when farmer and publisher J.I. Rodale popularized the name, which refers to farming practices that promote soil health and eschew synthetic chemicals that pollute the environment and deplete nutrients and microorganisms in the soil. It is characterized by the use of natural soil amendments, manual or mechanical weed control, nontoxic pest management, and sustainable animal husbandry. The essential belief is that a healthy living soil—augmented by composting and cover-cropping—produces healthy plants that are more resistant to pests and disease, and have a higher nutritional value. While nutrition is not something specifically connected with viticulture, the idea is the same: vines grown organically produce a healthier, more natural crop than those that use synthetic pesticides and chemical treatments.

There have been several studies linking increased levels of harmful chemicals in the soil to an increase in harmful chemicals in our foods, and consequently in our bodies. The argument is that grapes grown organically will produce wine without the high levels of phosphorous, potassium, and nitrogen that one would find with conventional farming. Since many grapes are not specifically cleaned before crush, the residue of synthetic compounds will remain on the skins, and trace amounts will find their way into your wine. Since organically grown fruit is never touched by synthetic compounds, organic wine is viewed as more safe from these potential toxins.

Biodynamic farming encompasses everything organic, but takes it one step further. It is the oldest “modern” comprehensive system of organic agriculture and was started in 1924 by Austrian philosopher Rudolph Steiner, predating the modern organic movement by more than two decades. The goal with biodynamic farming is to create a kind of agricultural system that is a self-sustained organism within the surrounding ecosystem. A biodynamic farm is a self-sufficient agricultural entity that can stand apart from, and in unity with, the surrounding environment.

Biodynamic farmers adhere to unique philosophical principles that include adding strictly formulated plant and mineral “preparations” as compost

additives and field sprays. Steiner outlined nine different preparations that form this cornerstone of biodynamic farming. One such preparation is number 505 and used for compost. It involves cutting up oak bark into small pieces, placing it inside the skull of a domesticated animal, surrounding it

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**Biodynamic farmers also are unique in their attention to astronomical sowing and planting calendars, and pay particular attention to the phases of the moon.**

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in peat, and burying it in the ground in a place where lots of rain water runs past.

Biodynamic farmers also are unique in their attention to astronomical sowing and planting calendars, and pay particular attention to the phases of the moon. While organic farmers seek purely to operate without chemicals, biodynamic farmers seek to be one with the local environment, where even the farmer is a part of the agricultural plexus.

If a farm or vineyard in the United States advertises itself as organic, they must get official recognition from the USDA, and undergo a rigorous yearly inspection from a certified USDA inspection agency. Biodynamic farms are regulated, recognized, and certified by the worldwide Demeter Organization. Demeter standards are

typically stricter than organic standards and include a focus on the soil, plant, and compost preparations.

As people become more aware of their own carbon footprints, and as our buying trends lean more toward sustainable, local, and organic, you begin to see more wines labeled as organic and biodynamic. Already, we have farms in our region operating as organic farms. We also have farms that are essentially organic but lack the USDA certification. To date, I have not been able to find a comprehensive list of who is and who isn't operating organically, so the best way to know this is to simply ask. Any winery will be happy to tell you if they are using organically farmed grapes, or whether they are sourcing their fruit from such a place. As to biodynamic farming, there is only one local vineyard that is Demeter certified, and that is Cowhorn Vineyard in the Applegate Valley.

For more information on organic, biodynamic, and sustainably grown wine in our region and abroad you can e-mail Jeff Weisler who lives in Ashland and does sustainable agriculture and wine talks and workshops nationwide. He can be reached at [jeff@consciouswine.com](mailto:jeff@consciouswine.com).

Chris Dennett • 541-779-0135  
[Chris@elementsmedford.com](mailto:Chris@elementsmedford.com)

*Chris Dennett is proprietor of Elements Tapas Bar and Lounge on Main Street in downtown Medford.*

*“Men are like a fine wine. They all start out like grapes, and it's our job to stomp on them and keep them in the dark until they mature into something you'd want to have dinner with.”*

— Female Author Unknown

*“Women are like fine wine. They all start out fresh, fruity and intoxicating to the mind and then turn full-bodied with age until they go all sour and vinegary and give you a headache.”*

— Male Author Unknown

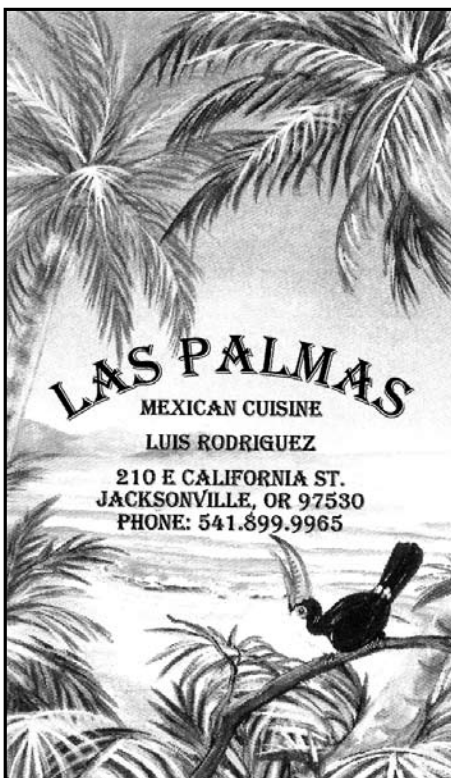
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## DIRTY FINGERNAILS AND ALL

## Full-life living

BY SIOUX ROGERS

Right up front, my shameful apologies for using this column to rearrange my brain cells. Gardening, even for the simplest of posies, is not always so simple. Like, do you know why a marigold is never purple? I don't! Ok, so who really cares? Grandma certainly didn't.

Now, because I loathe to be left behind, here is an entirely new vocabulary for the chic gardener. Hence my latest educational focus. Anyhow, some of you at least must be tired of the "touchy-feely" stuff.

Do you have a clear focus and uncluttered understanding of "xeriscape," "sustainable agriculture," and "permaculture"? The more I read, the more overlap I see in the philosophical meanings and viewpoints.

Wikipedia is often my step-off spot for definitions. So let's begin with "Xeriscape" per Wikipedia: "... landscaping in ways that do not require supplemental irrigation. It is promoted in areas that do not have easily accessible supplies of fresh water..." The root word "xeros" actually means "dry" in Greek. Even though the definition refers to water needs and the availability of water that, at least for me, is not substantive or inclusive of the entire scope of "xeriscape." First, all new plantings need water until established. If, "well, duh" is your response, good! At least, that was easily clarified. Most of the plants used by the landscape architects and promoters of xeriscaping are quite similar; that is, per a given region, such as our Pacific Northwest, compared to say southern Florida or Iowa or Boulder, Colorado. As a very brief example, consider for our area abella, artemesia, buddleia, lavender,



Laying out the water garden.

rosemary, ribus and rosa rugosa. These same plants could be used in other areas, but differently, perhaps as a treasured houseplant. A reverse example might be the jade plant, which grows all year long with minimal water and care in southern California. In a colder climate, it is a coveted houseplant.

A basis for successful xeriscaping is to begin with the fauna natural to that area. That part is easy; check with your local extension service. For more elaborate landscaping, it is necessary to do research on what grows well in the "zone" where you live.

When maintaining xeriscape design, it is essential that plants be

grouped together by similar watering conditions. I personally am falling in love with some beautiful succulents that, after enjoying a snow-covered nap, come forth smiling in the spring. But I would not plant them in the shade with thirsty hydrangeas. Two other important points for maintaining a xeriscape landscape: (1) Water when the plants need it, i.e. they look droopy, and (2) Mulch heavily and appropriately wherever you can. This last suggestion is how I justify coveting thirsty hydrangeas. I plant them in shade in very humus soil with an abundance of mulch. I rarely need to water them.

Next, "permaculture" and "sustainable agriculture" philosophically and practically sound related, although are given different Wikipedia definitions and not lumped together.

"The word permaculture, coined by Australian Bill Mollison and his student David Holmgren during the 1970s, is a portmanteau of 'permanent agriculture' as well as 'permanent culture.' This last phrase, 'permanent agriculture,' a workable philosophy was first developed by Franklin Hiram King in 1911. The only ethical decision is to take responsibility for our own existence and that of our children." (Mollison, 1990) Mollison has been teaching and speaking, and is the philosophical disciple of King's original work.

In his book *Introduction to Permaculture: Concepts and Resources*, Steve Diver says, "A central theme in permaculture is the design of ecological landscapes that produce food. Emphasis is placed on multi-use plants, cultural practices such as sheet mulching and trellising, and the integration of animals to recycle nutrients and graze weeds.

"However, permaculture entails much more than just food production. Energy-efficient buildings, wastewater treatment, recycling, and land stewardship in general are other important components of permaculture. More recently,

permaculture has expanded its purview to include economic and social structures that support the evolution and development of more permanent communities...

"Sustainable agriculture refers to the ability of a farm to produce food indefinitely, without causing severe or irreversible damage to ecosystem health. Two key issues are biophysical (the long-term effects of various practices on soil properties and processes essential for crop productivity) and socio-economic (the long-term ability of farmers to obtain inputs and manage resources such as labor).

The physical aspects of sustainability are only partly understood. Practices



Credits: All photographs from Midwest Permaculture.

that can cause long-term damage to soil include excessive tillage (leading to erosion) and irrigation without adequate drainage (leading to accumulation of salt in the soil)." (Source: Wikipedia.) Notice the overlapping definition with permaculture.

In 1990 FACTA (Food, Agriculture, Conservation and Trade Act) also addressed sustainable agriculture as the following:

- "Satisfy human food and fiber needs
- Enhance environmental quality and the natural resource base upon which the agricultural economy depends
- Make the most efficient use of nonrenewable resources and on-farm resources and integrate, where appropriate, natural biological cycles and controls
- Sustain the economic viability of farm operations
- Enhance the quality of life for farmers and society as a whole."

Whether it be thousands of commercial acres, a small family-run farm or a private garden, one must practice responsible long-term, not shortsighted, ecological community maintenance. This bespeaks to me of local farmers' markets, growing your own food, bartering local food for local goods and services, and being vigilant not to purchase products made in, say China, rather than local or at least in the United States. I call this consciousness "full-life living."

Xeriscape, sustainable agriculture, permaculture and the vagueness of edible landscaping is as much about land stewardship as it is about social and economical community integration and sustainability. There is nothing in nature that does only one thing.

For the Love of Dirt  
Sioux Rogers  
541-846-7736  
mumearth@apbb.net

**"For the love of dirt, can you tell me...?"**

1. Q: *Is this the time to feed and trim my roses? They look awful. RJ, Ashland*

A: In this climate (zone 7 on the USDA chart), most all roses look awful in winter, especially if the weather is its usual cold. Many years ago I was told never to prune my roses until the last frost was gone. For me, at 1,400-foot elevation with skimpy sun exposure, that means Memorial Day. A few years ago a friend who lives a few hills away in the Rogue Valley, said she always prunes her roses on St. Patrick's Day. She came over and pruned all my roses! I saw no difference in their health or flowering. This earlier date seems to be the recommended norm for the Rogue Valley.

Another indication as to when to prune is when the buds start to swell. Also, I heard it is time to prune your roses when the forsythia are in bloom.

So experiment and see which works for your exposure, elevation, frost date and type of roses you grow.

2. Q: *I am brand new to the gardening world. I am embarrassed to ask, but what is the difference between an "annual" and a "perennial"? CM, Jacksonville*

A: Let me answer this very easily and simply. No need to be embarrassed. Think of annual as once a year. An annual, once again depending on the weather, usually has a short life cycle beginning with planting a seed in late winter or early spring. The plant "does its thing" of producing a flower, edible (broccoli) or non-edible (lobelia), then is gone, as in dead, when the weather once again is too cold. Annuals can be started indoors or in hot houses in late winter or very early spring. Many people just buy their annuals at the local nursery.

Perennials have a much longer life cycle than an annual. Some last for many, many years, some for several. Often perennials "die" down to the ground just for the winter. They really have just gone to sleep or become dormant. In spring or early summer, they are refreshed and come back bigger and better.

Hope these very brief responses clarify a few of the wonderful mystics of gardening. For the love of dirt, keep the questions coming. mumearth@apbb.net

## MY OPINION FROM BEHIND THE GREEN DOOR

**A botched forest plan**

BY CHRIS BRATT

Even before it was approved by the agency, the first legal challenge to the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM's) proposed Western Oregon Forest Plan Revisions (WOPR) began. Practically everyone with some understanding of BLM's inane WOPR proposal knows their Revision Plan is doomed from the start. BLM has wasted extensive time, energy and money on a proposal that is defective and going nowhere. It will not pass legal or scientific review in the courts nor the extensive citizen opposition it has already generated.

The main reason BLM's WOPR Forest Plan is destined for failure is because it relies on a flawed plan for protection and recovery of the Northern Spotted Owl. In 1990 the Northern Spotted Owl was listed as "threatened" by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under the Endangered Species Act. The owls' listing as "threatened" in 1990 triggered the Service's duty to develop a plan that would recover the owl to a point where protections under the Endangered Species Act are no longer necessary.

Eighteen years overdue, a Final Owl Recovery Plan was issued in May 2008 by the Service (ironically, just in time for the BLM to use it in their WOPR Revision Plan). BLM's WOPR Forest Revisions could not have moved forward without the Service having a Final Owl Recovery Plan in place that analyses how much forest habitat is needed for the owl to recover. Not to anyone's surprise, the Service's Final

Owl Recovery Plan helped out BLM's proposed WOPR increased clearcutting plan by eliminating over 1.5 million acres of Critical Owl Habitat.

Since the Service approved their Final Owl Recovery Plan that eliminated these 1.5 million acres of Critical Owl Habitat, they have been sued by both the timber industry and 18 environmental groups. The timber industry (including the Swanson Group and Rough and Ready Lumber Company that operates in southern Oregon) sued because they want more owl habitat removed from the Service's

**Once again the battle lines have been drawn over how much old-growth public forest should be cut down for lumber or remain standing to protect species and a broad array of other resources.**

Owl Recovery Plan so more timber can be cut. The 18 environmental groups are suing to have the Service provide additional owl habitat to protect old growth, spotted owls and other affected species. Either way, BLM's WOPR is in trouble.

Once again the battle lines have been drawn over how much old-growth public forest should be cut down for lumber or remain standing to protect species and a broad array of other resources.

I believe the environmental groups will win their case because outgoing

Bush officials have manipulated the science in the Final Owl Recovery Plan. Congressional committee chairman Nick Rayhall, a democrat from West Virginia, recently had this to say about Bush's manipulation of the Endangered Species Act:

"It has become abundantly clear that this administration does not give one whit about the Endangered Species Act. Its strong-arming of Federal scientists, slow-walking of listing decisions, and stonewalling of new rules have convinced me that every attempt to fix the mismanagement of the Endangered Species Program under this Administration is a lost cause."

In addition, the Service's Final Recovery Plan does not plan for the recovery of the owl as required. For example, the Final Recovery Plan estimates that spotted owl recovery will take 30 years, but states "the useful life of this plan is approximately 10 years." This is an interim plan, not a Final Recovery Plan.

Also, the Final Recovery Plan is not based on the best available science in numerous ways, including its failure to rely on the Northwest Forest Plan, its failure to adequately protect dispersal habitat and links between habitat and its failure to consider threats to the owl on non-federal forest land.

All of these issues are now to be resolved by the courts, leaving BLM waiting for a ruling before their WOPR Plan Revisions can be implemented. And this is just the first court challenge

to the validity of the WOPR Plan. There will be additional disputes over BLM's planned huge increase in old-growth clearcut logging, wrongly placed off-road vehicle "emphasis areas" and many other outrageous proposals contained in the WOPR.

BLM's contrived Forest Plan Revision is the Bush Administration's final effort to deliver unsustainable amounts of public timber to the timber industry. It is pathetic that BLM has been pressed so hard by Washington, D.C. officials and the timber industry folks to dismantle the protections and ecosystem management offered by their existing Northwest Forest Plan. For the past eight years we have suffered the downgrading of our environmental laws and regulations, censored science and political interference in our forest planning processes. As we used to say on the street when I was a boy, "Good riddance to bad rubbish."

With any luck, the new Obama administration will offer us more honesty, competence and accountability in managing our public forest lands. But it's up to us to raise awareness and let the new administration know that BLM's Western Oregon Plan Revision needs to be set aside. The protections outlined in the Northwest Forest Plan must be reinstated. Let's end this WhOPpeR!

Chris Bratt  
541-846-6988

## Storytelling Guild

### Tears of Joy Puppet Theatre's Jungle Book production

Sunday, January 18  
1:30 and 4:00 pm

The Storytelling Guild and Craterian Performances present Tears of Joy Puppet Theatre's production of 'Jungle Book' at the Ginger Rogers Craterian Theater which is located at 23 South Central Avenue in downtown Medford. There will be two performances on Sunday January 18, 1:30 and 4:00 pm. Doors will open 30 minutes prior to each performance and seating is limited.

This is a wonderful opportunity for us to share our love of books and storytelling in a beautiful theater setting. Open to the public, admission is free. We are collecting new or gently used children's books that go toward our "Pass the Book" program. The Storytelling Guild distributes these books to local outreach programs to benefit our children in need. In addition to this program and many others, the Storytelling Guild sponsors the Children's Festival so mark your calendars for July 12-14 2009 at the Britt Grounds in Jacksonville, "Imagine the Fun". For more information visit our website at [storytellingguild.org](http://storytellingguild.org)

For more information call Kathy Balint at the Craterian, 541-779-8195, Est. 301.

Suzanne Yaru • 541-601-954

### Pass the Book

The Storytelling Guild of Jackson County is collecting gently used and new children's books for its "Pass the Book" program. Each year the Storytelling Guild distributes children's books to 18 agencies in Jackson County to share with the families they serve. From Head Start to the Children's Advocacy Center, from the Dunn House to foster parents, from the Community Health Centers to Healthy Start, 2,701 children's books made their way in 2008 into the hands of children in their homes, in waiting rooms, at Kids Unlimited, in Juvenile Detention and the Juvenile Shelter, at On Track, the Magdalene House, the Providence Birth Place, at Rogue Valley Medical Center's Moms and Tots and Pediatrics, through Jackson County Health and Human Services Vital Links program, at Access food pantries, and at North Medford High School's Child Development program.

It wasn't enough. More books were needed. So the Storytelling Guild has set a higher 2009 goal: 3,500 children's books. Help meet the goal!

Books may be donated to "Pass the Book" during the month of January at all 15 branches of the Jackson County Library and at all 8 branches of Umpqua Bank in Jackson County. Books are needed for all age groups, from babies (board books are very welcome) to teens and all ages in between. Share your love of books and reading: donate children's books to the Storytelling Guild's "Pass the Book" program.

Questions? Email [billeter@entwood.com](mailto:billeter@entwood.com)

Anne Billeter • 541-772-5697

## TRENDS AND OBSERVATIONS

# Life's surprises

BY RAUNO PERTTU

Life's surprises have a way of crashing into our best laid plans. I'm sure our current economic crisis has dented many plans and dreams. Life has few sure bets, and the sure bets tend to be unpleasant. For many years, my wife Jan and I talked about our plans to spend our retirement years in travel and adventure. Perhaps those plans will still materialize, but lately, life has given us our own share of surprises.

As perhaps the most challenging of these surprises, five years ago Jan was diagnosed with the initial stage of dementia, better known as Alzheimer's disease. This was a shock for an active, intelligent, educated 53-year-old lady and our family.

Jan and I immediately investigated options with the Oregon Health Services University hospital (OHSU) in Portland to see what new or pending treatments might be available. We learned that the available treatments only moderately slow the progression of the disease. The researchers at OHSU told us that advanced, effective treatments were perhaps two to four years away, and they were participating in evaluating some of the most promising new drugs.

Jan promptly enrolled in a trial medication test being conducted by OHSU, which meant repeated drives to Portland, but we were ready to travel much farther if it meant the chance to fight the disease. Her first trial drug

turned out not to be as effective as hoped, similarly to several others that have been tested over the past years.

Today, there are new promising drugs being tested, but Jan wasn't able to get into these tests. If any of these new research drugs turn out to be as effective as early indications suggest, they are expected to become publicly available in that always-shifting two to four years from today. If an effective treatment becomes available earlier elsewhere in the world, our motto is "Have suitcase—will travel."

About a year before Jan was diagnosed, her mother died from Alzheimer's disease. In helping her mother, we learned the difficulties resulting from the disease. In response to Jan's concerns, her mother's doctors assured us that the odds of Jan developing the disease were slim, and that a cure was in the near future. Unfortunately, life often ignores the experts.

While helping Jan's mother, we agreed that Alzheimer's is a slow eroding away that is worse than cancer. I learned the reality of that observation the summer before last, when I was diagnosed with early prostate cancer. I had the cancer removed by robotic nerve-saving surgery and no longer have to worry about that problem. Alzheimer's doesn't yet allow the same option.

Over these past five years, Jan has re-taught me that a gentle, warm,

fun-loving personality is compatible with steely courage. She remains active and outwardly cheerful while she resolutely fights the disease's advance. Only an occasional hidden tear or a brief moment of frustration betray her inner battles.

**We have been reminded how fragile future plans and life's joys really are. In that knowledge, we treasure what we have, perhaps in a way we otherwise wouldn't.**

We have been reminded how fragile future plans and life's joys really are. In that knowledge, we treasure what we have, perhaps in a way we otherwise wouldn't. As some of our daily responsibilities shift, I have learned how many things Jan has always done for us that I hadn't previously noticed. I also have developed great admiration for her courage and determination that are hidden behind a loving smile and laugh.

To date, she has had two notable challenges. This past summer, her doctor notified the Department of Motor Vehicles of her condition, and despite a flawless lifetime driving record (I don't count that one speeding ticket), her license was revoked. Her inability to drive and consequent loss of freedom have been difficult for both of us.

Another challenge is that the

disease has in particular focused on her speech center. This is apparently not uncommon. In talking, she may pause because she knows the word she wants to say, but it just won't come. Her obvious frustration in trying to communicate a thought when the desired word won't pop into mind makes me want to hug her and say it's all right. As a result, the always talkative Jan has become quieter and our nonverbal communication skills have improved.

Our children have been very supportive from the beginning. Emily, who is working on her doctorate in biological engineering at a large research hospital in San Francisco, has taken the lead on looking for any advances in treatment that may become available. Some of the new research gives us realistic reason to be hopeful, and we maintain our "Have suitcase—will travel" attitude.

As with our family, it's a certainty that many other Applegate families quietly live with medical, financial and other challenges. Many of those challenges likely have been intensified by our current economic mess. Like the approval for new medical treatments, the end to this economic crisis is also in that fuzzy "maybe two years from now" category. We can hope for earlier rather than later.

Rauno Perttu  
541-899-8036

jrpernttu@charter.net

## Who named the Applegate River?

BY SUE ROLLE

Back in 1846, Lindsay and Jessie Applegate came through our area when laying out the Southern Emigrant Road. They were looking for a more southerly route across the cascades to join the main Oregon Trail in southeastern Idaho. It was said that Lindsay saw the river from the mountains north of what is now Grants Pass. He thought it was a distinctly different river than the Rogue. His fellow explorers thought it was a "bend" in the Rogue River and teased him about it, calling it "Applegate's River."

Another possibility is that the river was named in 1848 when Lindsay passed through the area on

his was to the newly discovered gold fields of California.

The Takelma Indians called the river "S'bink (Beaver) River." The Shastas called it "Itskatawayeki."

The Athapascans referred to the river as "Ta'k'hoope."

These tidbits were taken from John and Marguerite Black's book, *Ruch and the Upper Applegate Valley*, Olga Weydemeyer Johnson's *They Settled in Applegate Country*, and Jeff LaLande's, *From Abbott Butte to Zimmerman Burn*. These publications are available at local southern Oregon libraries.

Su Rolle  
541-482-0093



John Byrne Ranch on the Upper Applegate, January 18, 1933.

*"Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire: it is the time for home."*

- Edith Sitwell

*"Winter is the season in which people try to keep the house as warm as it was in the summer, when they complained about the heat."*

- Anonymous

is still an active member of the Josephine County Sheriff's Mounted Posse and the Kiger Horse Association Registry. Jani also participates in Search and Rescue operations using her mustangs.

Jani has adopted several mustangs from the wild through the BLM's Wild Horse and Burro program. She has trained and exhibited many mustangs for other owners, including a spectacular Kiger mustang stallion. Jani says the prominent freeze brand marking on the necks of all BLM adopted mustangs is a great conversation opener, and gives her a chance to tell people about these wonderful horses.

Jani uses mustangs in her work moving and managing cattle and horses on the ranch on East Evans Creek where she and her husband live. In September, 2008, she was one of 200 trainers selected to participate in the 2nd Annual National Extreme Mustang Makeover in Fort Worth, Texas. Each trainer was assigned a mustang recently captured from the wild, and had 100 days to train the horse before competing in Fort Worth for \$50,000 in cash prizes. After the competition, the horses were auctioned off to the highest bidder, with proceeds going to support the BLM's Wild Horse and Burro adoption program.

"I felt very privileged to be selected for the 2008 competition,"

says the 43-year old trainer. Some 400 trainers from around the country applied and only 200 were chosen. When she decided to apply for the competition, she said "It was not about the prize money. I just want people to know about the mustangs, and the Mustang Makeover is a wonderful way to promote these horses I have come to admire." She says mustangs are intelligent, strong, sure-footed, athletic, and versatile. "They are survivors. They reason. They're not spooky. They don't like to waste energy. They're very honest, not conniving or deceitful when they relate to you." Once you gain their trust, she says, the mustangs love attention, and they love to work.

Jani traveled to the BLM facility near Reno in mid-June to pick up her wild horse for the competition, a strong, stocky four-year-old dark bay gelding. She named him D.LaRue, in honor of her good friend and mentor, Dewayne LaRue, who died in 2007. She says her work with "Rue" progressed easily. "He is an exceptionally kind, quiet horse. He is very inquisitive, and wants to be with people. He likes to learn, and he learns quickly." "I was riding him in 22 days." Knowing him now, she says, she probably could have ridden him sooner, but she did not want to push him. She advanced only as quickly as she felt he could handle. "He was walking



Jani drives Rue past scary tarp and barrel.

right up to us the first day we had him home." She began with simply letting him adjust to his new home and to her. She slowly began introducing him to groundwork commands in a round pen, teaching him to stand for grooming, and to lead. As he accepted each phase she would introduce new activities or new stimuli, such as saddling and bridling, obstacles like tarps, barrels, and objects flapping in the breeze. She soon had him sidepassing, walking over logs, and even going on short trail rides with other riders, horses, and dogs. "With Rue's kind nature and calm, level-headed temperament, he is going to be one very nice little horse when he is finished," she says.

After 100 days of training, Jani and Rue traveled to Fort Worth. By then Rue was crossing streams, walking over tarps, loading in a trailer, opening gates under saddle, moving calmly at all gates and doing flying lead changes, all with calm confidence. She had mixed emotions at the competition. She was confident, but nervous; excited but apprehensive. The Will Rogers Event Center in Fort Worth is a huge equestrian complex with stables and multiple arenas that seat thousands. All competitors were judged in multiple categories, including overall condition of the horse, an in-hand trail course, and a final under-saddle course. Rue received the highest possible rating in the condition category and one of the highest ratings in the in-hand trial, putting them in 4th place. They had a good run on the under-saddle course and finished 33rd overall out of 65 competitors in the Legends Division, the toughest one.

As with most trainers in last year's event, she became very attached to her assigned mustang. She had to compete with other bidders at the final auction, and was not sure if the price would stay within her range, but in the end she was able to buy the horse she had grown to love.

"Everyone was so supportive of each other. The other trainers, the organizers, and the sponsors were all so upbeat and positive. It was an experience of a lifetime." She was able to share the trailer haul to Texas with Cassi Soule from Roseburg, another trainer who also was competing. She is quick to credit friends, family, and local businesses who helped with donations of gear and money to help cover the substantial expense of hauling a horse across the country. "We could not have

done it without all the support."

The September 2008 event marked the second year for the national mustang training competition, sponsored by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management and the Mustang Heritage Foundation. Similar regional events are springing up around the country. In fact, Jani will be competing again in March 2009 in the Northwest Extreme Mustang Makeover in Albany, Oregon (visit <http://extrememustangmakeover.com> for more information). The event not only demonstrates the athleticism, talent, and versatility of America's wild horses, but proceeds from the auction are used to support the management and preservation of America's wild horses.

After the stress and expense of the National competition last September, Jani says she sometimes questions the wisdom of doing another one so soon. She says she and Cassie have asked themselves "Why are we doing this again?" It's all about the horses, she says. They are so strong and versatile. She wants to help increase awareness of the potential and talent of mustangs in hopes of encouraging qualified horse lovers to adopt one of these "living legends" through the BLM's program. "The thing about these wild horses is they teach you as much as you teach them." Jani says it is definitely a team effort. Jani picked up her NW Makeover Mustang in Hines, Oregon on December 4. She has until March to gentle and train him for competition at the Northwest Horse Fair and Expo in Albany on March 20-22, 2009. Several of the other trainers who will be there were also at the Fort Worth competition. "This will be my second Mustang Makeover and it will be fun knowing some of the other trainers there. I am looking forward to it!"

As part of its management program to keep wild horse herds at manageable numbers, the BLM initiated the Wild Horse and Burro adoption program that enables members of the public to adopt one of these horses from the herds managed on public rangelands. To learn more, visit [http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/wild\\_horse\\_and\\_burro.html](http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/wild_horse_and_burro.html).

Annette Parsons  
541-846-6656  
aparsons@apbb.net

Annette Parsons is a retired soil scientist living in the Applegate Valley with her husband, a small vineyard, two mustangs, a mule, and three cats.

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## JACKSON COUNTY Library Services

### Applegate Library

## Our library needs friends!

Hey folks, remember when our libraries were closed and how miserable we all were? Can you think back to all of those resolutions that you made to help our library if it ever opened again? Well, now's the time! Our library has been open for several months and is functioning just fine on its three, four-hour days a week. (Tuesday from 2:00-6:00, Friday from 2:00-6:00 and Saturday from 10:00 to 2:00). We have a great librarian with Phyllis Zerr, and now we have a new assistant, Thalia Truesdale, who is full of energy and creative ideas. All we need are some dedicated Friends to hold down the fort.

Friends of the Applegate Library is the group of citizens who really care about keeping our library active and alive. It is the Board of Directors, consisting of a president (Susan Bratt) a treasurer (Thelma Goodnough) and a secretary (Joan Peterson). Several other faithful members attended the meetings. These folks decide what programs we might like to have in the meeting room, what kind of landscaping we need around the building, what displays would make the library room more interesting. The Friends of the Applegate Library is the group of people who keep the wheels turning throughout the building and property, and extend our needs into the community by way of art shows, silent auctions and special dinners at Eve's. We need more Friends!

The Friends of the Applegate Library (FOAL) meets four times a year, in January, April, July and October. The meetings are usually about an hour long, and sometimes we even have snacks! We talk about what we would like to see in our library, and how things could be improved. We talk about our book sales and what would be the best entertainment for our community through our famous Chautauqua programs (there is so much to choose from!) and other resources throughout our valley. Last year, the Friends raised over \$600 for some lovely hybrid pine trees, which have been planted in front of the library. Please come and see them. They have greatly added to the library's landscaping plan.

You can become a member of FOAL by picking up a membership form the next time you are in the library and paying the very reasonable dues (\$15 per year). You can come to our next meeting on January 13, 2009 at 4:30 in the meeting room of the Applegate Library with ideas of what you might like to see in our library. We welcome you to join our circle of Friends.

Joan Peterson  
541-846-6988

### Ruch Library

## Cavalcade of Culture

Ruch Library presents an eclectic line up of special programs for this winter and spring at the Community Room in Ruch Library. In response to our earlier questionnaire, we have attempted to include programs for every interest. If you would like to receive notice of each event, please email Cynthia Cheney at akantha@mac.com to be placed on the mailing list. Refreshments will be provided at each event, and we are seeking people willing to be on a list of potential providers of repast. If you would like to contribute refreshments on occasion, please contact Fran Hopkins at 541-899-9602 or email her at franhop@gmail.com. Thank you!

We are very excited about these upcoming programs and we hope to see you there!

#### Friday, January 9, 7 pm "How Dogs Think" with Cary Voorhees

Cary has been training dogs for 21 years and holds degrees in both zoology and psychology. For the past 16 years Cary has been teaching obedience classes and working as a behavior consultant with dogs. (Please leave your dog at home for this event.)

**Saturday, February 7, 3 pm, "Idea of Justice," Chautauqua program** from the Oregon Council for the Humanities with Lani Roberts, Oregon State University, discussing how our society has dealt with justice throughout history.

#### Saturday, February 28, 1 pm "Starting Seeds At Home"

Don Shaffer, Jackson County Master Gardener Association

Learn how to successfully start your own garden starts from seed. Topics include selecting seed, using the proper seed starting medium, and creating the ideal germination environment. We will also cover transplant mixes and how to transplant, with an opportunity to try your hand at seeding and transplanting.

#### Friday, March 6, 7 pm "Creating and Caring for Rock Gardens" by Ed Reilly

Rock gardening typically involves the growing of plants found at high elevation mountain tops and meadows. Rock gardening appeals to many because of the large number and variety of plants that can be grown in a small space. This presentation will include the basics of planning, building and caring for a rock garden. Numerous slides of rock gardens along with rock garden plants will be shown and discussed. Making and planting your own hyper-tufa trough gardens will also be included.

#### Saturday, March, at 1 pm "Local Noxious Weeds"

Bob Bedesa, retired BLM/USFS Noxious Weed Specialist presents a brief history of the more common

invasive plants in our region, such as Yellow Starthistle, Puncture Vine (aka Goatshead), Purple Loosestrife, and Japanese Knotweed, how their populations grew out of control, how they affect our native plant and animal populations, and what we can do to prevent and treat these noxious weeds on our private rural properties.

We'll discuss early detection and identification, effective seasons for control, tools and methods known to be

effective in controlling noxious weeds, as well as what the future might hold.

Coming in April and May: A Local History program, Jenni Foster with Railroad songs, Mark Prchal with local geology. And Thomas Doty with Native American Applegate Valley Tales. Stay tuned for the dates and times in the next Applegater.

Thalia Truesdell  
541-899-8741



### Ruch Library Chautauqua The Idea of Justice Saturday, February 7, 3 pm

Lani Roberts, a fifth-generation Oregonian who's been teaching philosophy at OSU since 1989, will discuss how our society has dealt with justice throughout history in "The Idea of Justice." Jackson County Library Services and the Friends of Ruch Library are pleased to sponsor this Oregon Chautauqua from the Oregon Council for the Humanities. This free, public program will take place on Saturday, February 7, 2009, 3 pm, in the Community Meeting Room, Ruch Branch Library, 7919 Highway. 238, Ruch.

For 25 centuries two kinds of justice have prevailed in Western human communities. Distributive justice pertains to how a community shares its social goods. Retributive justice addresses punishment for criminal wrongdoing. What, then, is restorative justice?

Restorative justice came into focus in the 1990s as a group of South Africans thought about how to peacefully resolve the profound harms perpetuated by supporters of apartheid. It suggests that when perpetrator and victim are face-to-face and tell the truth about what was done to whom, dignity is restored to both parties so that it is possible to extend forgiveness and begin healing. Lani Roberts discusses this remarkable process, which is increasingly a part of the American justice system in the form of mediation.

Lani's research and teaching centers on the intersection between some of our most deeply held values and our actual daily practice. For example, she notes that "we live in an increasingly ethnically mixed society and diversity is no longer just an



idea of what might be. This is both a blessing and a challenge to us all." By studying the challenges that arise when some aspects of our culture impede our ability to act according to our ideals, Roberts hopes Oregonians will be able to close the gap between our ideal and our behavior.

The Idea of Justice is made possible by funding from the Oregon Council for the Humanities (OCH), an independent, non-profit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities that is dedicated to the belief that knowledge and ideas are fundamental to the health of our communities. More information about OCH's programs and publications, which include Oregon Chautauqua, Humanity in Perspective, and Oregon Humanities magazine, can be found at [www.oregonhum.org](http://www.oregonhum.org).

For more information, call the Ruch Branch Library at 541-899-7438.

Pat Gordon  
541-899-7655

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## Fun and Games

by Marvin Rosenberg

A brain teaser for mathematically inclined neighbors.

A friend of mine knows that I love birds and lizards and dropped a bunch of both creatures at my home. Just for fun (I do love math), I decided to count only the heads and legs of these animals. I finally counted 30 heads and 70 legs.

Can you figure out how many birds and animals I had to care for?

Try your algebra skills before you look up the answer on page 19.

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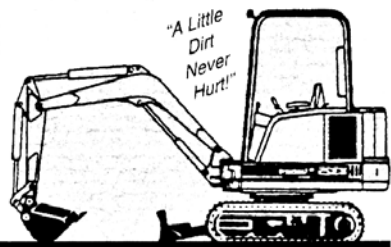
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## THE STARRY SIDE

# The four seasons

BY GREELEY WELLS

Since the 'Gater is moving to a seasonally published paper, at least temporarily, it's appropriate that I join in the celebration of this new development. This is the first, I trust, of many winter editions of the seasonal paper. So we start here with cold and snow, short days, and long nights. How does that happen? I mean there's just us and the sun moving along together in the same configuration: us around the unchanging sun. Tilt is the answer!

Can you believe it is all about something so small as tilt, our tilted position in our orbit around the sun? The earth isn't upright and spinning, it's tilted and spinning. Sometimes that tilt, from the northern hemisphere, is towards the the sun and we get summer and its June solstice. Sometimes it's away, like now and it's our winter solstice. The other two times it's equal, the tilt is canceled out by our position around the sun and we have equinoxes, i.e. spring and fall. I'm writing now in fall but when you get this it'll be winter, just past the winter solstice.

If we lived at the equator there'd be no changes, no effect of this tilt. There'd be no seasons as we know them. The same temperature and amount of sun all year. There may be monsoon or dry seasons or other effects, but not defined by the earth's tilt.

Here in Oregon we're in a decidedly different situation. Have you noticed going north on the I-5 freeway that sign, that says "the 45th parallel" somewhere around Roseburg? We're just below that in the Applegate Valley at about 42° parallel. The equator is 0° and the north pole 90° so we're almost dead center between them. We're almost exactly halfway up the globe between the equator and the pole.

My sister, Elizabeth, lived for years up in Anchorage so I've been up to Alaska, and I've seen a bit of what the night sky is like up there. The Northern Cross is outrageously close to overhead and all the circumpolar stars circle visibly around it. Now at the pole, where not many of us have been, it's literally overhead. In summer the sun never sets and in winter it never rises!!!! In Alaska, winter has a dawn and then a dusk. In summer a sunset and dusk and then a dawn and sunrise, no night! Glad to live here in the middle!

In my opinion we live in the perfect spot on the planet. Not too much sun or too little, not too much hot or too much cold, not too much dry or too much snow and wet. Thank you Lord for bringing me to Oregon!

### THE PLANETS

Venus' fall dance is continuing into winter with the New Year's night dusk high and bright in the sky in the southwest near a crescent moon and Jupiter, a nice show. Later at midnight Sirius, our best and brightest star, is high up in the south, a sentinel for the new year. In mid January Venus slows, stops and begins moving west towards the sun against the backdrop of stars behind it. At January's end a crescent moon visits Venus again on the 29th. In February, the distance between Venus and the sun noticeably shortens. On the 27th Venus is at its brightest and next to it is a beautiful crescent moon again, only three-days old. By March, Venus is catching up with the sun, and by the equinox, on the 20th, Venus sets just an hour after the sun sets. Venus is soon to sink into the sun and disappear, to be seen again in the east in April as the morning star. Good-bye for a while, thanks for the beautiful dances. Hope you have a good rest.

Jupiter starts January in the southwest at sunset and by mid-month has disappeared into it and out of sight! This, our biggest planet, is joined

by Mercury, the smallest, and they disappear almost together. What are those two doing out of our sight? Well, Mercury quickly jumps into the dawn sky but is hard to see as it bobs up and then down in the glow of the sun hugging the horizon line early each day. We won't see Jupiter for a while.

Saturn, on New Year's day, rises around 10:30 pm and moves slowly up and west through the stars. Its rings get more edge on, then by February begin to open to us again. Saturn is the main planetary attraction through the nights for the rest of the year.

Mars has eluded us for a while till barely visible in mid-January at dawn, but by March Mars will slowly rise in our easterly predawn sky for you early risers.

Mercury plays with the light of the sun at dusk first, then dawn and as always, is small and hard to see. (See Jupiter above.)

### OF SPECIAL NOTE

January's full moon: The Moon After Yule or Old Moon is on the 10th. February's is on the 9th and is called The Wolf, Snow or Hunger Moon. The Lenten, Sap, Crow or Worm Moon is on March 10th. Don't you just wonder about those names?

Quadrantids Meteor Shower is a winter treat for us this year, and with the moon setting at midnight, it's considered favorable for the west coast. It's on January 3rd at 4:50 am pacific standard time (PST) and the radiant is high in the northeast. One of its problems is its short time of meteor showers (only 14 hours or less), but it could produce 100 meteors per hour, so the brave and cold-blooded will be rewarded in the pre-dawn hours.

The Spring Equinox, the beginning of spring, is on the 20th of March this year. More or less equal day and night with the sun right on the ecliptic, which is an imaginary line at the midpoint of the paths of the sun and moon. When the sun's path is north of the ecliptic it's winter and cold, where we are now, to the south of the ecliptic the warmth of summer is on its way.

Hard to see but always interesting is a penumbral Lunar Eclipse. That's the earth's outermost shadow striking the moon's surface with a strange, subtle, warm light. Warm because it, in effect, is the light of a perpetual earth sunrise/sunset, all around the earth from the moon's point of view. Isn't that an image! This happens at 4:41 am, PST, in the predawn of February 9th with the moon dropping low in the west, opposite the sun about to rise in the east. We, the earth, are in between making the shadow. Ah, the solar system and the music of the spheres!

One last thing, a beginning! 2009 is the International Year of Astronomy. Endorsed by the United Nations Education, Science and Cultural Organization, designated by the International Astronomical Union and marking the 400th anniversary of Galileo's first telescopic observations, this is truly a global event. The theme is "The Universe, Yours to Discover." One of the objectives is to open the universe's images, knowledge, wonders and potentials to as many of us 6.8-billion earthlings as possible. Some ways to connect are: Twanight.org (the world at night global landmark images site), skyandtelescope.com/BU2009 (a cosmic visual exhibit) and 400years.org (which is related to a planetarium show and PBS film airing early in '09.) So, friends, buckle up and enjoy the show—all year!

Greeley Well  
541-840-5700  
greeley@greeley.me

GRREAT

FROM PAGE 1



B.C. and Dee on "their" bed. If you were wondering, B.C. used the shower or bathtub for a potty and never had an accident.

Like her owner, B.C. had a colorful life. She was a "grand marshal" of sorts at more than 35 parades, always perched atop Dee's 1972 white Cadillac convertible, which she still drives and keeps carefully covered in her garage.

It was B.C. who led the dedication ceremonies of Flying Tiger airlines, and was once a passenger on a TWA flight from St. Louis to New York. Not in cargo as you might think: She was with Dee in the cabin!

Dee and B.C. were featured in *Animal People*, a book by Gale Cooper, published in 1983 by Houghton Mifflin.

As an actress, Dee was under contract with Republic Studios and acted in "quite a few movies and some dumb things." She appeared in *Perry Mason* and *Leave it to Beaver* television series. She also had a part on *The Virginian* with James Drury, and did a couple of movies with Randolph Scott. Appearances on *The George Gobel Show*, *Cimarron City*, *Laramie*, and *The Life and Legend of Wyatt Earp* kept Dee busy.

After leaving Republic Studios, Dee became an interior designer and worked for some of the biggest builders in Los Angeles as well as her wealthy friends and celebrity acquaintances.

Dee's close friends included Julie Dorsey, daughter of Tommy Dorsey, and actress Patrice

Wymore, Errol Flynn's last wife. John Derek, though, was "absolutely my best friend and favorite person. He was a good actor, and the best-looking man in pictures." Dee also was a friend of a couple of his wives—Ursula Andress and Bo Derrick.

Then there was John Compton, who played Ann Blyth's husband in the 1945 Oscar-winning movie *Mildred Pierce*; George Putnam, well-known news reporter and talk show host who died recently; and Liberace, who loved her hats. James Coburn helped Dee move in Los Angeles, and she used to attend "soirees" on the arms of Hugh O'Brian. Rumors abounded, Dee said, but "we were just friends." Oh, and did you know that "Marion Davies had more emeralds than Cartier had diamonds"? And actress "Nina Anderson had the biggest diamonds in the U.S.—bigger than Elizabeth Taylor's."



Another photo of B.C. and Dee in the bedroom, this time on the pages of National Enquirer: 30 Years of Unforgettable Images.

Framed and signed photos of celebrities and horses are abundant on practically every wall of Dee's house and she remembers when each photo was taken. Sadly, she's lost touch with a lot of her friends and the Screen Actor's Guild won't give out any information when she calls.

She still has lots of animals around, though: Five cats, a Great Dane named "Missy," ("I've always had Danes"), and four horses, among them an Andalusian paint, an Arab buckskin, and a paint quarter horse. She still rides and still mucks stalls. "If I didn't clean stalls every day, I'd be lost," she said.

James Drury and Dee used to ride bareback in the hundreds of miles of trails in Griffith Park (Los Angeles). She won all kinds of halter classes with "bull dog" (quarter) horses. "They were small horses then, around 14.1 or .2 hands." Dee hauled her horses to shows all over the country, and all by herself. On her travels, she was a frequent guest at Jack Warner's 29,000-acre ranch in Armada outside Tucson.

More about Dee Arlen can be found in the 1993 book entitled *National Enquirer: 30 Years of Unforgettable Images*.

Barbara Holiday  
541-218-8606



Most of Dee's celebrity photos are autographed. Here they include Doug McClure, Cliff Ketchum, the "Man from Glad," John Wayne, Gordon Scott (Tarzan), Herb Roberts and Guy Madison.



B.C. posing for a Baskin-Robbins commercial. The president of Baskin-Robbins happened to see Dee buying a cone for B.C. and asked them to do this commercial. B.C. was happy to oblige.



Dee enjoyed dressing up for the recent Applegater fundraiser at Eve's Café. "The secret to her lifelong glamour? "All you have to do is take a million vitamins and take care of yourself and you won't have any wrinkles."

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**Governor selects Applegate Sustainable Aggregate for Oregon Solutions project**

BY KIM TRAVIS

Governor Kulongoski recently designated the Applegate Sustainable Aggregate effort as a new Oregon Solutions project. The project involves participation from both Jackson and Josephine Counties, along with the Applegate Partnership and Watershed Council and a variety of other interested stakeholder groups. Each of these entities shares a common interest in the health of the watershed, the community and the local economy.

An Oregon Solutions team will review the current conditions and available data, and identify the conditions and studies needed for sustainable gravel extraction in the Applegate Watershed, while considering natural resource needs and local economic realities in the community.

"There is a critical need to determine how much gravel can be mined from our rivers without detriment to fish habitat and the river system. A team of state, federal, and local governments, along with private and civic partners will address the economic, environmental, and community needs for sustainable aggregate mining in the Applegate River watershed," says Governor Kulongoski about this Oregon Solutions project.

Josephine County Commissioner Dwight Ellis and Jackson County Commissioner C.W. Smith have been named by the Governor as Co-conveners of the Oregon Solutions project team. More than 18 entities will be participating as Oregon Solutions team members over the next six months. The project team hopes to find a solution that embraces and educates the community, incorporates

their concerns, addresses environmental concerns, and helps secure additional resources to provide needed data.

Oregon Solutions is a program of the National Policy Consensus Center at Portland State University which assists in bringing government, business, and civic organizations together to address community problems or opportunities in Oregon. The Governor is chair of the program's steering committee. Typically, an Oregon Solutions collaborative process culminates in a "Declaration of Cooperation" signed by each of

the participating organizations. This declaration becomes the blueprint for moving the project toward completion.

Commissioner C.W. Smith stated, "We have a strong history of working together in the Applegate to find solutions. I feel confident that we will be able to find common ground with this project."

Commissioner Dwight Ellis added, "This is an important issue that has impacts beyond the Applegate. Our work can benefit other communities that are struggling with similar natural resource management challenges."

More information about this project can be found on the web at: <http://www.orsolutions.org/southwest/applegate.htm>

Requests for additional information can be emailed to Oregon Solutions project manager Joan Resnick at [joan@trltg.com](mailto:joan@trltg.com) or the Applegate River Watershed Council at [staff@arwc.org](mailto:staff@arwc.org).

Kim Travis • 503-725-9092  
 Oregon Solutions Network Manager  
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We meet every Monday night from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm the Applegate Community Church, just off Highway 238 in Applegate, turn on North Applegate Road, first driveway on your right turn and follow the driveway up the hill to the church. Rehearsals began on January 5 and will last until March 23. We will have a program for the community on Sunday, March 29, at the Applegate Ranch House in the afternoon. For more information call Marvin Rosenberg at 541-899-7861, or Joan Peterson at 541-846-6988.

Joan Peterson • 541-846-6988

# Cantrall-Buckley update

BY LAIRD FUNK

On November 22, the engineer beheld the completed project and he was pleased. Yes folks, the construction of the Cantrall-Buckley wastewater treatment system and all related pieces wrapped up on that chilly Saturday and all of it passed the final engineering inspection with flying colors. The wetland treatment cell was filled with drainfield rock and planted with over 2,000 wetland plants, including some iris from Day Boddorff of Applegate Growers, which is the current operation at the original Buckley ranch. Some of them have already taken advantage of the fairly mild weather and have started growing.

The underground drip system, which is the final disposal of the treated effluent, was installed in the campground meadow and the meadow seeded with a native grass seed mix, which was generously donated to the park by our local BLM office. The same mix was used to seed all areas of disturbance throughout the park. Over 50 pounds in all were broadcast. The native red clay soil is prone to erosion in heavy rain so we wanted to have the seed in and germinating before the more severe winter weather came along.

The drip system itself was an exercise in precise layout in order to get the required 5000 feet of drip tubing properly placed in the 10,000 square foot meadow. That is a lot of tubing in a pretty small place. There were 70 rows of tubing only 18" apart, but the job was made somewhat easier by building a plow which plowed in two lines at a time, saving untold hours of trenching and filling. Another timesaver was the fact that the emitters came already installed inside the tubing so we did not have to come back and punch in 5000 emitters!

Earlier, in mid-October, Pacific Power arrived with three crews and set to work setting a new pole and stringing wires from it to a nearby line pole on Cantrall Road. Meanwhile, one of the crews pulled the power cables from giant spools and threaded them through the awaiting conduit. Another set of cables was run from the new power panel to the transformer site and then the transformer was dropped over them and the connections made. After a return trip a day or so later to install the meter and energize the panel, the campground at Cantrall-Buckley entered a new age-electricity!

Over on the "day-use" side, work on the revised water system got underway, again with the help of Jackson County Corrections public service crews, they had to hand trench new lines in between a maze of existing pipes and conduits so that a new control system and a new variable speed pump could be installed and a new control building built. Given the temperamental nature of the old collection of vintage control boxes and pressure switches, the new system should much improve reliability for the interim needed. Funding will be needed to complete the



new system that is needed for the final campground improvement. Quinn's Well Drilling did a great job on all of it and generously donated part of their costs back to the park.

With water and power we were ready for the delivery of the new CXT, Inc. prefab concrete bathroom/shower building for the campground. This building comes completely plumbed and wired with all fixtures in place and ready to be connected to previously installed piping and conduits underground. Built in three sections, the building is placed on the prepared pad by a huge 147,000-pound crane, then the sections are cabled together and the cable tightened with hydraulic jacks to hold it all tight. It is so complete it even comes with three rolls of toilet paper in each toilet stall!

(Photos above)

The trucks rolled into Ruch very early on October 30, and the work began that morning. Unfortunately, the delivery suffered a series of significant snags, the story of which is best reserved for another time, and the first piece was not on site till early that evening. The next day was a bit more successful, though still behind schedule with the last piece finally hitting the ground around 2 pm. The CXT contractor and his crew were then able to kick into high gear and got the new shower unit tied together by 4 pm. The following day was spent by his crew making the plumbing connections between sections and tying together the parts of the electrical system. After that a final grouting and a touchup of the paint completed the job and Cantrall-Buckley



## Wise Words from Forrest Gump's Mama #33

with Bob Quinn

*Was it Forrest Gump's mother who used to say that during the dreary winter doldrums you have to work hard to use your brain. Otherwise it can clog up and might not be there when you need it...*

If so, she might just as well have been talking about a ground water source well. Wintertime is usually a time of year when water demand drops to a level that is only what's needed for normal domestic consumption. Such reduced demand is likely to only drop the static water level by just a few feet. This can cause the water in your well to stagnate—an ideal condition to encourage the growth of iron. Over a period of time this buildup of iron can clog the walls of the well and may eventually seal your well off. The best advice is to run your well pump hard at least twice during the winter season. This practice will help flush out the iron and is good preventive care for your investment. Personally, I think Forrest Gump's mom was a lot smarter than some of the politicians in Washington, but that's a whole other story...

Bob Quinn is a member of the Oregon Ground Water Association and owner of **Quinn's Well Drilling and Pump Service** at 6811 Williams Hwy., Grants Pass. As part of a tradition of information and service that began more than 50 years ago, these columns are provided by the firm to help take the mystery out of well drilling and ground water. If you have a question about your well or one you are planning, please call Bob or his helpful staff for advice, estimates, or helpful information at no obligation or cost.

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Park had a new bathroom!

The last item on the job was the inspection by Jackson County building department, which covered the far-flung electrical system and its myriad of panels and related pumps. The Thanksgiving week inspection went very well also. The last piece of the project that had started last January 23, 2008 was completed.

Extraordinary from conception to completion, the Cantrall-Buckley improvement project stands as a monument to foresight, dedication and perseverance in the face of improbable odds by the small group of volunteers who serve on the Cantrall-Buckley Park advisory board and who worked together to see the job taken to completion.

Laird Funk • 541-846-6759



## Tall Tales from the Editor

# Losing a best friend or Puppy garble

This past October was a very, very sad time around our old homestead here in the Applegate. Our Border Collie, "Little Miss Tuesday," died.

It all happened so fast. On a Wednesday afternoon, Tuesday and I were playing her favorite game of catch the ball. She had spent many years training me how to play this game to her standards. I might add that I had become quite proficient at throwing her ball to her. But when evening came along, she wasn't interested in anything—cookies included. My "Bride" Sioux was out of town and that made everything worse. I called her and told her how Tuesday was acting. My nurse-bride said it sounded like kidney failure.

Early next morning I took her to the veterinarian. Indeed, her blood test showed she was in kidney failure. I asked the vet, "How could this be? She showed no signs of being sick until last night." He had no answers for me, but said he would start her on IV fluids immediately and see if her condition would improve. I called Sioux and all she could do was hold my hand over the phone and cry. She could not get home fast enough—she was waiting to have a visit with her 98-year-old uncle, perhaps the last visit she would have with him. She cried again. By Saturday morning, all hope was gone and Tuesday died.

When one of my dogs dies, it's like losing a best friend, maybe even worse. No matter how disgusting my habits or how many stupid things I've done, my dogs have never held it against me. But a friend, well, they just might give up on me after a while.

Over the years I've written many stories about Miss Tuesday. She was a very entertaining and loyal friend. Sioux and I miss her immensely, but she leaves us with many great memories, laughs and that special unconditional doggie love.

Old Utah has been staying very close to us since Tuesday died. He even comes back from herding his personal flock of chickens and turkeys before the sun has set. Is it just to make sure we're still here? He used to give up herding birds only when he needed a nap, but I guess he's feeling a little insecure these days.

A few weeks later our good friend Janeen Sathre was over visiting and picking up several pounds of Arkansas Black and King David apples. Her husband Dan was planning to make them into sauce (not Jim Beam) and apple butter. Janeen brought over some of their already made apple butter. I polished off the entire jar in no time, just me and a large spoon. What a luxury that was!

Janeen, Sioux and I were sitting

around our kitchen table talking when Janeen said some neighbors were going to be moving to town after the first of the year and they need to find homes for their two five-month-old Border Collie/McNab-mix puppies. Maybe you want one? We didn't think so, or I didn't, but Janeen kept telling us, "Oh, but they are soooo cute and such great little guys." So we said, "Well, maybe just a little peek."

At that time, our nephew Jim Bloom (not Jim Beam) from Boston was visiting our paradise here in Applegate. He and Sioux (notice the absence of my name here) had been dancing across southern Oregon. The dance floor included our kitchen, living room and any music clubs they could find. When they finally took a break from dancing, we all decided to go visit the puppies and took Utah with us.

Of course, the puppies were cute, but not cuter than two twenty-one-year-old babes sunbathing on a hot sandy beach in Brazil. They were cuter than most anything else I could think of. But now I can't get that Brazilian beach scene out of my head!

While all of us stood around talking "puppy garble," Utah disappeared. He had found some new chickens to herd and the puppies were showing him their herding instincts.

Now as any good salesperson knows, you never just "peek" at puppies. Thank you, Janeen. We were hooked and I wanted both of them. But my bride laid down the law and said I had to decide between the two. Was she referring to the puppies or the Brazilian beach babes?

We went home to decide which puppy we wanted—a difficult decision. Sioux had already made up her mind, but I wanted to ponder the merits of each puppy. One looked like the "son of Utah," a McNab. Hmm, I wonder where Mr. Utah has been roaming—no, wait; we had him fixed years ago. The other one looked very much like a Border Collie and that is the puppy we chose. I had no idea that Sioux had decided on a name even before she ever saw either puppy. She had dubbed whomever "McGee." As usual, I am the last to know these things. Anyway, so much for "just looking."

So as one adventure ends with the grievous loss of Little Miss Tuesday, another one begins with Mr. McGee.

I'm taught once again that with every tear there is a smile, with every cloud there is sun, and with every yesterday, there is today. And life's adventures roll on.



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

## 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. We are a community-based newspaper that receives diverse opinions on different topics. Letters should be no longer than 450 words, and may be edited for grammar and length. Opinion Pieces should be no longer than 600 words. All Letters and Opinion Pieces must be signed, with a full street address or P.O. Box and phone number. Individual Letters may or may not be published in consecutive issues.

Address Opinion Pieces and Letters to the Editor to:

*The Applegater* c/o Applegate Valley Community Newspaper, Inc.  
7386 Highway 238 • PMB 308  
Jacksonville, OR 97530  
Email: [gater@applegater.org](mailto:gater@applegater.org)

Dear Editor:

Thank you for Rauno Perttu's succinct, informative and balanced essay on the economics of energy policy. It was refreshingly free of the usual hyperbole and tendentiousness with which we find ourselves saturated. It should be required reading.

Can you recommend any books on the subject written in a similar vein?  
Craig Faulkner,

Dear Editor,

Just had to drop you a note to tell you how much I love your "Dirty Finger Nails and All" column in the *Applegater*. I especially loved the one about the turkeys, although I must admit I almost didn't read it because I was afraid of how it would end. (Being a veggie, you know, I was rooting for the turkey.) I LOVED the ending. You have such a way with a phrase and you are such a great story teller. I am surprised that some big time magazine hasn't snapped you up yet.

Jan Cody, Applegate, OR

Dear Editor:

I wanted to thank you for an article that was written by Barbara Holiday. She did an outstanding job and was very professional and accurate. After twenty years of articles, hers was the best.

Please thank her for me again.  
Michael Klein, Murphy, OR

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His often hilarious editorials from the *Applegater*, a community newspaper in Oregon's Applegate Valley, range from tongue-in-cheek stories about his days in Moab, Utah as a self-styled Rock Star to tender and uproarious episodes from his current life in the Oregon log cabin where he lives with two irrepressible dogs and his wife, my bride Sioux.

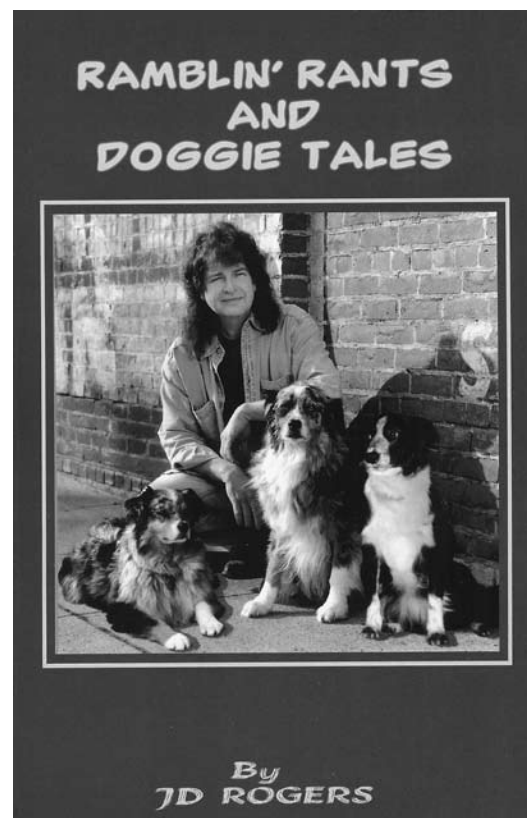
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Opinion

# Change, hope and wildfire

BY SANDY SHAFFER

All summer long, in between stories on wildfires, the newspapers talked of “Change we can believe in.” On Election Day they spoke of “hope” for future generations. And now as I write this in mid-November, the headlines are about wildfires in California—again. I’m thinking that these three words—hope, change and wildfire, have more in common than first meets the eye.

Wildfires play a big role in forest health and management; we in southwestern Oregon know this well. We always hope that our little corner of the Applegate doesn’t get destroyed by fire. Change is also a key element of forest health, with something like drought bringing quick change, while restoration after a fire or re-growth after logging are slow, gradual changes over decades. As we try our hand at forest management, whether it’s our own ten-acre parcel or a national forest, we always hope we’re getting it right, that we’re doing good for the land.

I believe that two recent changes could acutely affect wildfires in Oregon; one of them gives me a lot of hope and the other just a little. I’m talking about the election of Senator Barack Obama as our next President, and the Bureau of Land Management’s recently announced Preferred Resource Management Plan for Western Oregon (the end of the “WOPR” process).

Let me begin with the hopeful. I recently read the Obama position paper entitled “Obama-Biden: Committed to Wildfire Management and Community Protection.” There are many good things in this paper, including a key statement highlighted in the first paragraph: “As President, Barack Obama will aggressively pursue an effective fire prevention, mitigation and land and forest management plan that decreases the fire risks that many communities are now facing.”

One concept high-lighted throughout the paper gave me the most hope. It said that Obama would work with Governors, Congress and local officials in a bipartisan manner to “develop and enact reliable, dedicated funding sources to fight the most catastrophic fires so that public lands may continue to be managed for... other multiple uses.” Dedicated fire suppression funds, rather than raiding other program budgets! No more of what we’ve seen over the past five years: projects planned and then put on the shelf because funding was pulled back

to Washington D.C. to pay for the summer’s wildfires. Yes, this absolutely gives me hope.

The BLM’s Preferred Resource Management Plan (PRMP) for Western Oregon’s O and C lands would definitely bring about change. But I think that if it were approved as initially written it could bring more heartburn than hope. True, the BLM did include one big change in the PRMP that we in the Applegate have been advocating for many years—specialized treatments for our multiple-aged, multi-species forests. This is a good change for us in southwestern Oregon, one that I wish the U.S. Forest Service would also adopt.

**The BLM’s Preferred Resource Management Plan (PRMP) for Western Oregon’s O & C lands would definitely bring about change. But I think that if it were approved as initially written it could bring more heartburn than hope.**

However, what the BLM dropped, abandoned or ignored in the PRMP was the concept of Adaptive Management Areas and working with local communities in land management planning. Because I felt this change boded no good for fire-prone areas such as ours, I recently ‘spoke my piece’ to the BLM State Director, who will make the PRMP decision in December. Among other things, I essentially told him that “Reducing the dangers of wildfires cannot be addressed through federal action alone.” This happens to be a direct quote from the Obama-Biden position paper, and it’s something that I’ve been preaching for years. I must say, it gave me a great deal of hope to hear back that the State Director will be adding collaborative partnering back into their final RMP for the Medford District. Still, we should hope that the new Administration would make this mandatory for all federal land managers across the country.

The Obama-Biden paper also mentions “implementing cooperative projects,” and reducing fuels “... in close coordination with those communities that are most at risk.” Unlike land management policies of the past eight years, this paper seems to recognize that partnering is the only way we’re going to be able to address big-and-getting-bigger issues such as catastrophic wildfires. It looks at the intricate, long-term picture of wildfire and forest management issues. The changes in approach being proposed by the new Administration give me a lot of hope for healthier and safer forests for our future generations. And also for less wildfires in California!

Sandy Shaffer  
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**VETERANS' CORNER**

**Bah humbug and Happy New Year**

BY VICTOR CORTEZ

I write today for those who wish me a Happy New Year. I write for those who make a place for me at the table and wonder why it's empty. I write in honor of other empty chairs.

It's the holidays and I write to you today as an invisible wounded warrior. Not from gun, shrapnel, bombs or blade. Nothing I can splint, stitch or bandage. Nothing that earns ribbon, plaque or medal. It's a more insidious wound. One that festers, inflames, spontaneously, unbidden, unforgiving. And I write to you with humility, cognizant of how minimal my wounds are compared to so many others. Thus I am limited to sharing just my own "think" as we are all so different in our adjustments.

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder or PTSD sounds dramatic and tangible. Something one ought to be able to get ones hands on and strangle. But the opposite is more the truth. And more so during the holidays.

There are many more holidays that I have spent alone than there are those spent in the company of loved ones or friends. Not because of any lack of invitations, though socially unsavory, I still have my masks for all occasions and now with years of PTSD experience, am able to deftly maneuver among small groups, (without many strangers), deflecting triggers and expressing a cordiality not always more than mask deep. Truth be known I am more often anxious, feeling obvious, and tend to stick to the outer edges of any group, ready to bolt at the earliest opportunity. I tend to converse with few, being cautious of conversation that can stir my triggers. Always vigilant that one bad episode could explode the facade, expose the wounds vulnerability and infect those around me, causing more casualties to a war far and long away.

So I stay away. Not always intentionally. Sometimes I have every intention, (with hope of some progress in my self-analysis) to attend and enjoy. But, my entourage is too large. I carry too many in my memory that have no more Christmas, no Hanukkah, no Kwanzaa, no opportunity, no conversations, no vulnerability, no intentions, no New Year, no holiday.

So I stay with "THEM," often. Trying to Honor "THEM" by remembering "THEM." The ones that paid the ultimate price for others to celebrate. "THEM." The ones that come home and keep fighting demons as others celebrate. "THEM" ....And I weep in recognition that "THEM" includes my children, my wives, my friends who have also paid the price for others to celebrate by losing what I might have been for them.

I feel the worst is yet to come. I feel the worst must come by grace. I know my worst must be for "THEM."

One day I hope to release "THEM." To come to terms, stop the infection, leave the remembering to others. This will be the worst and the hardest for me as my investment is at the cellular level, imbedded so deep that it seems only grace can secure reprieve, as all else has only maintained it.

I tire now, as my mind once again starts its fixation on "THEM." I'll withdraw for the rest of the day reminiscing. Sharing the rest of my holiday with "THEM." But I know I cannot truly honor "THEM" yet. To truly honor those of "THEM." I must learn again to do as I hope you will do this New Year. Honor "THEM." Honor what you have gained from "THEM,". And for crying out loud, celebrate, celebrate, celebrate and honor in a New Year for "THEM."

OF INTEREST *Mail Tribune* articles available on the internet in chronological order:

- Oct. 11, 08 "Magnetic pulses aid depressed patients"
- No date for this. "You Must Remember This, Well Maybe Not." New drug for selective memory erasure

- Aug.14, 07 "Anti -depressants are putting a "Damper on Love"
- Oct. 8, 08 "Warrior mind training helps troops cope"
- Oct. 24, 08 "New Veterans home could be headed to Rogue Valley"
- Nov. 9, 07 "Homeless ranks include army of troubled vets"
- Nov. 25, 08 "VA opens health care outreach clinic in Grants Pass"
- No date. "Officer nominated to become nation's first female four-star."
- May 18, 08 "Before and After"
- June 2, 08 "More troops suffer from stress disorder"
- No Date. "Democrats seek resignation of VA mental health official"
- July 21, 08 "Loss of an American Hero"

Thanks for the submissions, especially one particularly long and heady one. It's a tough read so I take it by bits. Please submit shorter bits for publication. Hopefully someone will create a website for us and the longer versions can be posted for a read.

Meeting of VPCITO Veterans Parenting, Community In That Order will be held on Thursday, January 9 at the Applegate Community Church at 7:30 pm. All interested persons are invited to attend.

**PULLED BY THE ROOTS OR WILL IT GROW**

The birth of the Applegate Farmers Market was a difficult but rewarding birth. The vegetables were welcome to those who participated. The volume was a disappointment for those who participated but once. They missed the growth from one box of zucchini the first day, to a variety of 38 different fruits and vegetables, along with a variety of crafts and flea market items including Kathy the rock lady, Larry the video guy, Victor of the GREEN air conditioners and a turnstile of miscellaneous garage, attic and closet cleaners adding yet more color to the seasons of vegetable fare.

Many thanks to those who participated. Veterans exchange and VPCITO would like to especially thank Vince and Marie of Whistling Duck, Chris of Blue Fox Farms on Thompson Creek, Tue of Murphy Public Market for their generous contributions to making this happen. I would also like to thank Jackie of the Applegate Store and Cafe for the venue. Without them none of it could have happened.

Hopes for next year are that people will grow a little more in their gardens with Applegate Farmers and Flea Market in mind. It may not become the financial boon that the other markets can offer, but with the coming times hopes are that it will become a weekend social event that draws locals together to trade, to socialize and to get to know each other better. Already this year I know of one connection that yielded a 1/4 mile road dozing, that saved a neighbor \$1,200.00 and kept the money in the Applegate corridor. It is our hope that next year's weekend Applegate Farmers and Flea Market will yield more such connections while we as Applegaters enjoy the company and talents of our neighbors and yes still exchange a few dollars, while keeping it local. So be prepared. Bring your veggies, your crafts, your tractor, your fundraiser, your stuff, your abilities and share them with your neighbors. Until then, may all your seeds bear fruit and all your fruit bear seed.

OUT.

Victor Cortez

*Victor may be reached at the Applegate Store parking lot, in a beige van, Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.*



**EARL'S PEARLS**

*Elixir vitae found in the Applegate:*

**Libations, calories, chocolate and exercise**

**BY EARL SHOWERMAN, M.D.**

Recent articles in the *Mail Tribune*, *New York* and *Los Angeles Times* and *Newsweek* have all drawn attention to the scientific discovery of the likely cellular mechanism by which imbibing red wine can prevent heart disease and contribute to longevity. A group of researchers at Harvard Medical School have just published their findings in the journal *Cell*, detailing how resveratrol, a minor ingredient in red wine, miraculously works to restore age-damaged chromosomes. The theory suggests resveratrol works by activating a protein known as sirtuin, which repairs damaged DNA. Damaged DNA causes aging by losing its ability to regulate genes. As we age, the ability of sirtuins to keep up with the chromosome breakdown diminishes, so resveratrol, and by implication red wine, helps us live longer by promoting sirtuin levels to repair our worn out genes, like nanoprobes.

Consider sirtuins to be like salvage operators that pack chromatin around genes that need to be suppressed. Eventually this suppression fails, and cellular chaos ensues.

Dr. David Sinclair and his team have demonstrated how these sirtuins worked to extend life in experiments on mice with a lymphoma gene. The team administered extra copies of the gene that makes sirtuin or fed the mice resveratrol, and found that these mice outlived the control group by 24 to 46 percent. Sirtuins are involved in maintaining proper cellular metabolism, including handling fats. In another report, one of the sirtuins also has been shown to protect mice on fatty diets from getting obese in addition to enhancing their endurance during exercise.

The commercial possibilities for these scientific developments has not escaped the attention of Dr. Sinclair, who helped found Sirtis, a company that has developed a variety of chemicals that activate sirtuin like resveratrol. The *New York Times* article noted that Dr. Sinclair has been taking resveratrol daily for the past five years, but even he had to admit that it's too early to say he's young for his age.

At a regional medical symposium last fall, Medford cardiologist Bruce Patterson suggested a number of mechanisms by which the wine we drink and the food we eat may directly affect our health. Scientific observational studies have proven that consumption of one to two alcoholic drinks per day is associated with a reduction in cardiovascular events, including a whopping 30% improvement in

**Scientific observational studies have proven that consumption of one to two alcoholic drinks per day is associated with a reduction in cardiovascular events, including a whopping 30% improvement in coronary artery disease in one study.**

coronary artery disease in one study. One drink as infrequently as three times weekly had a measurable benefit. Dr. Patterson suggested the mechanisms for this could be manifold including an increase in nitric oxide production, antioxidant effects, increased HDL (the 'good' cholesterol), and inhibition of clotting. The evidence, Dr. Patterson cautioned, is not strong enough to make nondrinkers take up the cup, and only very modest drinking is recommended.

The other natural substances Patterson found to be provably heart-healthy were dark chocolate and red grapefruit and he dispelled any myths around coffee being a cause of cardiac problems.

Dark chocolate cocoa reduces blood pressure and improves the function of the cells that line our blood vessels. Red grapefruit appears to lower cholesterol and triglyceride levels up to 15%, but it may cause adverse interactions with prescription medication, including some cholesterol lowering drugs and blood pressure medicines.

One additional way of raising sirtuin levels and extending life, which should be mentioned here, but which flies in the face of holiday dietary excesses, is restricting calorie consumption. Mice that eat 30% less than controls live 30% longer. A recent study of rhesus monkeys confirms the same type of results in primates. The December 15 issue of *Newsweek* reports on a human study on calorie restriction by University of Washington researcher Dr. Luigi Fontana who found subjects on restricted calorie diets had markedly improved age-related cardiac function and lowered C-reactive protein levels, which, when elevated, are closely associated with heart disease.

Finally, one cannot talk about nutrition, health, and disease prevention without mentioning exercise. The minimum aerobic exercise program usually recommended for otherwise healthy adults is 30 minutes of moderately intense effort most every day. For individuals interested in losing weight, a

**The other natural substances Patterson found to be provably heart-healthy were dark chocolate and red grapefruit and he dispelled any myths around coffee being a cause of cardiac problems.**

program that involves exercise for an hour a day is usually required to gain the measurable kind of benefit most individuals expect. You do not have to go all out, of course, but among my Applegate friends many have found ways to integrate fitness activities into their daily routines or make them serve a particular strategic goal: Asher commutes by bike to Medford from Buncom, Doug swims during his lunch hour at the YMCA, Leah rises early in the morning to row with her crew, Donna celebrated her 60th birthday by hiking 60 miles and then throwing a party, Janeen leads groups on wilderness hikes most weekends during the summer, and I collect firewood and do woodlands management as cross training for my next triathlon. Biking in the Applegate off-season is a dream. Aside from Highway 238, there is very little traffic on the roads and the trail system around Applegate Lake is a year-round favorite with mountain bikers. The bottom line is clear, use it or lose.

Harvard's Dr. Sinclair has started trials of sirtuin activators that are 1,000 times more potent than the resveratrol in red wine, and a number of major drug companies are working on sirtuins on the belief that they may be highly beneficial with diseases of aging and the potential market for sirtuin drugs is likely to be huge. Dr. Fontana noted, however, that, "According to the World health Organization, 80 percent of heart disease and 40 percent of cancers could be prevented with a healthy diet and lifestyle." Therefore, I would not advise you to wait for the first generation of sirtuin drugs to save your genes. Drink and eat modestly, exercise happily, and get outdoors to experience with gratitude the gift of life and our closeness to nature. Now that's an all-Applegate prescription!

Earl Showerman, M.D. • 541-899-8721

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and, since each bird has 2 legs and each lizard has 4 legs: then 2X + 4Y = the number of legs ( 70 )  
We know then that: X+Y= 30 and 2X+4Y=70 substituting  
X=30-Y we get 2( 30-Y ) + 4Y =70  
or  
60-2Y + 4Y = 70  
2Y = 10  
the # of lizards = 5  
and the # of birds = 25

Try this puzzle on your classmates, and your math teacher.



# Remembering Frank

Friends and family gathered at Applegate Red Winery to celebrate the life of owner Frank Ferreira. On an Applegate Valley perfect day, "Frank stories" abounded, tears flowed, laughter rang, and Frank's wine was poured generously.

Held on the bright red pavilion that Frank built recently, the memorial was both somber and joyous. Frank's two daughters and two sons, from Hawaii and Connecticut, greeted guests, as did Frank's miniature donkeys and exotic birds.

As the gathering was coming to a close, hundreds of geese rose into the vivid blue sky. So long, Frank. You will not be forgotten.

—BH



(Photo credits)

Photo of Frank and mini donkey by Susan Black

All others by Barbara Holiday



## FEED FEST

Saturday, February 21st



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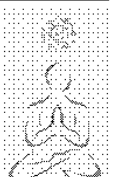
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## BACK IN TIME

## Fir Glade guard station

BY EVELYN BYRNE WILLIAMS WITH JANEEN SATHRE

In the early 1930s, the Forest Service had several guard stations located in the back country of the Applegate River country. These stations might be along the route used to carry supplies to the fire lookout towers or in areas hard to reach on short notice, where a crew of firefighters could stay. One of the most interesting to me was at Fir Glade, located near Whiskey Peak and its lookout tower.

In 1939 my newly married brother Morris, and sister-in-law Florence, were stationed at Fir Glade by the Forest Service and my mother decided to arrange a trip there to visit them. She invited my former sixth-grade teacher, Bertha Haskins, and husband, Wallace, as well as my seventh-grade teacher, Doris Work, to go along. Mr. Haskins had grown up in the Applegate and had been to Fir Glade several times. This was a chance for him to show his wife, who was from Illinois, our Oregon environment.

In the early morning we drove a short ways from Copper (now under the Applegate Lake) to the Middle Fork where the road ended. We met Melvin Arnold, the Forest Service packer at the trailhead there. He had a horse and a mule loaded with supplies headed for Fir Glade and the Whiskey Peak Lookout. We were going to spend the night so I carried my things in a flour sack. Backpacks in those days were made for men and the wooden frames covered in canvas were quite heavy when fully loaded.

For most of us there was much excitement for this first-time trip to Fir Glade. We anticipated a good meal that evening with Morris, Florence, and my sister, Gladys, who had gone to Fir Glade a week or so ahead with a Mr. Knudson, who also was packing supplies to Whiskey Peak. He asked her if she would like to go on over to Frog Pond where Knox McCloy, lived. She said she would be glad to see Mr. McCloy who often times had stopped at our parents home on his way to get his supplies for winter. He would spend the night in their barn, have

breakfast with them the next morning and put baby Gladys on his knee to play horsey.

It didn't take long for the miles to take their toll. I ran out of steam after foolishly walking too fast at the beginning. Bertha Haskins developed blisters on her heels so Mr. Arnold let her ride his horse. By day's end she had saddle sores, too. We really felt sorry for her but she did not complain, being a good sport. We were so glad when the picturesque setting of Fir Glade came into our view.

The log cabin, I believe, was built by area cattlemen who would bring their cattle up into the high country in the summer to eat the grasses in the many alpine meadows. The cabin's large open front faced a meadow with a slow running stream flowing through it, and the back was shaded by big fir trees. I don't recall what we had for supper that night but I do remember the delicious applesauce Florence made from the apples that Mr. Arnold brought her.

Those apples grown in the upper regions of the Applegate were known for their unusual tart and sweet flavor. They were extra large, mid-green in color. Most everyone in the area grafted a branch from the original onto their own apple trees. My mother said it was called the Watkins apple, which probably came from the early pioneer Watkins family. (*Editor's note: If anyone knows of or has one of these trees, contact J.D. Rogers, Editor, 541-846-7736.*) My family considered it the best apple they ever had. Too bad that the trees were probably destroyed when the Applegate Lake was being built.

Where and how we all slept at Fir Glade that night, I do not remember. There were no sleeping bags or air mattresses like today. Mr. Haskins and my brother may have cut some fir boughs on which we placed our blankets. That was much better than sleeping on the bare ground. We did wake up very early the next morning because everyone was chilled. There is always a heavy and cold dew



Photos above:  
Top: Fir Glade mule. Bottom: Whiskey Peak Lookout  
Photos below:  
Left: Fir Glade family. Right: Fir Glade cabin.

in the high mountains.

After a hardy breakfast it was time to prepare for the return trip. I spent some time that morning after packing up to view the many names carved and written on the upper logs in the interior of the cabin. Needless to say, I just had to add mine.

Interestingly, my future husband, Clarence, spent time at Fir Glade when he worked for the Forest Service fire crews in the summer of 1946. They stayed about a week doing trail work and removing phone lines that ran from the guard stations to the lookouts.

Several years ago, I returned to

Fir Glade with daughter Janeen's hiking group. It brought back such fond memories even though the cabin was gone. Some of the roof lies in a mass of weeds. Those logs with the names would have been such a keepsake. As I stood there looking at the meadow I was glad it had not changed; however, time has taken its toll. All of those people mentioned back there in 1939 are gone except Gladys, teacher Miss Work, and myself.

Evelyn Byrne Williams  
with Janeen Sathre  
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## APPLEGATE OUTBACK: MY OPINION

# In life a little rain must fall

BY BOB FISCHER



How does the saying go? "If I didn't have bad luck, I wouldn't have any luck at all!" I have lived next to the editor of this newspaper for about 15 years now, and I have been privy to some of the things that go on in our editor's life.

I remember the time he, at great expense, brought home thousands of lady bugs to munch on the itty-bitty nasty bugs in his garden. After release, they all flew south to my farm and covered our place like a needlepoint patchwork quilt. Our garden was free of what lady bugs dine on for a couple of years.

J.D. and I had a large red-tailed hawk hanging around between our two farms. As he was looking for a meal, our hens always hung around me in the fields or hid out in our barn while the raptor dined on J.D.'s hens like little feathered Big Mac's with feet.

Remember the flood of 1997? Thompson Creek cut a new path towards J.D.'s house, lapping at his back door and flooding his barn.

Then there was the time he came over to our house to attend an adult Easter egg hunt. He found the only Easter egg that had been half-eaten by a blue jay.

He said, "With a little salt and pepper, it wasn't too bad."

Boogie, Bentley and Tuesday, three great dogs in J.D.'s life, were well-mannered, well-trained and almost human. Sometimes I think they were human. They would open cabinets and play with the master's pots and pans, and when they were upset with J.D., they would spread food around to punish him for some transgression.

One time, the dogs made a mistake and accidentally cracked the lid on J.D.'s cowboy cookie jar. Little did J.D. know, the dogs had been munching on J.D.'s favorite cookies for over six months. One day J.D. brought home a new 27-inch TV. He hadn't had a TV for years. He and Sioux wanted to be able to watch some rented movies. He set this new beauty up and borrowed our VCR, which had worked perfectly until he put this rented tape into it. It ate the tape. The problem was solved by him buying a new VCR. This home viewing center was strategically placed at the foot of the bed so they could relax and watch re-runs of old John Wayne movies between their feet.

One day, J.D. came home all heated up to watch a movie he had just rented and found the door to his bedroom locked. None of his pooches could be found, but J.D. said he could hear the TV on in his bedroom. Yips, yowls and puppy laughter could be heard coming from his bedroom. No amount of door pounding could get Boogie, Bentley or Tuesday to open the door. About one hour later, the dogs came out with smiles on their faces talking among themselves. Just another day in the life of our editor.

*NOTES:*

*This story was written about ten years ago when J.D. Rogers had three dogs: Boogie, Bentley and Tuesday.*

*To learn more about J.D.'s dogs, check out his book: Ramblin' Rants and Doggie Tales.*

Bob Fischer • 541-846-6218

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—George Bird Evans, Troubles with Bird Dogs



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**BIRDMAN**

# Magnificent Montana

BY TED GLOVER



Nothing could be more beautiful than Montana in the fall. We had a great trip there in October and the colors were magnificent. Going through Idaho, we had a chance to take the "Lolo Trail," an old wagon trail constructed in the late 1800s to link Lewiston, Idaho to Missoula, Montana. When the automobile came along, the "road" was improved several times until the Civilian Conservation Corps in conjunction with the Forest Service completed work in 1934, making the Lolo Motorway a reality. Today, it winds along ridges above the Lochsa River for nearly 100 miles, roughly following the trail the Lewis and Clark expedition took in 1805 and 1806. What a trip!

The bird-watching at Lee Metcalf National Wildlife Refuge in the Bitte Root River Valley near Missoula was spectacular. A tree full of cedar waxwings greeted us at our first stop along the road. Near a small lake, a pileated woodpecker put on quite a show flying back and forth over our heads. Red-winged blackbirds sang from the reeds along the shore while mallards, teals and wood ducks floated along the surface. In the forest nearby we spotted red- and white-breasted nuthatches, ruby-crowned and golden-crowned kinglets and black-capped chickadees.

While driving the scenic back roads of Montana, we saw three different species of grouse: the spruce, the ruffed and the sharp-tailed. We also came across a flock of gray partridge, a European game bird introduced into America.

One final note—we had a chance to study the northern shrike, a rather scarce visitor in the winter. It's slightly larger than the more common loggerhead shrike, with a more obvious hooked bill and a narrower facemask.

In all, we recorded 98 species.

Ted A. Glover  
541-846-0681

Photos, clockwise from top left:

- Ruby-crowned kinglet**, *Regulus calendula*—one of north America's smallest birds;
- Northern shrike**, *Lanius excubitor*—a predatory songbird with a stout bill that has a noticable hook at the end;
- Red-winged blackbird**, *Agelaius phoeniceus*—one of the most abundant birds in North America, the black male has brilliant red shoulder patches;
- Black-capped chickadee**, *Poecile atricapilla*—this familiar backyard bird hides seeds and other food items for later recovery. Each item is placed in a different spot and a bird can remember thousands of hiding places.

All photos by Craig Johnson, [www.whidbeyaudubon.org](http://www.whidbeyaudubon.org)

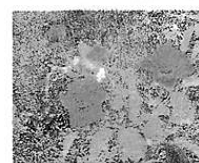
## Welcome to the Pack

Applegate Lake Cub Scouts Pack #18 (Ruch Region) usually has an outdoor activity (fishing, rafting, hikes, etc.) the 1st Friday of each month and a regular meeting with activities the 3rd Friday of each month at the Upper Applegate Grange from 10 am to 1 pm. Our 17 current Scouts welcome all boys in Grades First through Fifth including Homeschoolers, Ruch Students, and Non-Ruch Students. For additional information, please contact Cub Leader (Cub Master) Vic Agnifili at 899-1717.

Thank You in Advance.  
Vic Agnifili, Cub Master  
Applegate Lake Cub Scouts Pack #18  
Any questions, please call me at 899-1717

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## Look who's reading the Gater!

Photos, clockwise from top left:

Abu Thomas and Jeff Rogers read the Gater in Dubai.

Jill Brenkman reads the Gater while waiting for the boat at Milford Sound, New Zealand.

Lynn Funk takes a break from sightseeing to read the Applegater in front of the Capital Museum in Beijing.

Former Salemer John Taylor and his owner, Miss Millie the cat, take a break from rodent hunting in Ospedaletti, Italy, to read up on what's happening in the Applegater.

Bob Quinn relaxes with the Gater in Likely, California.



Take us with you on your next trip. Then send us your favorite "Reading the Gater" photo to: [gater@applegater.org](mailto:gater@applegater.org) or mail to the Applegater, 7386 Highway 238, PMB 308, Jacksonville, OR 97530

Keep those articles, letters, opinions and "Reading the Gater" photos coming in. You are the Gater! All of you — donors, writers and our good readers — please accept our most sincere and grateful thanks.

The Applegater Staff and Board



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