

Applegater

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Photo by Barbara Holiday

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

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Sarge and the Tallowbox Mountain lookout

BY TASHA KNOWLTON

I had the pleasure of interviewing Galen, a local man that we all know as "Sarge," who informed me of the use of the Tallowbox Mountain Lookout and his experiences of being a fire lookout there.

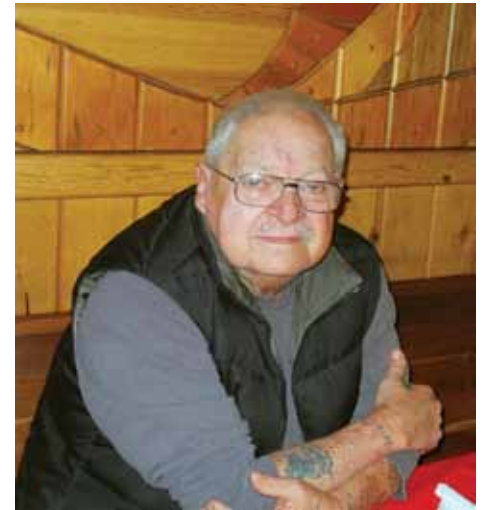
The Tallowbox Mountain Lookout's name is derived from the use of "tallowboxes." Before our use of petroleum products, beef tallow was our primary lubricant (or oil). The tallow would be taken from the animal (often directly after the kill) and put into little boxes called tallowboxes. This tallow had many uses. It could be used for cooking, lubricating rifles and even making soaps or candles. The tallow was also used as flux for soldering and people put it in their animals' food. McDonalds even used to cook their French fries in tallow,

before switching to pure vegetable oil.

In 1918 the government built the Tallowbox Mountain Lookout as a way to watch for fires and signal to people as to the fire's location. The lookout was located at a 5,230 foot elevation and had a cabin that was built 30 feet off of the rocks so the lookout people would have a 360 degree of clear viewing. Back then, dynamite was used to signal the fire's direction. Fires could often be seen all the way to California from this lookout.

Sarge retired from the army in 1988 and then became a campground host at Camp Jackson on Upper Applegate Road. After this, he took up his position as the fire lookout at Tallowbox.

Sarge would go up to the Tallowbox lookout five to six days at a



Sarge

time, with the option of returning home each night. A local man, Robinson, was Sarge's relief. He would come up and take Sarge's spot so that Sarge could go home for a few days, which he did occasionally to spend some time with his wife. Up at the lookout cabin there was a refrigerator and a stove that ran on propane so that they could have a way to cook and store their food. Sarge enjoyed having bacon, eggs and coffee while he was at the lookout. Gallons

See SARGE, page 2

An Applegate County Commissioner?

BY SANDY SHAFFER



Mark Wisnovsky

Because this could very well be our last issue of the *Applegater*, and because I was excited about a potential Jackson County Commissioner from the Applegate, I jumped at the chance to interview Mark Wisnovsky when he announced his candidacy for Dave Gilmour's seat a few weeks ago. Mark's comments on land use law during the announcement intrigued me and he does make some great wines, but I wanted to know how he felt about the issues that are important to me, as a rural landowner.

The Wisnovskys moved to the Applegate in 1971, starting up Valley View Winery the following year when Mark was just eight years old. Today he's the president of the company, and after talking to him for well over an hour, I got the feeling that he learned a lot from the hard work of establishing the vineyards and the winery that we see in Ruch today.

Mark has a degree in business from OSU, and told me that he enjoys strategy and logic. I think he also likes and respects people, because he mentioned several times during our conversation how important it is to sit down with everyone involved when there's an issue on the table. Listen to people's varied opinions, ideas and knowledge and learn from them. Mark doesn't feel that bringing everyone to the table makes you a weak person (as some might argue); rather, he feels that respectfully agreeing to disagree can help allow discussions move a step closer to resolution.

Mark and I talked about land use laws (he feels there is definitely a third option beyond locking everything up and full, unrestricted development), personal property rights (we're all in this together, so we always need to look at

See COMMISSIONER, page 2

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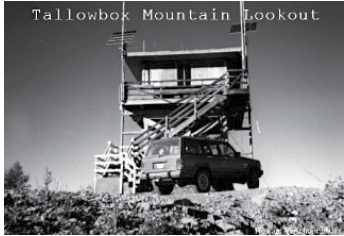
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SARGE

FROM PAGE 1



Tallowbox in 1940



Tallowbox Mountain Lookout

Above: Tallowbox Lookout in 1940.
Below: Tallowbox Lookout before it burned down.

of water were provided for Sarge and stored on the north side of the cabin, he discovered that keeping them on the north side kept them cooler. There was also a portable TV in the cabin, but he never made use of it. He preferred to meander in nature.

Each day he would have to sit and watch for smoke. When he spotted signs of smoke he would have to determine its location and then send out legal data showing fire's position. From Tallowbox he was able to determine the township of the fire. Occasionally he could determine the quarter township which meant that he knew the exact location of the fire. Then, the engines would all rush to the fire. Generally, the first engine on site obtained the liberty to name the fire.

This was Sarge's life for seven years; even his dog grew up on Tallowbox. Two years ago in November, the lookout was set on fire. The

fire was from vandalism. Some local people shot the batteries of the Applegate Broadband, located at the lookout station, which caused it to erupt into flames. Rebuilding of the lookout was discussed, but instead, technology took over. There is now a four-way camera on the mountain that shows the surrounding area through a monitor located on Table Rock Road. People use what they are seeing on the monitor to watch for fires, instead of having an actual person located on the mountain.

The job as a fire lookout at the Tallowbox is missed, said Sarge. But he also says that it may be a good thing that technology has finally caught up to aide us in our fire observations. Now, Sarge just enjoys spending his time in the Applegate with friends. Sarge helps many of the people of this community in any way he can, young and old. He helps veterans and even gives everybody at the Applegate Store a box of chocolates on Valentine's Day. He does all of this without asking for anything in return. He is a true American and Applegate asset, is proud of his country and has a great heart. We could all learn from his unselfishness, kind heart, and strength by giving to those in need. Sarge has helped shape this community.

Tasha Knowlton • 541-951-1021
pinkapple@oigp.net

COMMISSIONER

FROM PAGE 1

all of the impacts of a decision), and the importance of local agriculture (look at what his family has done for the local wine industry - we need to recognize that agriculture crops and other local values can change and improve over time). Mark is especially supportive of local agricultural endeavors and strongly suggests that if we are as well, then we need to buy local!

Of course, I also brought up wildfire and fuels management issues and found that while Mark doesn't personally feel his home in Jacksonville is at-risk, he is fully aware of the high fire hazards we face in southwest Oregon, especially after experiencing a field fire next to the winery in Ruch a couple of years ago. Mark realizes how important land use issues are in the wildland-urban interface, but wasn't as familiar with the work of our County and Applegate Community Fire Plans as I had hoped he would be (I guess I haven't been working hard enough). And, he does have concerns about smoke from burning slash rather than utilizing it, and we had a good discussion around the options available to both federal and private landowners that quickly had him admitting that it's a more complicated issue than he had thought.

During these conversations, one theme seemed to continually come up from Mark: the need to consider the long-term impacts of any decisions you are contemplating. Whether it's granting a variance on a single piece of property, or engaging in long-term regional planning, Mark told me it's important to ask tough questions. Look at the long-term as well as the short-term consequences, so that you get "the most value for every dollar." While Mark noted that Jackson County has done a better job than other counties in the area in planning for both "up" and "down" years, he said we still need to watch so that "we don't eat our seed corn."

Friend and neighbor, Lyn Hennion, suggests that perhaps Mark learned "from grape-growing and wine-making how little decisions now (can) make a big difference later on." I got that impression as well, and maybe that's how he developed what I saw as a philosophical, well-balanced approach to life.

After an hour and a half of candid discussion with Mark Wisnovsky, I was impressed.

Sandy Shaffer • 541-899-9541
sassyone@starband.net

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to be held 4/25/10 from 3-7 pm at the
Applegate River Lodge & Restaurant

Applegater now online!

The *Applegater* is now publishing a web site 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 nonprofit organizations and Gater advertisers can post special events (sorry, no classes) 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 web sites** 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 www.Applegater.org.

Be sure to add the Gater web site to your favorites!

Joe Lavine, Webmaster
joelavine@hotmail.com

Spring masthead photo credit

This issue's photo of two geese with their goslings by Barbara Holiday. See page 12 for more info.

Applegater

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Summer	June 1
Fall	September 1
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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 quarterly by the Applegate Valley Community Newspaper, Inc. and is funded by donations from our loyal readers and advertisements for local businesses.

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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 June 1 for our next issue.

The *Applegater*
c/o Applegate Valley
Community Newspaper, Inc.
7386 Highway 238, PMB 308
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Email: gater@Applegater.org
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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 Monday 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 Meeting 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..... 1:30 pm - 4 pm
Wednesday..... 1:30 pm - 4 pm
Thursday.....closed
Friday.....closed
Saturday..... 12 pm - 4 pm

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

Upper Applegate Grange #239 Business meetings: second 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 Cub Scout Pack Troop #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 homeschooled, Ruch students, and non-Ruch students are welcome. For more information, contact Cub Leader Vic Agnifili at 541-899-1717.

Applegate Partnership and Watershed Council meets the 4th Thursday of the month at the Applegate Library. For more information call 541-899-9982.

The Southern Oregon Beekeepers Association meet the first Monday of each month, 7:30 pm, at the OSU extension. For more information please contact sobeekeepers@gmail.com

Email calendar information to gater@applegater.org.

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THE STARRY SIDE

Orion's final bow

BY GREELEY WELLS

There's something to notice about the Spring night sky: it's comparatively empty and there's a very interesting reason for this. We live in the Milky Way Galaxy which is like a thick, slowly-swirling plate-like form moving through the universe. Our galaxy is just one of many—actually one of billions, we now know. Here on earth we are approximately in the middle of the Milky Way, so when we look at the night sky we are usually looking out into our own galaxy. That means usually every star we see, certainly the large, easily visible ones, is within our galaxy. However, right now our night vantage point is not into or along our galaxy but out from it! We see fewer stars in spring, because we are looking out into almost-blank space.

How does this work? In the spring, when we look at the night sky we are looking out away from our galaxy; it's actually all around us, but most of it is just below the spring horizon line all the way around. Imagine a large thick plate made of glass with beautiful stars or diamonds in it, and we are near — but not in — the center of the thickness. From all our views sideways all the way around us and below us we would see diamonds. Looking into the thickest part there would be a great many, and that's exactly what the Milky Way is in our sky. But looking straight up and out, we would see far fewer diamonds, simply because it's the thinnest part of the plate from our position. We don't really see stars outside of our galaxy, because it floats in space all by itself. We only see our "neighbor" galaxies in the distance, and I mean distance— hundreds of thousands of light years away! They are so small as to mostly look like stars or smudges to the naked eye. Because all the real stars we see are in our galaxy, we see fewer stars in spring, when we look out into almost blank space. (There are a few of our stars between us and the edge of the galaxy because we don't live on the very edge.)

The winter constellations are sinking in the west along with the winter horizon of our galaxy; in summer, the eastern horizon will rise, and along with it will rise the summer constellations and the Milky Way Galaxy, home for our solar system and us. So bright Sirius is setting in the west as winter sets, and bright Arcturus is rising in the east as spring rises.

Before going on to other subjects, I must mention Orion's final triumph. The hunter Orion (and at his heels his dog, Sirius, the brightest star in the sky) sinks into the west gracing our Spring sunsets. And amazingly, he does it on his feet,

standing tall, perfectly oriented vertically. Feet on the horizon, belt parallel to it, arms up facing Taurus whom he's been battling all this time to his right. It's a perfect end to his show— you might remember how he started out in the east on his back? So for almost six months Orion has slowly risen and rotated toward this perfect landing in the west. Next, of course, he'll sink out of view, moving northerly.

Following Orion, dominating the night sky next, will be a dipper and a lion. The lion moves right overhead with the Big Dipper high and close in the north. If you've got a comfortable lounge chair or lie back on the ground feet to the south you will see both these constellations right-side up. The dipper's real name is actually Ursa Major (the big bear). Many cultures (including our American Indians and our western cultures) have seen a bear, but there's something odd about that, as you'll see in a second.

Are you lying down with your feet pointing south, and north behind the back of your head? If so, imagine the dipper itself as the body of a bear and the handle of the dipper as its tail. Hard, right? What bear has a long tail—or almost any tail for that matter? Well, there are stories in some of cultures about the bear losing its tail, so that's sort of an explanation. Now look further south and you'll see three sets of two close-together stars. Those are three of the four feet of the bear; as you can see, he's big. These legs point halfway to Leo (the lion) who's also upright, but lying down (not standing up like the bear). To our right is the Sickle, or backwards question mark; that's the lion's head and mane. At the bottom are the front legs and the very bright heart (Regulus). To the left is a triangle forming the behind and tail of the regal lion. The pointers of the big dipper actually can be used backwards and will point right to the lion! In other words, a line runs from the north star through the pointers of the big dipper, and right to Leo. You can find the lion this way any time he is in the sky. These two huge constellations are locked together (with the always-still north star) as they rise, swing overhead in April and into the west in May. As Leo sets this summer, the Big Dipper (or the big bear) will swing around under the north star and begin to be upside down, or maybe set altogether depending on your northern view. At my house, a mountain and evergreens swallow up my bear when he gets low.

See ORION, page 6

TRENDS AND OBSERVATIONS

Hope for sanity in the climate debate

BY KIRK PERTTU

The last few months have been an eventful time for the discussions surrounding climate change science and policy. Until sometime in February, mainstream American newspapers and television had largely failed to cover the recent big stories in any meaningful way, to the point that both the Columbia Journalism Review and Knight Science Journalism Tracker felt it necessary to address this absence of coverage (CJR quite critically). Meanwhile, British and Indian newspapers, as well as climate-related blogs, have been in a slowly-but-steadily building climate-frenzy since last November.

The first story began a few weeks before the UN Copenhagen climate summit with the leaked or hacked release of thousands of emails of many prominent climate scientists writing from and to the University of East Anglia's Climatic Research Unit (CRU), one of the most prominent climate research organizations in the world. You may have heard it referred to as "Climategate" when it was briefly acknowledged by American media. It's impossible to properly summarize in as little space as there is to give to it here, but in short the released emails seem to suggest, amongst other things, that a collection of climate scientists sought to subvert the peer review process and acted to obstruct Freedom of Information (FOI) requests.

The story is still progressing. In the last months, CRU's head, Phil Jones, has stepped down, a UK government agency has determined the released emails represent prima facie evidence that Jones criminally obstructed FOI requests, and the Parliament has initiated a formal inquiry.

The second story involves the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Its intermittent assessment reports—particularly the "Summary for Policymakers" portions of them—are looked to by most governments of the world as the most thorough representation of the risks anthropogenic climate change poses to the world. The controversy began with troubling conflicts of interest coming to light regarding the organization's chairman, Rajendra Pachauri, but quickly led to deeper concerns about the IPCC's citation and review processes.

This story is also still far from over. At this point, the UN has announced it will begin an independent inquiry into the organization. Some are defending the IPCC as essentially sound while others, including the former IPCC chairman and other respected climate and political scientists, are expressing deeper concerns and suggesting the IPCC structure or processes may need a fundamental overhaul in order to establish a reasonable credibility.

Neither of the extreme political camps in the greater debate, both of which often sacrifice accuracy in favor of advocacy, have come across very well in dealing with these stories. One side predictably claimed that both of these developments, as well as the recent heavy snows in the northern hemisphere, each independently represented the exposure and hopeful end of the "global warming hoax." The other side claimed there's "nothing to see here" and that the recent snows were in fact expected under catastrophic climate change. Attempts from both advocate

extremes to pass these statements off as reality are insulting, and it's disappointing that mainstream American media hasn't made a better effort to provide people with the tools to make informed judgments about these kinds of misrepresentational claims.

To be clear, when I refer to the extreme sides in the climate change debate above and below, I'm not lumping the informed skeptics in with the "climate-deniers" on one end, nor am I equating the climate scientists and others who believe destructive anthropogenic climate change is a likely enough concern to support action, but who don't feel comfortable misrepresenting the state of the science to the public in order to spur that action, with the alarmists.

While both extremes have been making foolish statements, there's no doubt the recent months have played far worse for the alarmist camp. Recent polls of Americans have shown a significant increase of those who don't consider climate change a serious issue, though it's important to note that this is probably due to a combination of reasons. The ongoing economic crisis and the failed Copenhagen summit in December as well as other factors could be important players in the changing public opinion as much as the recent news. Whatever the reasons, faith in those advocating strong and immediate action on climate change through a cap-and-trade scheme (the mechanism used in the House's Waxman-Markey climate bill) has been falling sharply, to the point where Lindsay Graham, one of a group of three senators expected to present the Senate's version of climate legislation in the coming weeks, recently said, "Cap-and-trade, as we know it, is dead."

While this decline in public support has visibly dismayed the extreme in the public debate that pushes climate change catastrophism and cap-and-trade as the only solution, and has made many of those who object to any kind of political action almost giddy, some others have looked at it with a peculiar kind of cautious optimism.

In the climate change discussion, there's a vast middle space between the two disproportionately exposed extreme camps, mostly unseen under the partisan and ultimately unproductive public circus. This middle ground is populated by a largely silent (at least as represented by the mainstream media) collection of groups and individuals comprised of climate scientists, economists, political scientists and interested and informed lay people. While these people may have greatly differing views on specific issues within the science, and divergent beliefs on what proper climate and CO2 policy should be, they generally share some common traits: an annoyance with the oversimplification and misrepresentation of climate science coming from both extremes; an acknowledgement of the profound uncertainty still existing in our understanding of earth's climate systems; a conviction that scientific integrity must come before any other concerns such as the promotion of certain environmental policies, even if they happen to agree with such; and a deep frustration with both

See CLIMATE, page 6

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Good weed, bad weed

BY SIOUX ROGERS

I was looking to write an article on beneficial weeds in the garden and began my Internet search with "Good weeds vs. bad weeds." You might guess that the Internet's interpretation of "weed" was marijuana, not exactly the topic of the day. So I re-worded my search to "noxious weed vs. healthful weed," or something like that. The article below was just what I was looking for. Now I do not need to re-invent the wheel.

I spoke to the very kind author, Randy Fritz, who has a garden blog site (www.RealFoodForLife.com). It is with his full written permission that his article is printed below. Portions have been deleted due to space.

Good Weed ... Bad Weed

I've had an on /off relationship with weeds recently and now I'm at it again. My attention has now gone to yet another weed. This one's not so pesky to your lawn and it tastes much better. Actually it tastes almost exactly like spinach – particularly when cooked – and again, it has all kinds of nutritional value andit's free.

I first heard its name locally as Lamb's Quarters. I don't particularly like that name but you can also call it fat



hen, nickel greens, pig weed, dung weed or white goosefoot. Some of these names I also don't love.

It now grows wild in North—and probably most people unknowingly just pull it out of the garden. You can recognize the plant when it is young because the center of the top is feathery looking with a purple tint. The picture is of a younger plant.

If allowed to mature Lamb's Quarters produces a head of thousands of black tiny seeds. You can eat these seeds and they are highly nutritious. Actually its species is closely related to Quinoa – a super grain that many people are familiar with. I haven't tried harvesting the seeds yet since it is so scarce but in some parts of the world it is cultivated. It has been eaten, perhaps unknowingly, since the Iron Age.

One cup of raw Lamb's Quarter

leaves contains:

- 80 mg of Vitamin C
- 11,600 IU of Vitamin A
- 72 mg of Phosphorus
- 309 mg of calcium as well as good amounts of thiamin, riboflavin, niacin and Iron.

The season is getting along but I encourage you to find some young plants and try it out. You may like itand of course its free!

The following paragraphs, also written by Randy Fritz, are excerpted from a previous article Dandelion Madness:

Every morning, particularly in the spring, you can catch me scampering around my front lawn in my bare feet. Yes this is fun and yes, this is good for you (for at least five reasons I can think of) but no, and this is neither March madness nor spring maypole dance thing going on.

The reason I'm out there on my lawn is because I'm harvesting dandelions for my breakfast smoothie.

There are at least seven reasons why I am digging up dandelions, which include:

1. It keeps my neighbors happy. I think dandelion flowers look great—that perfect solitary yellow bloom against a background of green ... but if there were too many flowers, my neighbors who don't like them, might revolt.
2. It helps the environment. Assuming you do want to stay friendly with your neighbors, pulling up dandelions is an alternative to soaking up the ground and water table and general environment with deadly toxic chemicals.
3. I'm thrifty. I don't have to pay for herbicides.
4. I'm very thrifty! (cheap) Using dandelion reduces the amount of greens I have to buy for my smoothie. Spinach, the main ingredient of smoothies, is a great value considering all the nutrition and benefits but dandelions are ... well... FREE!
5. I like to feel great. There are tremendous health benefits to dandelions. The dandelions' scientific name *Taraxacum officinale*, means the "Official Remedy for Disorders". It has such a long list of benefits that I have to list them later. There are benefits to the root, the leaf, the flower and the stem.
6. Dandelions are tasty. The leaves, when young, are not too bitter, the flowers are sweet. Even the root, if roasted, is quite palatable. Some people use it as a substitute for chicory.



7. I'm efficient! (lazy) With one small act, I reduce grocery shopping, I reduce weed killer shopping, I reduce herb remedy shopping, I save money, I get healthy, I enjoy the sun, I enjoy the fresh air, and it feels good on my feet!

A short list of the health benefits of dandelion is:

- Prevent or help with liver diseases, such as hepatitis or jaundice.
- Act as a tonic and gentle diuretic to purify your blood, cleanse your system, dissolve kidney stones, and otherwise improve gastro-intestinal health.
- Assist in weight reduction.
- Cleanse your skin and eliminate acne.
- Improve your bowel function, working equally well to relieve both constipation and diarrhea.
- Prevent or lower high blood pressure.
- Prevent or help with anemia.
- Lower your serum cholesterol by as much as half.
- Eliminate or drastically reduce acid indigestion and gas buildup by cutting the heaviness of fatty foods.
- Prevent or help with various forms of cancer.
- Prevent or help control diabetes mellitus.

Because most parts of the dandelion help your liver and because the liver has at least 50 functions in the body, the benefits could go on for pages. Some people also consider that the dandelion is nature's long-term mechanism for balancing out your soil. Its roots go down far deeper than the lawn and bring up lots of minerals that help your soil when they die. It's those minerals that are good for your liver and the rest of your body. Pretty good and did I mention its FREE!

Randy Fritz
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Grace Christian Schools Benefit Auction

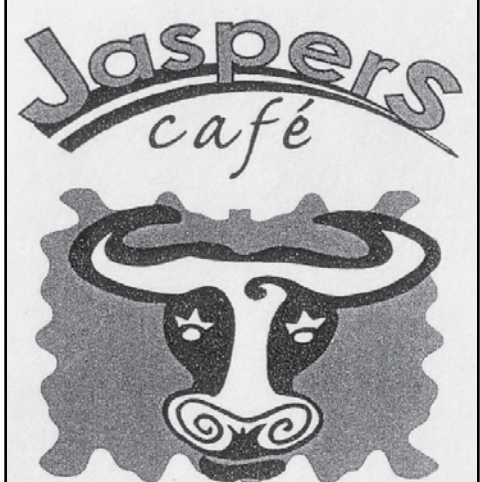
**Saturday, April 17
4 to 7 pm**



Grace Christian Schools announces our upcoming 2010 Benefit Auction- "America the Beautiful," celebrating the birth of our great nation and the beauty that abounds from "sea to shining sea!" The public is invited to attend the auction on Saturday, April 17, 2010 at the Cascade Christian High School Pavilion located at 855 Chevy Way, Medford. Admission is free!

The Silent Auction, scheduled from 4 pm- 7 pm, will feature hundreds of creative gift baskets and keepsake artwork prepared by our Grace Christian School and Cascade Christian High School students, as well as outstanding products and services from local and regional merchants. Dinner will be available for purchase from 4 pm- 7 pm. The Live Auction will begin at 7 pm and will include vacation packages, dinner parties and special collectables that fit every budget. Coffee and dessert will be available throughout the evening.

The money raised at our auction will be used to support student financial aid, athletics, new technology, resources for our libraries, and to enhance music and art programs as we seek to provide a quality Christian education to the children of the Rogue Valley. The doors will open at 4 pm, and all are welcome! Pre-registration can be made by calling Lashell Darby at 541-772-0606 or email GCSauction@aol.com



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ORION

FROM PAGE 4

THE PLANETS

Jupiter rises in the east at dawn in April, then rises higher and higher each month. In June, Jupiter is the brightest thing in the sky at dawn. Look for it high in the southeast.

Mars is near the Beehive Star Cluster (Cancer) April 16-18. By the end of April it will set in the west after 2:30 am. It's high up in the south and moving steadily west and down as the month proceeds. In May, Mars moves backwards (east) against the stars from Cancer toward Leo and Regulus. In June, Mars has a conjunction (close encounter) with Regulus in Leo. On June 3, the orange-gold Mars is straight above the blue-white Regulus in the western sky after sunset to the upper-left of Venus. Pull out your binoculars to see the color contrast even more. In this conjunction the two protagonists are exactly one degree apart, so this is a perfect opportunity to learn what a degree is out there in the sky. Fully outstretch your arm and place your finger (two fingers?) between Mars and Regulus. You now know what a degree is! When a commentator or newspaper reports two degree between some planet and some star, you will know exactly how close that is. If someone says go five degrees to something you can count it off easily. You've got a fine new tool to find things in the sky!

Saturn, in April, is high in the southeast after dark. That's Spica to the left and Regulus to the right of it; Mars further right and equally bright. Further on to the right or west is the very bright Venus at sunset. They all are along the ecliptic, which is the path of the sun, moon and planets around the earth. And this is a perfect time to get a complete image of that unseen path. All May Saturn slows down against the stars, comes to a stop and begins moving easterly by month's end, joining the movement of the other planets (that is, opposite the movement of the stars). Saturn is to the upper left of Mars in the southwest dusk of June.

Mercury is best seen during the first ten days of April; in fact, this is the best view of Mercury we will get during 2010. Quite dim, it lies to the right of Venus and lower in the sunset sky. It will be closest to Venus on the April 8. That's it for Mercury, as he falls into the sun and obscurity till September.

Venus is quite bright and low in the west-northwest at sunset in April. It will slowly rise in the sunset against the flow of setting stars. Incidentally, that's why the Greek definition of "planets" is "the wanderers": They go their own way against the more predictable pattern of stars behind them. Venus is very close to the Pleiades on April 24-5. Venus will hold her position low in the sunset till September, while several stars and constellations pass

behind her. In June, Venus gets to its highest and makes a line with Castor and Pollux, the Gemini Twins. It'll be just to the left of them at sunset on the 11th, and many days before and after that. Watch for a crescent moon to join the group on the 14th. Now here's an opportunity to see how far the moon moves each night. Come out at sunset on the 13th; you'll see the moon on the horizon below Pollux and Castor. Come out at the same time on the 14th, and it's right below Venus. On the 15th, it's off to the left. Put up your fist and arm at full length each night and you'll notice that the moon has moved by approximately a fist plus since the previous night. Figure it out for yourself, and from then on you'll be able to predict the next night's moon position!

OF SPECIAL NOTE

Moons: April's full moon on the 27th is called the Egg, Grass, Easter or Paschal Moon. In May the moon is also full on the 27th, and is named the Milk or Planting Moon. For June we find the moon full on the 25th; it's called the Flower, Rose or Strawberry Moon. Sounds like summer doesn't it? On April 16th a beautiful sliver moon is above Venus and below the Pleiades at sunset. The crescent moon of May in the dusk is below Venus on the 15th and above on the 16th. That's Betelgeuse, Orion's shoulder, to the lower left.

Meteor showers: Lyrid meteor showers of April are modest (but sometimes strong) and best seen just before dawn on 23rd but they are active from 16th - 25th. The radiant (the spot they seem to come from) is from the bright Vega in Lyra, the westerly star of the summer triangle, up high before dawn.

Solstice: The Summer Solstice is Monday, June 21, the seemingly longest day of the year. This is actually the farthest north the sun gets. However, the earliest sunrise is actually on the 14th so you might "feel" this as the longest day. The latest sunset is June 28; after that the sun sets get earlier, i.e. the days get shorter. Since we mostly see sunsets, but not sunrises, June 28 may "feel" as if it is the longest day. Until 1975 the solstice was on the 22nd or 21st, and in 2012 it will fall on the 20th. As you can see the universe doesn't correspond to our perfectionist mathematical tendencies, but has a "mind" of its own. But we nail it down, name it and date it as if it obeyed us. Good try, humans.

From off the grid on Carberry Creek, with incredible dark night skies,

greeley wells
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CLIMATE

FROM PAGE 4

people often referred to as "lukewarmers" in the label-happy zeitgeist of the climate discussion. Definitions vary, but I use the term to mean that group of people (including myself) which—regardless of their widely ranging views on the science of climate - support a particular paradigm on climate policy: one of pragmatism, political realism and risk-management, as opposed to absolutist, quixotic outlooks willing to wager the world's economy on the precautionary principle.

Many of these lukewarmers see the decline of trust in both extreme camps—particularly that of the alarmist extreme—as an opportunity to reframe the climate change policy discussion as a policy debate (as they have long argued is crucial), as opposed to the present situation, where those arguing for or against a specific regulatory action tend to hinge their arguments on the latest climate paper or recently discovered inaccuracy in previously published work.

This hope was put forth most recently by Dan Sarewitz of ASU in the March 3 issue of *Nature*. An important argument in his piece is that the current state of climate science, despite some advocates' insistence that the "science is settled," has far too much uncertainty left in it for the policy debate to be decided in any direction solely through scientific evidence; that the incomplete science "gives the competing sides plenty of support for their pre-existing political preferences — as well as plenty to hide behind in claiming that those preferences are supported by science." Instead, for a beginning climate policy to be politically possible in the near future, it must first focus on "[matching] short-term costs with the real potential of short-term gains," such as useful energy innovation or improvements in efficiency.

A reframing of the climate policy debate into the policy realm could provide immediate benefits for the practice and reception of climate science by taking some of the massive political pressure off its practitioners and their work. Many active in the policy sphere also see it as a promising opportunity to finally argue against cap-and-trade without being labeled a "climate denier." For too long, there's been an acerbically argued stance from the overloud alarmist extreme that cap-and-trade is the best and only climate policy politically possible, and that if one does anything to argue against or undermine it, he's supporting the extremists on the other side. Nothing could be further from the truth. It would be a great step forward for the discussion if some out there recognized and admitted that "the science" doesn't, in fact, prescribe one specific policy approach to the exclusion of all others, and that a with-or-against-us, all-or-nothing approach to things is neither honest, nor politically effective.

Cap-and-trade has been attempted before: under Kyoto; under the EU Emissions Trading Scheme; and elsewhere on smaller scales. In every case, its indirect approach to decarbonization has utterly failed to reduce, or even limit, greenhouse gas emissions; in many circumstances it's actually increased carbon emissions through unintended consequences. While this has happened for a variety of reasons in past schemes, the arch-villain in the Waxman-Markey legislation that's currently passed the US House would likely be dubious "carbon offset" allowances that would allow the US to release carbon at "business as usual" rates until 2026, essentially

achieving emissions reductions though accounting tricks rather than anything real.

Aside from the proven fecklessness of cap-and-trade, there's also the argument that in a carbon-trading system, nations would be weakening any economic effort they put towards decarbonization by filtering it through the same financial sector that is responsible for the current economic downturn. After seeing what happened when we put the housing market in their hands, it seems a dubious proposition to create a truly enormous new market—one that would heavily influence energy production, manufacturing, and thus, the entire economy—and put it in the same people's stewardship.

Many in the climate discussion, from James Hansen to Roger Pielke Jr., have argued for a flat carbon tax, as opposed to a cap-and-trade system. James Hansen is the NASA scientist who first spoke to Congress about global warming in the 1980s and a strident predictor of catastrophic global warming to this day; Roger Pielke Jr. is a less-agitated lukewarmer and environmental and political scientist from Colorado University at Boulder. A group of academics including Pielke, prominent climate and social scientists, economists, and others released a "white paper" in July of 2009 with the argument that a small "ring-fenced" carbon tax is preferable to any cap-and-trade scheme (http://sciencepolicy.colorado.edu/admin/publication_files/resource-2731-2009.17.pdf). "Ring-fenced" means that all the revenues would be appropriated to address the issue the taxes were originally collected for. In their proposal, 100% of the revenues would be put towards R&D or deployment of energy efficiency or of decarbonized power generation.

This approach would put a lower price on carbon than under proposed cap-and-trade schemes, but for those who favor stronger action on emissions, it has the benefit of influencing energy efficiency and the carbon intensity of electricity in our economy directly through the use of tax revenues, and without needlessly filtering any of the economic effort through financial traders. It's a flexible approach, allowing for additions such as required technology-sharing with the developing world and subsidies to low-income households. When changes in our understanding of the climate system occur, such as the current trend toward attributing progressively more of the anthropogenic portion of global warming to factors other than greenhouse gases (such as land-use and "black carbon" aerosols), the ring-fenced revenues' appropriation and/or the tax rate can be adjusted to address those changes more quickly and less disruptively than a carbon-trading system, and to more efficacious ends.

Surely, there are arguments against a carbon tax and for and against the different forms it could take, and there are likely other bright approaches to address the issue that don't look like cap-and-trade or a carbon tax at all. Unfortunately, our policymakers won't be able to have a productive discussion that honestly examines the relative merits of different policy proposals unless we can wrest the debate away from the two extreme camps and move the battleground from the realm of politicized-science to the policy sphere.

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New megawatts headed upstream

BY DANIEL NEWBERRY



Applegate Dam looking south.

Hydropower construction at the Applegate dam could begin as early as late summer of 2011, according to officials at the energy company, Symbiotics.

In December, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, FERC, issued a 50-year hydropower license to the Rigby, Idaho-based company, giving it the green light to retrofit the 30 year-old dam after completing water quality testing and signing agreements with several government agencies.

Water temperature and dissolved oxygen will be the main parameters tested because of their impact on fish. Pre-construction testing will allow a basis for comparison with future results, according to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, ODFW.

"I think their proposal can work, if all goes according to plan. If something happens, we want to make sure the plan works," said Ken Homolka, Hydropower Program Leader for ODFW.

The devil is in the details, according to Homolka, who is concerned about how the outflow at the base of the dam might impact ODFW's hatchery collection facilities. Altered flow patterns can create what fisheries biologists call "false attraction," leading spawning fish to be attracted to a different location. In this case, fish could bypass the hatchery collection facility.

The new facility will feature two turbines with a combined capacity of 10 Megawatts, enough power to supply 10,000 average households with power.

Symbiotics must construct fifteen new miles of transmission line to connect this new power with the regional grid. The nearest connection to the grid is the Ruch substation. The first mile of transmission line below the dam will be buried. The remaining miles will use the existing Pacific Power right-of-way, an issue over which local residents have voiced concern since public meetings were first held in 2002.

"Pacific Corp. will go with exact pole replacement, probably like what's now in place from the Ruch substation

to Jacksonville," said Erik Steimle, project licensing manager for Symbiotics.

The new poles will be taller and have an additional high voltage (69 kV) line strung above the existing 12.5 kV lower voltage distribution line that provides electricity to residences. Pacific Power will undertake the construction, so the price tag is still unknown.

The bottom line for the entire project, in fact, is a subject for debate. An economic analysis undertaken by FERC of the new hydropower operation, summarized in the 112-page project license, estimates that Symbiotics will lose more than a quarter million dollars in the first year of operations.

"These (FERC numbers) are estimates. We won't know the real economics until we have a look at options for finances, incentives for alternative energy, alternative energy markets. We're just going down the line. We can't tell right now," said Brent Smith, Symbiotics spokesman.

According to Smith, the big unknown costs are the final engineered designs of the various dam components, including the large Eicher fish screen they are required to use to prevent fish from being drawn into the turbines. Symbiotics anticipates saving money through a competitive bid process for the construction, made favorable by the current nationwide recession.

FERC leaves the unknowns to Symbiotics.

"It's not our decision. It's up to the licensee if they should move (ahead)," said Celeste Miller, FERC spokeswoman. "Our decision was based on the questions 'Is it environmentally sound? Is it in the public interest?'"

For more information, visit the FERC website, http://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/docket_search.asp and specify Docket "P-11910" or <http://www.symbioticsenergy.com/>

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Applegate Library

Friends of the Applegate Library (FOAL) sponsored a music program at the Applegate Library on February 13 featuring Kristi Cowles and Clint Driver singing romantic songs in honor of the Valentine's Day weekend. Their presentation was followed by the Accidental Ensemble, a group of twelve singers from the Applegate community who sang four-part harmony, along with a trio of women who also sang harmony. The program ended with a sing-along with Larry Francis and Chris Bratt. It was a lovely day, the meeting room was filled with people and everyone was filled with music and song.

Keep an eye out for announcements about more programs at the Applegate Library because they will be coming up soon. And speaking of the meeting room, if you need a space for a meeting or group event, the room can be used during off hours and there is no use charge for free community events. There is a \$100 refundable deposit. Call the library for details about making reservations.

The display case is always filled with seasonal and interesting items to excite your imagination. Thalia keeps it rotating monthly with a variety of treasures. Don't forget to spend some time gazing through the glass on your way into the library. There is always something new to see.

Lucia Smith is now sharing her story time with children every Tuesday at 4 pm in the Applegate Library. The children's section of the library is filled with interesting educational toys and a bright new rug to sit on, so bring the kids to enjoy the books and stories.

Are you looking for the right greeting card for your friend or relative? The library has beautiful cards that have been designed by our local artists for sale. Some of the proceeds go to the Friends of the Library. It's a great way to sponsor both local art and FOAL.

If you have not joined the Friends of the Applegate Library, or if you have neglected to renew your membership for 2010, now is the time to run down to the library during the working hours: Tuesday or Friday from 2:00 to 6:00 pm or on Saturday from 10:00 to 2:00 pm and pay your \$15 membership dues. Our meetings are quarterly, the next one being on April 13 at 4:00 pm. Hope to see you there!

Joan Peterson • 541-846-6988

Ruch Library

Once again, Ruch Library is pleased to present an exciting variety of programs and activities this spring with something for all ages.

Storytime is every Tuesday at 11:30 am, and we welcome all preschoolers to join us for this fun and educational time. Come by any time and check out the new look in the library.

There's More Than Gold in These Hills

Part Two, Friday, April 9, 7 – 9 pm.

Applegate native, Janeen Sathre, returns to Ruch Library for part two of her popular Applegate Valley history series. She will be sharing stories and personal information about the people who first started farming the land that is now under the lake, and more about the small communities she introduced in her first program. She will also talk more about the Blue Ledge Mine and its impact on the Upper Applegate.

Please join us for this free community event which will be fun for all ages. Refreshments will be served

Training Your Dog Through Play

May 7, 7-9 pm.

Applegate dog trainer Cary Voorhees is back by popular demand. Cary will show you how to teach your dogs almost everything they need to know while playing. Play training can exercise your dog's physical and mental abilities while keeping training fun for both you and your dog! Cary will also address teaching the reserved dog how to play. She has trained hundreds of dogs over the past 22 years, from beloved pets to working service dogs. She has handled dogs for movies and commercials and has trained several of her own dogs in competitive agility and tracking leading them to regional titles. Committed to community service, Cary has served as a 4-H group leader, volunteered for various animal groups and trained dogs for animal-assisted therapy work.

Humans only, please. This event is free, and refreshments will be served.

Fundraiser! Fun for the whole family!

Everyone is invited to a Family COUNTRY DANCE and DINNER to benefit Saturday hours at the Ruch Library, MAY 22, 2010 at 6:00 pm at the Upper Applegate Grange. PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW — More details will be announced soon. Come and dance or just listen to the music, have dinner and visit with your neighbors. Live music will be provided by the OREGON OLD TIME FIDDLERS ASSOCIATION. Admission including dinner is \$20 per person, \$10 for children age 2 to 12 (maximum per is \$50). Please come and bring your friends and neighbors and kids for a fun community event to benefit our Ruch Library.

Make a Splash with Summer Reading!

Great things are coming to your Ruch Library this summer. Beginning in June you can look forward to fun crafts, entertaining movies and the exciting Summer Reading Program.

Throughout the summer we will be offering interesting and fun crafts that children can enjoy. Parents, bring your child and see what you can do together.

June, July and August will bring the fun of the big screen to the Library. The popcorn will be popping as each month we will be showing terrific family movies right here in the cool comfort of your Ruch Library.

Bring your friends and challenge your family to join in the fun of the Summer Reading Program. Load up on some wonderful and exciting books. Win prizes when you keep track of your summer reading with us.

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Jackson County Master Gardener™ Program Special Classes and Activities

Now to April 28,

THE SPRING FAIR BOOK SHACK NEEDS DONATED BOOKS

The Master Gardener Spring Fair Book Shack is looking for used books to help benefit The J.C.M.G.A. Scholarship Fund. We are looking for books on the following topics: gardening and landscape (all aspects), bees, birds, insects, butterflies, rocks, varmints, wildlife, worms, "how to" books, arts and crafts, cookbooks, canning and preserving, wine and winemaking, health and all children's books. Please, NO magazines. Drop off at O.S.U. Extension Service.

Saturday May 8, 9 am - 12 pm

SUMMER CARE OF GRAPE VINES

Chris Hubert, Quail Run Vineyard

Learn the most important grape management techniques after pruning. The proper summer management of grape vines includes early season shoot thinning, controlling head suckering, training vine growth for the rest of the season and controlling crop load. Class will take place outdoors in the vineyard. Come dressed for the weather. This class qualifies for Master Gardener re-certification.

Thursday May 13, 7-9 pm

DESIGNING A FLOWER BED

Bonnie Bayard, Landscape Architect

Planting design considerations and how to put plants together to create a pleasing and effective design will be discussed. How to use the Sunset Western Garden Book in planning a design will be taught. Bring large cuttings of flower bed plants you already have and a copy of the Sunset Western Garden Book if you have one. This class qualifies for Master Gardener Re-certification.

There is a fee of \$5.00 per class unless indicated otherwise. Master Gardeners wearing their badges are admitted free (materials fees still apply). The classes are held at the OSU Extension Center located at 569 Hanley Road, Central Point, Oregon. 541-776-7371.

To learn more about Jackson county Master Gardener Association go to: <http://extension.orst.edu/soreclmg>.

The Master Gardener Program 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.

Jackson County Master Gardeners Spring Fair 2010

Beautiful spring has reached our valley again and with spring comes the 31 annual Jackson County Master Gardener Spring Fair, May 1 from 9 am to 5 pm and May 2 from 10 am to 4 pm at the Jackson County Expo Center in Central Point.

This year we want to encourage you to "GROW YOUR OWN" and you will find thousands of plants from veggie starts to trees and shrubs as well as garden tools for sale by over 150 vendors.

There will be 12 free classes offered to help you LEARN HOW. For your enjoyment, a wine tasting pavilion will tempt you to sit awhile and enjoy some of the wonderful wines made here in the Rogue Valley. The Spring Fair is the largest event of its kind between Portland and San Francisco and is organized and operated solely by volunteers of the Jackson County Master Gardener Association.

Admission is just \$3, children under 12 are free and parking is free. Please, no pets allowed. Proceeds help fund the many Master Gardener community outreach educational programs.

Contact: Maryen Herrett
541-482-4581 or
maryen@charter.net

Voices of the Applegate in Spring

Voices of the Applegate Community Choir had a wonderful winter session with director Tami Marston ending with two concerts: One at the Historic Presbyterian Church in Jacksonville on March 19 and another at the Applegate River Ranch House on March 21.

We are starting up again with a new director, Cyrise Beatty, who will be commuting from Ashland to lead our rehearsals, at the Applegate Community Church. Two rehearsals on April 5 and April 12 will be on Mondays at the Applegate Community Church and after that we will rehearse on Wednesday evenings at the Applegate Library at 7:00 pm until June 9 with a concert on June 13, celebrating the beginning of summer.

We always welcome new choir members, and would especially like to have more men sign up for the bass and tenor sections. Our spring session begins on March 29 and rehearsals will last until June 9 with a concert on June 13. The venue and time for the concert will be announced soon.

The charge for the twelve week session is only \$50, and no audition is required. For more information call Joan at 541-846-6988.

Joan Peterson
541-846-6988

Jackson County Waste Diversion Days Properly dispose of household paints and chemicals

Free Latex Paint Drop-off

April 30 and May 1, 8 am to 4 pm

Drop off your household latex paints for proper disposal.

Remember: household latex paints only; this event is not open to business waste or oil based paints. Need some paint? Check out the free re-use table.

Jackson County Drop-off sites:

- Rogue Disposal & Recycling transfer station, 8001 Table Rock Road, White City, 541-779-4161
- Recology Ashland Sanitary Service transfer station, 3000 N. Valley View Road, Ashland, 541-482-1471

Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off • May 7-8, 8 am to 4 pm

Bring your household hazardous waste to Rogue Disposal Transfer Station, 8001 Table Rock Road. Cost is \$5.00 per vehicle. Trade in your mercury thermometer for a digital one at no charge. Acceptable items include: cleaning supplies, batteries, pool and spa chemicals, lead and oil-based paint, paint removers, wood preservatives and light ballasts. Do NOT bring: fluorescent bulbs, medical or biological waste, explosives, radioactive materials, ammunition, commercial or industrial waste, asbestos, 55 gallon drums, propane tanks, fire extinguishers or other metal tanks. For more information, contact Rogue Disposal at 541-779-4161 or www.RogueDisposal.com.

For Josephine County dates contact Southern Oregon Sanitation, 541-479-5335 or Allied Waste Services of Grants Pass, 541-479-3371 for dates, times and locations.

Recycle more at home and work: Find the Jackson County Recycling Directory online at www.jcrecyclingdirectory.org.

Southern Oregon Celebrates Earth Day Saturday, April 24, 11 am-4 pm at ScienceWorks in Ashland

Free Outdoor Admission

Rogue Valley Earth Day is our region's annual festival for discovery and inspiration towards shaping healthy, sustainable lifestyles and building community.

Over 70 exhibits will share information about ways to shape earth-friendly lifestyles, covering topics of energy and water conservation, transportation alternatives, waste prevention, land and water conservation, and wildlife preservation. Visitors can discover the benefits of supporting local farmers, learn how solar electricity works, see how to start a compost pile, sign up for renewable energy programs and learn about sustainable landscaping.

This outdoor celebration features live entertainment throughout the day. Hamfist, a lively acoustic ensemble, performs everything from jug band jazz, classic country, power pop and contemporary Americana. "Jack and the Greenstalk," a performance of Ashland Children's Theater motivates the audience to recycle more and save energy. Le Cirque Center of Ashland awes the crowd with circus arts on aerial silks and hoops, and Dancing People Company performs striking modern dance.

Grab a delicious bite to eat from one of the local food vendors: Ashland Food Coop, Pennington Farms, Pangea Grills & Wraps, Katrina Tamales, and Little Shop of Bagels. This is a family-friendly event, hours of children's activities, crafts and games will amuse children of all ages. Please help make the event ZeroWaste by bringing your own beverage container.

ScienceWorks is located at 1500 E. Main Street in Ashland. For more information, visit www.RogueValleyEarthDay.net or call 541-488-6606.



Applegate Food Pantry



Applegaters!

The Applegate Food Pantry is accepting donations of food and cash as well as CLEAN clothing and bedding.

Please contact Arlene or Claude Aron at 541-846-0380.

Checks should be made to "Applegate Access."

The address for donations is:

Applegate Access
P.O. Box 1692, Jacksonville, OR 97530

Thank you for all your donations.

CORRECTION

**Rogue Valley Growers & Crafters Market
2010 Season**

Tuesday - Ashland National Guard Armory
March 16 - November 23

Thursday - Medford National Guard Armory
March 18 - November 18

Saturday - Downtown Ashland
May 1 - October 30

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APPLEGATE OUTBACK: MY OPINION

**The old age hunter—
Let your brains do the work**



BY BOB FISCHER

To a man who has passed the double nickel in age, elk hunting is one tough business. It means blowing snow, endless miles of rock-filled lonesome trails, cold thin air and mountain passes. It means long days in the saddle or trying to cover ground on foot. In no way should you let your age get in the way of bringing home a good bull elk. Try doing what I do: two days before the elk season opens, I drop everything and start preparing.

During this time rest is important, so I don't get any. To safeguard against dozing I munch on a handful of instant coffee crystals every half hour or so.

My eyes look like veined cocktail onions staring out of little tunnels. I exercise with 40 pound sacks of steer manure on each shoulder, staggering back and forth between the barn and the house. After that I trot up and down on Thompson Creek Road pushing a wheelbarrow loaded with wet chicken poop, two cases of Red Dog beer and ten stones from my wife Linda's garden.

This guarantees that for a couple of days after I get to elk camp, I'll look awful.

I showed him my lucky rifle sling as a pitiful display of my last hope. I'll be ashen and stiff and appear too frail to bench press a cleaning rod. In a few days, I will be fine again, but my 20-year-old guide won't know this. He'll be convinced my time on earth is just about over, and spend the entire hunt in fear of killing me through overexertion.

My pathetic wheeze, along with the way I look, will not only make the poor youngster do his absolute best to get me an elk, he will make the entire hunt as work-free as possible. To those of you who are able to hump and pump to get your elk, this might sound a bit drastic. But look pal, I'm not a kid anymore.

So I have learned to use my brains, and my guide's brawn!

Bob Fischer • 541-846.6218

Cantrall-Buckley Park Update

BY LAIRD FUNK

Looking back, Cantrall-Buckley Park had a great camping season last year and is looking forward to another one next summer. The new restroom/shower building was busy all season and was appreciated by all who camped with us. Just having the luxury of the facility made camping at Cantrall-Buckley a newly pleasant experience for our campers. Families with small children were especially thankful for the convenience.

In this article we would like to announce the completion of the first section of the new potable water system, but we can't. It seems that last June Cantrall-Buckley applied for a \$30,000 grant from the BLM to install the first section of the new line and was expecting to start work on this last October after the grant was approved over summer. But the government, in its own manner, decided to "improve and modernize" the BLM grant process by transferring all such decisions to the Portland office and giving all of the responsibility to one person with a new computer system. Well, October came and went, followed by the rest of 2009, before we even heard from the BLM.

Then the message was that they were suffering from "technical difficulties" with the new system and had not yet even begun the decision-making process. The positive side of all this is that our water line is the preferred project for our BLM district and will most likely be funded, but no one knows when, most certainly not the BLM. The best guess now is that the process will be concluded sometime this spring with work to begin in the fall after camping season ends.

The line is a 4" water main from the well in the day-use area to the campground parking area with a tie-in with a previously installed section of water line going to the new restroom. Currently the campground is served by an ancient 2" poly pipe system which repeatedly fails under the higher pressure from the larger pump put on line last fall. That system had been repaired several times a year before the new pump and is now mostly useless except for hole digging practice.

The 4" water line is intended to eventually be the source for water hookups at each campsite to go



New bathrooms

along with sewer and power service to each campsite. There are several thousand feet of water and sewer line and electrical cables which will be part of that work and the expense is estimated to exceed the total of the two grants used to build the sewer system, the wetland treatment area and the new restroom. Our crystal ball is unclear where the money will come from, but we are as dedicated as possible to progress and are happy just to have a chance for BLM funding of the first section.

Rain or shine, spring is on the way and we all know spring brings out the coupling urge in our fellow humans and happy couples left and right will be getting married. Since its start, Cantrall-Buckley Park has been the site of many wonderful weddings. With the verdant expanses of lawn, the scenic Applegate River flowing by and the majestic conifers, Cantrall-Buckley Park makes an exceptional wedding venue. There are several available rental areas, each with their own attractions, but each being more than suitable for a grand occasion.

So if a wedding is in your plans this year, we invite you to visit the park, discuss the various areas with our Park Manager, Rick Barclay, and then contact the Jackson County Parks office to reserve a site for the date of your dream wedding. For what its worth, no wedding celebration I have ever attended at the park has ever ended in divorce. It must be the magic of the place that makes that so. And if all of that is not enough to entice you to marry there, consider that the prices are the most reasonable around for such a great spot. Oh, and remember, if you are serving barbeque, make sure I get an invite.

Lastly, one of the features of living in the Applegate is that out of state visitors start arriving right after the swallows. I sincerely appreciate seeing old friends and catching up on old times, but you know, sometimes it gets just a bit crowded around the old homestead when we all get together. This year I am informing all my Applegate-bound friends about the joy of camping at Cantrall-Buckley Park.

See ya next time!

Laird Funk
541-846-6759

Wedding staging area



Mama, don't let your babies grow up to be fatties

BY KATE MORSE, CCH

Let me tell you about my first pizza. I was eight, and in the school cafeteria. The pizza was a flat, damp thing. I went at it with a fork. Although there were Italian kids around to provide a better example, we all attacked our pizzas with forks. I ate pizza with a fork until I went to a big city college and my pal Maria Travagliese said, "What are you? Stupid?"

The point is that we develop our eating habits young. That's why I want to discuss school lunch programs.

American schools serve meals and snacks under federally subsidized USDA programs. There are many good things to be said about this, including the fact that, for some kids, this is the only food they get. The schools don't get paid a heck of a lot to dish it out. Depending on the over-all percentage of kids they feed, and whether those meals are partially or entirely free to the kid, schools receive from 23-cents to \$2.49 per meal. By and large, the foods the government considers reimbursable make nutritional sense—fruits, veggies, good carbs, dairy and meat: the Food Guide Pyramid items most Americans continue to ignore.

Research indicates that only 2% of kids age two to nineteen eat a diet guided by the Pyramid. Only 25% of teens eat five or more fruits or vegetables per day. This is after people from the Oregon chapters of the American Heart Association and American Diabetic Association and nutritionists and child health experts at Oregon Health and Sciences University all got together in 2001 and launched Healthy People 2010. They've had slim success. Our kids are getting fatter.

Part of the problem might be the examples kids get at school. Under the reimbursable program, doughnuts and toaster pastries are allowed if they're "enriched" or "whole grain." To my thinking, which is admittedly prone to annoyance by all things governmental, serving toaster pastries at school is like launching a cheerleading squad, urging kids to EAT TOASTER PASTRIES!

Nobody looks for the "enriched" or "whole grain" language at the store. Do whole grain toaster pastries even exist? Maybe they're in the mixed message aisle, next to the chocolate-flavored breakfast cereal.

Juice is reimbursable. Except at breakfast, where 100% juice is mandated, "juice" need only be 50% juice. In one way, this is a good thing: if the "juice" is 50% water, a kid is getting 50% less sugar, because juice is mostly sugar and pretty color. On the other hand, what are we losing when we reimburse a "food" that's 50% water? We lose the chance to educate the kid to want a piece of fruit.

The program really falls down in terms of modeling health-optimizing consumption: eat tons of fresh fruits and vegetables. For reimbursement purposes, a "salad" is a "salad" if it has two vegetables in it, including a mere eighth cup of the second vegetable. Therefore, a "salad" is iceberg lettuce and three cherry tomatoes, or iceberg lettuce and a few strips of carrot. An eighth of a cup is nothing, people. Depending on the age of the kid, a vegetable serving is a quarter to three quarters of a cup. Is this six string beans? Is it the amount of cabbage required to lightly wallpaper an i-Pod?

Currently, McDonalds, General Mills, Con Agra and the like own our food development, consumption and food politics culture. Our kids would be better educated if schools taught kids the health consequences of sugar juices, toaster pastries and fat-laden foods. Educated kids could actually learn to decline Big Macs and supersize fries in favor of healthier fare

Your kids don't like vegetables, you say? If Japanese kids crave hijiki, and African kids happily eat pulpy cassava, taste must be a matter of culture.

Kate Morse is a Certified Classical Homeopath in the Applegate who advises people to eat a salad the size of their head every day.

Kate Morse • 541- 846-1252.

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Date & Time: Saturday, April 24, 2010, 8:00am - 5:00pm,
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Cost: \$20 Includes Workbook, Continental Breakfast & Beverages

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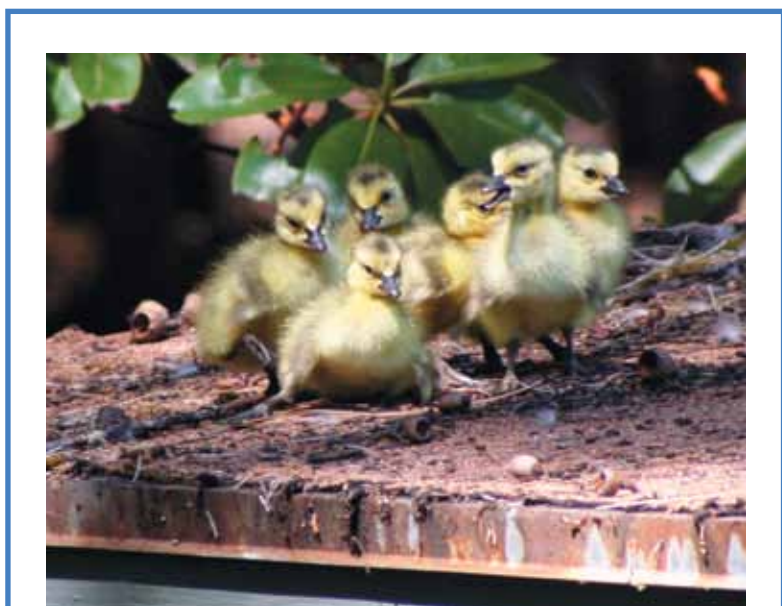
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Hatched on a roof

Every year like clockwork the geese couple returns to their unlikely nesting spot: the roof of an outbuilding on my property. I witness the building of the nest and the laying of one egg each day. With camera ready, I patiently count the days until the babies peck themselves out of their shells and hide under the safety of their mother's wings until they are ready to face the world. Then, less than two days after their birth, a formidable challenge confronts them: Those babies must leap from the roof. Nestled together, the six goslings run up the roof, down the roof, over to the other side, then up the roof again. On the ground, Mother and Dad honk loudly for encouragement. Finally, one by one, the babies take the plunge, miraculously floating safely to the ground (see masthead photo). —Barbara Holiday

BIRDMAN

Spring fling

BY TED A. GLOVER



Near Great Bend, Kansas, are two very important bird areas and great places to visit in springtime. Just north of town is the largest marsh in the interior United States, now owned by the state of Kansas and managed by the Kansas Dept. of Wildlife and Parks. The nearly 20,000 acre area is loaded with bird life, especially White Pelicans, ducks, grebes and numerous shorebirds. Eastern Bluebirds, Eastern Phoebe, Northern Cardinals and Eastern Meadowlarks are all there too.

At one wooded area we saw several Great Horned Owls, Franklin Gulls and Snow Geese were everywhere as were Blue-winged Teal.

A little south and east of town is another great area called Quivira National Wildlife Refuge, with 7,000 acres of marshlands. Both Bald and Golden Eagles winter on the refuge and over 800,000 ducks and geese visit until weather forces them to head south.

Another great birding area is in the southwest corner of Kansas, not far from Dodge City. It's the Cimarron National Grassland. One exciting bird to see in the spring (and a life bird for us!) was the Lesser Prairie Chicken, which is an endangered species. These guys put on quite a show during breeding season. The forest service operates two blinds for viewing the bird lek or arena for competitive mating display.

Our motor trip took us through eastern Oregon, northern Nevada, Utah, Colorado and

Kansas. Total bird species seen was 144!

Of course not everyone can take the spring motor trip we did. But you could head for the Oregon coast, home to six national wildlife refuges. The marsh at Bandon provides an important habitat for migrating shorebirds and waterfowl. During spring thousands of birds stop to rest and feed along the Oregon coast on their way north to breeding areas in the arctic.

Common Murres, Pigeon Guillemots, several varieties of cormorants and Tufted Puffins nest along the rocky shorelines, rocks and islands. Watch for Black Oystercatchers, Brown Pelicans and even Peregrine Falcons whose diving speed can reach over 200 miles per hour pursuing its prey.

The most common bird along the coastal waters is likely the Western Gull, a large gull that's over 30% larger than a Red-tailed Hawk. The Western Gull has a white head and under-parts, a dark gray back and distinctive pink legs. They love the coast and nearby towns, eating almost any type of live or fresh food including discards from humans.

Ted A. Glover • 541-846-0681

Photos clockwise from above left:
 Brown Pelican 2, Dr. Thomas G. Barnes, USFWS
 Common Murres, Anne Morkill, USFWS
 Black Oystercatchers, Dave Menke, USFWS
 Tufted Puffin-Mike Boylan, USFWS
 Pigeon Guillemots, USFWS



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Notes from a Rogue Entomologist:

For vegetable growers— prepare to meet the beetles

BY RICHARD J. HILTON

As the freshly planted seeds begin to emerge from the soil or as you put out plants carefully nurtured in the greenhouse or purchased at the spring fair, a number of insect pests await them. Two groups of beetles are among the most commonly encountered pests of young plants, the cucumber beetles and the flea beetles.

Cucumber beetles

We have a couple of species locally which are referred to as cucumber beetles and while they are roughly the same size, about one third of an inch, they are otherwise quite distinct in both appearance and habit. The western spotted cucumber beetle, *Diabrotica undecimpunctata undecimpunctata*, is yellowish green with eleven black spots and will feed on a wide array of plants. This insect is ubiquitous in our cultivated areas; if you think you've seen a green lady beetle, odds are it was a spotted cucumber beetle. The western striped cucumber beetle, *Acalymma trivittatum*, has three black stripes on a light yellow background and is a specialist, mainly feeding on cucurbits such as squash, zucchini, cucumbers, melons and the like.

Both of these species overwinter as adults and, in the spring, they lay their eggs at the base of plants, when the eggs hatch, the grub-like larvae feed on the roots and in some cases, usually with young plants, the root feeding can be quite damaging. The adults feed on new leaves and other succulent plant parts. In the spring when new plants are struggling to establish, this leaf feeding can cause quite a bit of stunting and smaller plants can be overwhelmed. I vividly recall a visit to one of our larger organic farms where squash plants were being transplanted to get an early start; unfortunately, as

this was the first planting in the area, all the striped cucumber beetles in the vicinity had homed in on this one field and were having a, well, field day. The infestation was, to quote the grower, "of biblical proportions." Every little transplant seemed to have a dozen beetles feeding on it; in many cases the leaves were almost totally skeletonized. Also, just to add insult to the grower's injury, it seemed that a majority of the beetles were enjoying conjugal relations. In a desperate attempt to salvage the planting, a huge tractor mounted vacuum machine was brought in to suck up the adult beetles but it was a lost cause. The problem was that all the beetles which had been generated from the previous year's squash plantings were drawn to that early planting. The neighbor who planted a few weeks later was in much better shape as the beetles had already gone elsewhere to do their damage.

While the striped cucumber beetle has become more numerous as the number of larger squash plantings in the region has grown, the spotted cucumber beetle always seems to be around. Despite its name, the spotted cucumber beetle does not lay its eggs on cucumbers but, instead, favors corn, beans and grasses. While the adults will feed on cucurbits and can cause problems they are more often found on corn and legumes. In other parts of the country, some of the species in the genus *Diabrotica* are known as corn rootworms as the root-feeding grubs are a major pest of corn in the Midwest.

Flea beetles

The flea beetles are smaller, about half the size of the cucumber beetles, and are often metallic in color. They get their name from their propensity to jump when disturbed and if you have a magnifying glass you can see that these beetles have an enlarged hind femur, analogous to our thigh. Flea beetles tend to be specific to the plant



Photos clockwise from top left: Western spotted cucumber beetle; western striped cucumber beetle; western potato flea beetle; and cabbage flea beetle. Credit for all photos: Ken Gray Image Courtesy of Oregon State University.

family they feed on and since there are a number of different species of flea beetles around, many plants can be at risk. In particular the cole crops: cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, and Brussel sprouts which are in the crucifer or mustard family are often attacked by flea beetles.

Other species specialize on solanaceous plants, a.k.a. the nightshade family: potato, tomato, pepper, and eggplant. As with the cucumber beetles, the flea beetles overwinter as adults so they are ready to attack seedlings and new transplants in the spring. With the flea beetles, only the adults are of concern, as the tiny grubs which feed on roots and leaves rarely inflict serious damage. The adult beetles begin by chewing little pits in the leaf tissue, this is sometimes called "shotholing". As the feeding continues the leaves will take on a ragged appearance. Since flea beetles tend to specialize on certain plants, there are a lot of flea beetle species to be found. One prolific collector of flea beetles was Louis Gentner, the entomologist at the Southern Oregon Experiment Station (which is now the Research & Extension Center) from the 1920's to the 1960's. His collection was so

extensive that he left it to the Smithsonian Institution and, moreover, they were happy to get it.

Cucumber beetles and flea beetles both belong to the Chrysomelidae or leaf beetle family, named for reasons which are hopefully becoming obvious. Controlling these leaf-feeders can be difficult, since the adults of all of these species overwinter outside of the garden or field, and the larvae are often protected in the soil. If, or when, these beetles become pests in your garden, it is a good idea to destroy plant residues in the fall, including both crop vegetation and any surrounding weedy growth. There are varieties of squash and melons available which are tolerant of cucumber beetles, floating row covers can be used to protect new plantings in the spring, and healthy vigorous plants should be able to withstand quite a bit of feeding. And if there are a lot of striped cucumber beetles in your locale, you can always hope that your neighbors plant their squash before you do.

Richard J. Hilton

541-772-5165, ext. 227

Note: Richard Hilton is Senior Research Assistant/Entomologist at OSU—Southern Oregon Research and Extension Center.



Boomerang Man

BY LINDA FISHER

I wasn't sure if I was standing in a room filled with magical flying animals, fantasy butterflies or, I'm not sure what I thought. Since I was visiting with David Fantone, the boomerang guy, I figured I must be looking at boomerangs, but so many colors made me doubt my own whereabouts. I was about to become educated about the world of boomerangs. Fantone, age 54, explained that what I was looking at were the recreational "boomerangs" used for leisure, recreation and competition. These are all "returning" boomerangs. "Non-returning" boomerangs, known as throw sticks or kylies, were used as far back as Roman times, as weapons for hunting small prey.

Fantone grinned and told me he was very overweight at one time. He decided to take up kung fu and lost 70 pounds and then his weight loss hit a plateau. He decided to try exercising by playing Frisbee golf but that did not entice him, so he switched to boomerangs. He became hooked; he lost another 40 pounds. He told me the average age of boomerangers is at least 50

and most have a keen interest in things that fly, the aerodynamics of it all.

Fantone is originally from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and how he ended up in Applegate, Oregon I never did get around to asking. I am just glad he is here. I did however, ask him, "What else about the boomerang fascinates you?" He easily replied, "All my life I have been focusing on developing the spiritual side of myself and let my body go. A few years back, I realized that the mind, body and spirit must work together in harmony.

For some people, this would not be a new concept, for me it was. Some people meditate, some pray; I have my boomerangs. If I have a strong thought or a wish or a prayer, I give this feeling to my boomerang, throw it out to the universe and take what ever comes back. Of course, this is not what I do all the time with my boomerangs or even that frequently, but that path is there when I need it."

Fantone is focused and very philanthropic with his boomerang



fascination. Two years ago he started a project with fellow boomerangers called, "Boomerangs for Baghdad." Since that time, over 300 boomerangs have been sent to the service men and women stationed in Baghdad. The USO helped

with the distribution. Fantone, himself a veteran, told me, "You have no idea how lonely and homesick those soldiers can get." He has also sent boomerangs to our soldiers via the Wayne Owen Fighting Arts School, in Grant's Pass. He said this was very personal for him as many of the students at the Wayne Owen School, where he himself trained, have family overseas. Fantone helped many of the young students make their own boomerangs, which were then shipped with a letter or a special message. "I feel the boomerang carries its own message, 'Return Home to US', Fantone proudly murmured.

Not only is Fantone passionate

about his boomerangs, he takes his passion and makes it happen. If he is not doing demos at the Grant's Pass Boys and Girls Club or the Pumpkin Patch at Pacifica, in Williams, he is doing demonstrations and talking to the school's DARE programs. Fantone explained that boomerangs can be a shop project, an art project, a science project and most certainly are great for physical education classes. Most of the boomerangs, if not being made in a class setting as a do-it-yourself project, are made on site, at his house in Murphy. He uses materials of light wood and plastic for kids, or heavier ply woods and paper embedded resin materials for competition. Speaking of competition, in 2005, Fantone placed first in accuracy throwing at the west coast round up in Salem, Oregon and first place at the nationals for best design. In 2006 he won for best craftsmanship and in 2008 for best artwork. Fantone has a 'borrow a boomerang' program, just like a library program. As much as he loves competing in all aspects of the boomerang, he said he would much rather teach someone, in his shop, how to build a boomerang, instead of selling you one. The lesson is free, but in return you make Fantone a boomerang.

David Fantone is one amazing man of many other talents, not thus mentioned. To contact David Fantone, e-mail him at boomerangboo@peak.org.

Linda Fischer • 541-846.6218

Wildfire season is fast approaching

Are you prepared?

Workshop coming April 22 to assist residents

There's no time like now to begin preparing your property and family, including pets and livestock, from the potential devastating effects of wildfire. Cold winter weather will soon be giving way to hot, dry weather and by planning now, we can better protect what's important to us.

The Oregon Department of Forestry, Applegate Fire District #9, Jackson and Josephine counties, and the Applegate Partnership & Watershed Council have teamed up to provide a workshop to help residents prepare for wildfire. Topics included are:

- Creating defensible space
- Fuel reduction assistance grants, fire resistant plants and landscaping
- Getting rid of toxic/invasive plants
- Recycling/composting tree and brush cutting
- Disaster Registry, family emergency planning
- What you need to know to protect pets and livestock
- Developing emergency kits for pets and livestock

One thing that's different from past fire prevention workshops is the section on preparing pets and livestock. We've learned from past disasters such as Katrina, the importance of planning for the potential evacuation and sheltering of animals. Not preparing for them prior to disaster has seriously impeded response efforts and has risked the lives of animals and humans like.

The Applegate Animal Disaster Preparedness Workgroup is creating resources and plans for the evacuation and sheltering of pets and livestock in certain areas of the Applegate Valley. They will be sharing information about this project and how it can be expanded to other areas.

The workshop will be Thursday, April 22 at the Upper Applegate Grange, located at 3901 Upper Applegate Road outside Ruch. The workshop will begin at 7 pm and refreshments will be served. We hope to see you there!

For more information contact Lin Bernhardt at 541-840-9903 or linb@clearwire.net.



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Updating the Applegate Fire Plan

BY SANDY SHAFFER

Our Applegate Fire Plan (the *first* community fire plan in the nation) was written eight years ago. Since that time a lot of work has been completed from the recommendations found in Chapter 3, regarding priority fuel reduction projects. With a new two-county risk assessment recently completed, it was time to update our list of projects and see whether any other priority areas might need hazardous fuels work.

An 18-member team was assembled, consisting of federal, state and local fire and fuels folks and local landowners who are all knowledgeable of what's happening on the ground in the Applegate watershed. The first task was to update the original list of 62 projects for status. We found that 15 had been completed, 23 were partially implemented, 5 are currently being implemented, 2 are in the NEPA process, and 3 are on the agency's long-term plan. One project is still in litigation, and 13 projects have had nothing done on them. We were very pleased with these results.

As I write this article, we have determined our objectives, process, and products, and also listed out the various map layers that we want to utilize (22 of

them!) to do a complete assessment of the watershed's lands. Aside from the new risk assessment, we also have the results of the values and data that were mapped by another group of Applegaters and agency folks last year as part of the Applegate Fire Learning Network. Twelve values were identified to consider when doing work in the Applegate: fire-suppressed forests, oak woodlands, public lands adjacent to private, late successional old-growth, areas prone to intense fire, next-generation old-growth, pine dominated systems, at-risk/ESA habitat, timber infrastructure, fire regime 1, communities at risk and the wildland-urban interface. We will also utilize the findings of the Southern Oregon Small Diameter Collaborative's maps of pole stands near existing roads. These tools will be considered when projects are defined, because more funding sources could be available by adding in some restoration type activities or small diameter utilization.

We'll be going through the watershed in our next few meetings to analyze fire hazard and risk for each of the nineteen Strategic Planning Areas across the Applegate. As potential projects are

detected, we'll define locations, jurisdiction, values-at-risk, objectives, and, if applicable, treatment methods. A final list will be put together, and then we'll be ready to present the new list of priority projects to the rest of our community. I'm hoping to be able to announce public meetings to view the proposed projects in late May or early June. Once the meetings have been held, we'll get the update officially blessed by the County and the State. (The Applegate Fire Plan is an official CWPP or Community Wildfire Protection Plan, and priority projects listed in CWPPs have a lot of pull when federal and state funding comes along.)

So, if you are interested in this process, please send me an email so that I can send you on the announcement of when and where we'll be holding meetings. Hope to see you there! (And, if you're new to the Applegate and are wondering what this Fire Plan is all about, drop by the Fire District's Headquarters at 1095 Upper Applegate Road in Ruch and pick up a free copy.)

Sandy Shaffer • 541-899-9541
Applegate Fire Plan Coordinator
sassyone@starband.net

The Deer Willy Fuel Hazard Reduction Project

BLM's green answer to a burning problem

BY TIM GONZALES

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is moving toward greener options for fire hazard reduction that will allow for continued success managing the land, utilizing small diameter wood products, and reducing particulates and emissions. The Deer Willy Fuel Hazard Reduction Project is an example of utilizing stewardship contracting options that provide environmental, fiscal, and social benefits.

The Medford BLM's Grants Pass Resource Area (GPRA) fire and fuels program is tasked to reduce the fire hazard on approximately 2,500 acres per year. Traditional treatments such as; cutting brush and small trees, constructing handpiles, burning the piles, and then underburning the area have been routinely implemented. Traditional treatments can be problematic in that they can require arduous labor which can be quite expensive (for example, treatments of dense vegetation can cost more than \$1,000 per acre). Usable wood products could be wasted by burning, and finding appropriate weather windows to burn while staying within Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) air quality compliance has become more difficult. As vegetation continues to grow and wildfires are quickly suppressed, fire hazard in our wildlands continues to escalate.

The BLM Grants Pass Resource Area fire and fuels program has been moving toward stewardship contracting as a tool to implement a variety of treatments to help alleviate some of the concerns of traditional fuel treatments. Prior to stewardship contracts, utilizing small diameter forest products had been cost prohibitive due to the expense of labor and machinery needed. This has been exacerbated by the increase in transportation costs. Stewardship contracts are designed to allow BLM to implement forestry work while offsetting

a portion of the cost by selling extracted material to the contractor, who may then sell it on the open market. This allows planners to design and implement projects that are more economically feasible.

The Deer Willy project is located in the mountains separating Williams from the Illinois Valley. It is in an area where BLM fire and fuels planners have been concerned about fire hazard for years. Some key ridges were identified as high priority fuels hazard reduction treatment areas in the Applegate Fire Plan (2002). In addition, the area is a very valuable wildlife resource. A large wildfire in this area could alter spotted owl habitat, as well as threaten residents in either Williams or Selma, depending on wind direction.

The Deer Willy Project was designed to treat dense vegetation along existing road systems and strategic ridgelines to create a network of defensible fuel breaks to help prevent large fires. The project was coordinated with the public, and input was incorporated into the design. The project decision, issued in October, 2008, included treating 200' above and 200' below selected roads and key ridges. Treatments in these areas were deemed adequate to meet strategic fire suppression needs and be economically feasible. The Deer Willy project limits the felling of trees larger than 20" diameter at breast height (DBH). The project also calls for the removal of some smaller green and woody plant material or "biomass." Removing this material assists in making the area more fire resilient.

Work has already begun with favorable results. Biomass can also have a value as product. The contracting companies working on the Deer Willy project are Lomakatsi Ecological Services of Ashland and Oregon and South Bay Organics from Williams. They have successfully reduced fire hazard on 802 acres to date while producing forest products and local jobs. So far, with only 18% of the project completed,



Deer Willy field trip led by Lomakatsi and BLM.

commodities produced include 315,000 board feet of timber; 5,200 tons of biomass material turned into chips used to produce electricity and other products; 50 cords of firewood; and several log truck loads of poles. These products are sold to the contractor, reducing the price of fuels hazard treatment by approximately 7%. In addition to using biomass extraction to reduce the costs to the public, there is less burning needed. While traditional methods are within DEQ standards, Deer Willy has produced fewer tons of emissions due to the biomass extracted.

Eighty-five percent of the completed acres were funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 also known as "stimulus" money. The renewable energy component in the project made the Deer Willy project more competitive for stimulus funds. Since May 2009, 16 local jobs have been created specifically by this project and \$56,000 has been saved thus far. As markets improve and develop, savings are expected to increase.

The Deer Willy project also had a positive effect on forest stands. The thinning of overcrowded vegetation allows remaining trees to absorb limited nutrients and water with less competition, increasing their vigor. Additional growing space will be created around retained trees and treated areas are more likely to develop or retain characteristics of older forests.

See BLM, page 15

What is a chiropractor?

BY SCOTT B. COOPER, D.C.

People often wonder what type of education Doctors of Chiropractic (D.C.) receive compared to Medical Doctors (M.D.). They are very similar. Both attend undergraduate college with specific science prerequisites such as anatomy, physiology, biology, and chemistry among others. They then attend a chiropractic or medical college and their curriculum has many of the same fields of knowledge, although there are several areas where the paths diverge. Chiropractors devote more hours to specializing in the areas of neurology, X-ray and orthopedics, while medical doctors are using those same hours concentrating more on pharmaceuticals, psychiatry, obstetrics and gynecology. Hours of anatomy, physiology, diagnosis and chemistry are fairly similar. These demanding pursuits take over 4,000 hours of training in four years of classes before students can graduate and receive their doctorate. National and state testing follows to be classified as a primary care physician.

Chiropractic colleges are accredited by the Council on Chiropractic Education, which is recognized by the United States Department of Education. The National Board of Chiropractic Examiners conducts ongoing testing throughout chiropractic college to certify that the student is accomplished enough to continue schooling, including a Part IV that most states accept as part of their state licensing. Each state usually has a written test for the particular scope of practice.

Chiropractic is the largest drug-free form of health care in North America and the third largest form of any type of health care. Chiropractors often use modern technology such as computer scans of the nerves and muscles to help evaluate problems and cold-laser therapy to stimulate healing.

Chiropractic is based on the understanding that our body is self-healing. When your skin is cut, for example, you do not have to concentrate on the blood stopping and the skin growing back together. Your body innately knows how to repair the damage. Messages are first sent from the injured area to the brain that interprets those signals and understands what has gone wrong. The brain then sends messages down the spinal cord and along the nerves to the injured area, telling that part of the body how to

heal itself. This is happening constantly, whether it is a traumatic injury or the normal replacement of cells that have worn out.

Our brain and spinal cord are so important that they were the first parts of our body to develop, and they instructed the rest of our body how to grow. They are surrounded by bone to protect them, but our spine also has to be flexible so that we can bend and twist as far as we do. That is where a problem can occur. Some messages travel along the nerves at over 250 miles per hour, and are very sensitive to interference. Our nerves exit from our spine, and if the spine is not moving properly, those signals can be interfered with.

Imagine taping a dime onto the back of your hand. It is very light, so it does not put much pressure at all on your skin. You might even forget it was there after leaving it on for twenty to thirty minutes. That same slight pressure applied to a nerve near the spine will reduce the amount of nerve messages by *half* in that same amount of time, and you probably will not even be aware of it. That means messages from our body to our brain telling it how things are working, and messages from our brain to our body telling it how to function and heal can be significantly altered. This can slow or even prevent healing and create numerous health issues, all from a tiny amount of pressure that you might not even notice.

Chiropractors are the experts in detecting and correcting this spinal interference which is referred to as subluxations or the vertebral subluxation complex. Chiropractors use many different techniques to perform a chiropractic adjustment, but the goal is almost always the same: restore proper alignment and motion to the vertebrae of the spine so the nerves can carry those signals along the nerves without interference. That is why chiropractic can help with so many different health problems and also maximize your ability to stay healthy. Chiropractic care can help injuries heal faster, resolve chronic problems and helps our organs and immune system to function at their highest level, which our brain and body can communicate without interference.

Scott B. Cooper, D.C.
541-282-5800

BLM

FROM PAGE 14

Phytophthora lateralis, a spore that infects Port Orford cedar trees causing death, has infected numerous trees in the project area. As part of the project, a roadside "sanitation" prescription was designed to reduce the spread of the disease by creating a break in the pathway for the spore.

The project has been well received. Lomakatsi and BLM have led several field visits and, in general, the community support has been favorable. The field trips have helped the public better understand the project, and seem to create stronger support for forest health treatments implemented by the BLM.

Site conditions within treated areas indicate that the project is on its way to meeting its main objective, which is reducing the fire hazard in critical response areas. Pre-suppression construction of treated fuel breaks gives firefighters a higher probability of success in stopping wildfires

and the Deer Willy project achieves the goal of producing less waste. Stewardship contracting is being used to accomplish treatments at a reduced cost per acre and timber and other industry workers are being employed where they might not be otherwise. Labor jobs have been created with living wages. Biomass is utilized instead of being burned on site, and less smoke is being produced. And finally, taxpayers are saving a few hard earned tax dollars while the theme of the project is realized – a safer environment for firefighters and the public. BLM Grants Pass Resource Area is pleased with the results, and looks forward to continuing to work with local communities as more projects are developed and implemented across Josephine County.

Tim Gonzales • 541-471-6643
Fire Mitigation and Education Specialist
Medford BLM Grants Pass RA

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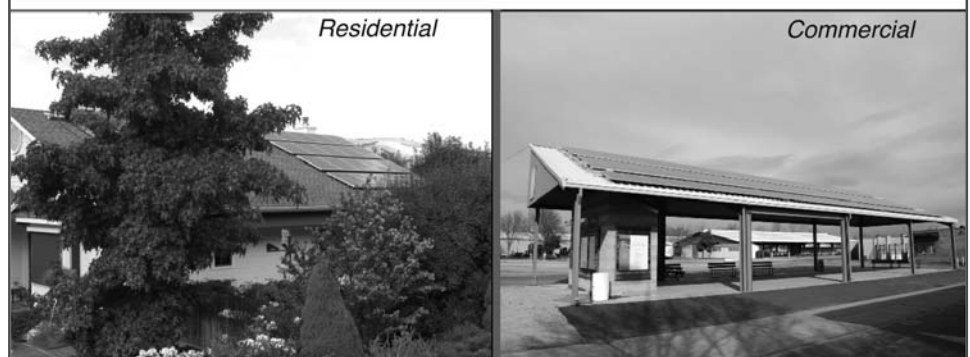
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Tall Tales from the Editor

Size does matter or Ride the chute

Over the years I've laid my head in many places I've called home. Some of my favorite homes were in Moab, Utah.

Doo Doo the wonder dog and I had christened my 1959 army green Oldsmobile 88 as home. Doo Doo claimed the large back window ledge that was bigger than a Toyota Yaris as his bed. I got the back seat, which was almost big enough for me to stretch out all 6'4" and 150 lbs. of my body in those days. I couldn't do that in a Toyota Prius.

Speaking about size, you could sit four testosterone-ravaged, little-brain driven, teenage boys in the front seat of the 88 and still have enough room to plant an ice-filled cooler stocked with our favorite highway refreshments between us. That was living! Everything I owned, including my Gibson Les Paul guitar, Marshall full stack amplifier and kitchen facilities fit nicely into the 88's huge trunk. Yes, the trunk was larger than a Toyota Camry.

They don't make cars like my old Oldsmobile 88 any more, and that's a shame, because size does matter. You'd have to have one of those motor-mansions on wheels that the snowbirds travel in to experience Oldsmobile 88 living these days.

Another home Doo Doo and I shared was an 8' wide by 16' long singlewide in Moab's famous Walnut Lane Trailer Park. What was life like at Walnut Lane? According to Utah outlaw Chris "Madman" Allen, you'd have to watch the Canadian T.V. series called "Trailer Park Boys" to know what life was like at Walnut Lane Trailer Park. Punk rocker Ricky Lee "Lizard Slayer" Costanza says the "Trailer Park Boys" is "The Waltons" come to Utah.

Also Doo Doo and I spent some time dwelling in a 1963 navy-grey Dodge panel truck that sat on blocks. The truck had suffered a blown engine and blocks replaced the tires that might have been pawned. The tumbleweeds that collected around the truck served as insulation or "Utah camouflage." This particular home sat across the Sandflats Road from the old Moab Cemetery (years later I'd have a job there working as a gravedigger), next door to the Grand County equipment yard at a Volkswagen repair shop called "Tom Tom's." The county yard was a place that reluctantly accepted my Oklahoma credit card, to feed the vast amounts of fuel required to run around the countryside in my Oldsmobile '88. This credit card could only be used after midnight.

We had lived there for several weeks and had settled in quite nicely to our new digs. On a typical morning, Doo Do and I were answering nature's call – Doo Doo preferred one of the front blocks holding up our sand-sinking, tumbleweed-covered, scorpion-infested, unlevelled home. And me? I chose the anthill just out from our back door. From there I could gaze to the southeast as the sun rose up over a green island known as the La Sal Mountains. These mountains jetted above a sea of red rock canyons, quite picturesque! On this particular morning, I was thinking about hiking up to the old power dam for a much needed shower under the falls. While I was lost in thought, a Porsche pulled into "Tom Tom's" parking lot. Holy Ex-Lax, it was Tom Arnold Sr. He never showed up that early. Bummer. He owned "Tom Tom's",

so my morning started with an eviction. It didn't matter that Tom Arnold Jr., his son and my buddy, said it was all right to live there – of course Tom Jr. told me "just don't get caught."

One of my favorite great adventures in how to live on five dollars or less a day and have a home, which of course was not in Beverly Hills, California, but was in Moab, Utah. Doo Doo and I moved into the coal bin at the Holiday Theater with Ken Hoffman. We lived in the heart of downtown Moab on Main Street. I know you're thinking, how in the heck could a coal bin be one of my favorite homes! For starters, there was no coal. Ken and I had the place as clean as – well, let's just say very livable, OK? No rattlesnakes, black widows, cockroaches, fleas, rats, cowboys, roughnecks, miners, politicians, or ticks. Aren't politicians and ticks of the same species, or is that lawyers? Anyway, the "bin" was really clean.

There was a 40-watt light bulb hanging from the ceiling in the center of the bin, our 18' x 18' living quarters. We had two queen-size mattresses that had been borrowed after hours from a local motel. The "bin" sported two doctor's office waiting room chairs circa 1940 that we had liberated from the dump. There wasn't a hole to be found in the fake dark brown leather material that covered our "early dump" Chippendale chairs. The table that sat between the classic chairs was a mid-size cable spool from behind Midland Telephone Company. In one corner we put up a small closet made of 2x4s and burlap.

The best part of our home was the secret entrance from back in the alley. You'd just open the lid to the old coal chute, hop onto the metal chute which we had polished up, lie back and ride the chute down to the "bin," landing on one of our queen-sized mattresses, if someone hadn't moved the mattress for a good joke. If they had, you'd hit the concrete floor and utter unprintable verbiage. I was always amazed at how Doo Doo loved to ride the chute, but then he loved to ride anything! The theater had rear exit doors that the civilized folks would come and go by.

The coal-bin chute came in real handy if you needed to disappear rather quickly if, for example, local law enforcement was chasing you for some minor disruptive prank or you were running from your date's upset boyfriend. There could be many angry tourists giving chase once they found out you really weren't a tour operator. That's right; Ken and JD's "Red Rock Belly Crawl Tours guided by Doo Doo, the Wonder Dog" didn't really exist. Then there were the Navajos from the city park who always wanted more than a swallow from your Spanada wine, or you just may have needed to escape from the hallucinogenic moonflower plants that lurked in the shadows of night in that part of the world. Yes, the coal bin chute saved us many a time!

The "bin" was cool during the mind-melting heat of summer and toasty warm when the snow blew in winter. That's because the giant swamp cooler and the gas furnace were located next to the "bin". Plus, I was close to work. I was a highly trained movie projectionist at the Holiday

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:
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In response to the Williams community support for a Siskiyou Crest National Monument

Dear Editor:

Greetings, I'm your neighbor on the other side of the mountains, in Seiad Valley California on the Klamath River. As a life long resident of Seiad, I too have enjoyed the Red Buttes Wilderness and the Siskiyou since before they were "wilderness". I do however question the movement to designate all this area (600,000 acres) as the Siskiyou Crest National Monument. I believe this will open the door to more government regulation and extreme environmental control and further stifle our already struggling communities. The effect to adjoining property owners in the near future can easily be envisioned. Personal property rights are threatened now and this will make it worse. Don't think your little farm, vineyard, or fish pond will be exempt from regulations, fees, lack of common sense and other bureaucratic red tape.

The population from the start of Highway 96 near I-5 to Happy Camp, a 70-mile distance, cannot be more than a few thousand, hardly an impact. Logging doesn't exist here anymore and neither does a mill. Recreational mining has been stopped and it's even difficult to go into the forest and gather firewood! Locally we have two small ranches with grazing permits that their families have held for 100 years. Together they probably run 75 pair. Again hardly an impact on the land, but a huge impact on those families if they lost their grazing permits. Recreation alone cannot support our communities.

We are regular people just like you all, trying to raise a family and make a living in communities we grew up in and love. We don't have much of a voice down here. Please put yourself in our shoes as you contemplate this Monument proposal.

Kathy Bishop, Seiad Valley

Kudos to the Applegater

Dear Editor:

Keep on Keepin' on! We love the paper and want to support its continuance.

Barbara and Peter

Dear Editor:

Thank you so very much for your effort and commitment in producing the Applegater! We have lived here for four years and love to learn about the people and our beautiful valley. We hope you can continue for years to come!

Larry and Shannon Buscho

Dear Editor:

Your newspaper is excellent! The quality of the writing, the expertise of your writers, and the usefulness and interest quotient of the articles are just amazing. Hope you (we) can keep the paper going.

Connie

Fund relocation

Dear Editor:

This letter is being written to explain why the Applegate Partnership and Watershed Council withdrew our funds from Chase Bank.

When our certificate of deposit matured in December of 2009, we were faced with the decision on how best to reinvest those funds to maximize our return in the forthcoming year. We went into a local Chase Bank to discuss the best options for reinvesting our funds. After some aggravation at the inconvenience of having to accommodate Chase Bank paperwork requirements, I went online that evening to see what the Chief Executive Officer of Chase Bank received in bonuses, last year.

To my amazement, the CEO of J.P. Morgan Chase received over \$21,000,000 in bonuses. In fact, this same J.P. Morgan Chase CEO received the 6th highest bonus of all the banks listed. The Capital One Finance CEO received a repulsive \$73,000,000. The Citi Group CEO received an equally repulsive \$31,000,000 and the State Street CEO received a paltry, but equally extravagant, \$28,000,000. Bank of America and PNC Finance followed with \$23,000,000 and \$22,000,000, respectively, before the J.P. Morgan Chase bonus of \$21,000,000.

I would speculate that if we added up the total salaries of all the Chase Bank employees in the entire Rogue Valley, the total of all their wages for their entire lifetime would not exceed the amount given to the Chase CEO, in just one year.

The obvious decision of what to do with our meager deposits slapped me in the face! The decision made was to move our funds to a local bank that didn't embrace paying their CEO such extravagant bonuses. In my opinion, the \$21,000,000 bonus given to the Chase CEO was not only repulsive and arrogant, particularly in an economy where our government is helping bail out failing banking institutions, it is criminal.

I am proud to say that we have relocated our funds to an institution that has a better sense of conservative fiscal values. I think it is time that folks who are incensed with such irresponsible actions, as multi-million dollar CEO bonuses, vote with their pocketbook and move their hard-earned funds to institutions that have responsible and down-to-earth values.

Jack Shipley, Chair, Applegate Partnership and Watershed Council

OPINION

Krouse/Copeland Applegate River Bridge

BY STEVE ROUSE

Save Applegate Valley Environment (SAVE) is a community based organization supporting sustainable management of our natural resources since 2006. SAVE is cooperatively engaged with local landowners, resource companies, and regulatory agencies to develop a science based adaptive management plan for the Applegate Watershed.

Mining, property rights, a poor economy and bad government are some of the concerns we have heard recently from many of our neighbors in the Applegate. We were invited by the Applegate Partnership to give a brief informational talk at their Board meeting on current Applegate mining activity and the bridge proposal. Well, that never happened. An article in The Daily Courier must have ruffled some feathers in the community. Far too many folks showed up to squeeze into the small Applegate library. The Partnership wisely decided the fire marshall would object so they cancelled the meeting.

SAVE is not against mining; SAVE supports appropriate mining. We stayed around and listened to the folks who came. We learned a lot about what our neighbors were feeling, like:

PROPERTY RIGHTS: "I want to be able to do whatever I want on my property. I own it. I pay the property tax." We all identify with these words. We all feel this is how things should be. Yet there are laws that say we can't, laws that apply equally to all.

Fifty years ago we could pretty much do what we wanted with our land. No longer. Complex planning and zoning laws approved by voters in the 70s changed that. The population of the Applegate expanded. Whether we like it or not, change happens. Everyone would like independence for their land, but now we must respect neighbor's property rights and these laws. Sometimes we are unhappy about that, until the laws protect our own rights.

GRAVEL: The Krouse and Hill mining proposals involve the most complex laws. Just ask Copeland how difficult the permitting is for mining in an unpredictable river floodplain. Many impacts from mining are permanent and can effect areas miles away. Neighbors upstream and downstream of these mine sites are

very concerned about the effects to their property. They are protecting their property rights by questioning how a 400-foot concrete bridge will impact their safety and property value. Do you want these same property rights? They hired scientists who studied the impacts and the science says flooding could be devastating. Historically the greatest damage to property during floods has come around the river mines.

Did you know the neighbor next door to Krouse bridge had to win an appeal in Salem just to allow anyone to express concerns to the County?

POOR ECONOMY: "Times are hard, unemployment is high. Ranchers and farmers can barely make ends meet." True statements we all feel. Money is tight. Every job is important. Today the successful sustainable businesses are the wineries. Change can be beneficial.

BAD GOVERNMENT: We heard plenty of stories about the "stupid laws" we have. "They cost us money and limit our lives." We agree, but we are right back to change. We like a simple world, but today life is complex. So our government enacts laws. In America, we can still vote to change these laws or change the politicians.

Mr. Krouse and the Hills are all our neighbors. Their farms are gorgeous. Mr. Hill grows the best corn in the Valley. Mr. Krouse would drop everything to help if you were in need. We are all good people who live here together. Mining may or may not be allowed by law. Time will tell. But one law, Measure 37/49 does grant these farmers the three home sites each this year that they requested. SAVE sincerely hopes this helps our neighbors.

Working together we can live with respect and harmony.

For more information on the upcoming Krouse bridge hearing e-mail SAVE@APBB.net 846-1082

Steve Rouse • 541-846-0661

CHUTE

FROM PAGE 16

Theater. I worked two nights a week, no matinees, and did a little cleanup in the theater. A ten-hour week was a blistering long one.

I made an astonishing \$2.50 an hour plus all the popcorn, Dr. Pepper (which I became addicted to, the Dr. P. curse) and peanuts I wanted. I decided it was best to take it easy on the candy bars, though. You gotta sleep sometime. And the best part – the "bin" was rent-free.

The "bin" served as headquarters for us plus the other theater employees: Rex Scarf and Phillip Hurtado and local outlaws, punk rocker Ricky Lee "Lizard Slayer" Costanza, Robert "Bad Bob" Ossana, Dave "Trapper" Hotze, Tom Arnold Jr. and Yawn Pratt. Moab Police chief Mel Dalton dubbed us "The Holiday Gang". There was just too much mischief and insanity brewed up in the "bin" what with all the girls, magnesium bombs, firearms, fireworks, lizard skins, infinite illegal thoughts, water balloons, howling at the moon (or was that a broken tail light?), 3 am Sunday morning movie previews, showers in the alley, motorcycles in the lobby, dancing on the roof, cheap, sweet and often sickening wine and movie popcorn

with extra fake "butter." What more could a 19-year-old boy and his dog want, I ask you? The lady who owned the theater did not seem to mind our shenanigans for it was a long time before she gave us the boot.

My absolute favorite home, though, is right here in the Applegate. I love our countryside, the forest of pine and fir, oak, maple and madrone trees, the cattle ranches, hay fields, vineyards and organic farms, the Applegate River, the Marble Mountains, Greyback and Billy Mountain, the many hamlets within our watershed from McKee Bridge, Wilderville to Williams (I really love the Williams Grange pancake breakfast), our history, geology, botanicals and wildlife, the people, neighbors, friends, and those I've yet to meet.

Home is where you make it. Here in the Applegate with my bride Sioux and dogs Utah and McGee in our little old log house by the creek, well, this will always be my home, my favorite home!



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

OPINION

Underground power and a bike path—Yes or No?

BY JOHN HART

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) has authorized a power generation plant on the Applegate Dam, using whatever water the Army Corps of Engineers allows out of the dam to generate electric power. I'm not opposed to that (besides, it's already a done deal.) The U.S. needs electrical power and in the scheme of things, this is a fairly benign way of getting some. Also, there has been a fairly transparent and lengthy review allowing for input, so citizens and agencies have had a shot at influencing the process. Fish, plants, birds and bugs have all been addressed. What seems to me NOT to have been addressed is people; especially those of us who live in the proposed power corridor and those of us who use that corridor for recreational travel.

My specific concern is the power distribution path: The 14 miles of poles and right of way necessary to take the power from the dam, out to the Pacific Power sub-station on highway 238 near Ruch. The existing path is already unattractive but the proposed path will be downright UGLY! FERC staff has reported that the poles will have to be heightened and the right of way width increased. On a quick trip along Upper Applegate and Hamilton Roads, I spotted homes where that wire path is already within 25 feet of the actual residences.

What I'd like to see happen is to have the distribution poles taken down and (where possible) the utilities placed underground, with a surface over the top that allows for bicycle and pedestrian and/or even equestrian traffic. The first mile of power from the dam to the first utility pole is already slated to be underground so why not the entire length? Now, I'm not naive enough to believe all 14 miles can be done this way. I'm sure there are some areas too steep or too rocky or too wet (did you know there is a river somewhere around here?) or crossing too close to someone's bedroom but surely there must be some

reasonable portion that can be modified this way. "Yes" it may be more expensive "up front" and "yes" there are going to be other problems but if we don't address this now or even discuss it and decide to abandon the idea, when will we do it? It will never get easier or cheaper.

I can live with the thought that others see this as a crackpot idea, but I'm frustrated by the apparent lack of opportunity to be heard, even if rejected. There does not seem to be any one place to go to coordinate this process. FERC has had its say. The State of Oregon Water Resources Department is apparently the next reviewer but has no interest in bike paths. The Governors office "appreciates my interest" but referred me to my local and federal elected officials. The county thinks it is a good idea but has no money.

Lest anyone think I'm just trying to stir the pot, you should know that my wife and I own about 1/2 mile of Upper Applegate road frontage that we would be willing to donate to a path. Another family near the 14-mile mark is also willing to donate frontage to make this happen. Are there others who would entertain the idea of donating land to such an undertaking? Have you other suggestions to influence the process?

So now I've vented but need to decide what to do next. I'm looking for new feedback. If anyone else who hasn't already been involved is interested in pursuing this please ship me an email to jg.hart@charter.net. (Don't miss the "dot" between the "jg" and "hart" and please put "Bike Path" in the subject line so I don't miss the email.) Let me know if you agree and whether you have some specific strategy you are willing to pursue. If I decide to continue tilting at this windmill, I'll include you on an updated email list. THANKS for listening.

John Hart • 541-899-2971
Upper Applegate Road

I can live with the thought that others see this as a crackpot idea, but I'm frustrated by the apparent lack of opportunity to be heard,...

OPINION

The problem with America

BY A. DOLLISON

Two young farmers came to our ranch to inquire about raising vegetables and produce on our unused pastureland. My husband and I were delighted to work with these young farmers and proposed to provide them with a farm stand just inside our gate off the main road to sell their farm produce.

I visited our county offices to inquire about a permit for a simple farm stand, no construction plans, no size dimensions, just a small shaded stand with a counter for a small cash register, weighing scale and display racks inside for various foods for sale. I assumed a fair price for a county permit for such a small structure might run \$45.00 to \$65.00 or thereabouts. To my astonishment, the going price for a permit for a basic farm stand is one thousand, five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00)

I asked if a farm stand was included

into a "one size fits all" category with a garage, shop or house. The nice and embarrassed county employee apologized and assured me \$1,500.00 was the current price for a permit for a farm stand and there were no exceptions, no reductions or ways to get around this charge.

How are young Americans supposed to support themselves in this horrible economy with a new or start up venture when our government throws up such an outrageous cost for a simple permit? How much trouble is it to file a form in a computer? \$65.00 should be the high-end cost for such a simple procedure. \$1,500.00 is not only a huge hurdle, it's an insult to common sense. This government works for us. How do we allow them to do this to us?

A. Dollison • 541-899-9601
adollis@charter.net

Local support for children with special needs

BY TRESSI ALBEE

Almost five years ago, my husband and I were blessed with the birth of our son Taj. When Taj was around a year old, I noticed that he was not as verbal as his older brothers had been. Whenever I voiced any concern, I received many well-meaning comments like, "He's fine. He'll talk when he is ready." I allowed myself to be temporarily reassured, but I never felt quite right about how his language was developing.

As we celebrated Taj's second birthday and his language was still not evolving, my concern was growing, and the well-meaning comments were not stemming the flow of my worries. I took Taj to our pediatrician. The first few trips to the pediatrician consisted of checking Taj's hearing and an acknowledgement that he comprehended language at an age-appropriate level. That was only mildly reassuring because it did not seem to explain his inability to speak. So, I took him back again, and this time I received a referral to Southern Oregon Education Service District-Early Childhood Services (ECS) for evaluation. If you have a child whose development seems different from what is considered "normal", I implore you to trust yourself and your instincts and keep reaching out until you feel you are getting the help you need for your child. Remember, you are your child's primary and most effective advocate.

When Taj was two and half we received the referral to ECS and our path began to brighten. Though Taj was ultimately diagnosed with Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS), a rare neurological disorder, I felt a mixture of shock and relief. I was relieved because now I had a word I could research and I admit profound solace that the diagnosis of CAS and Taj's symptoms finally began to make sense to me. Though the diagnosis was difficult, it also created a starting point for us to help Taj.

CAS is a neurological disorder that affects a person's ability to speak by disallowing the normal sequencing process that occurs between the brain and the execution of the words. Taj's



receptive language is normal, meaning he understands what is said to him. However, Taj's expressive language was extremely delayed and the little language he could produce was not intelligible.

We began to ask many questions about whether or not Taj would ever speak normally. We learned that there is a wide range of recovery regarding children with CAS. Treatment for CAS is many years of intensive speech therapy. Certainly our family experienced a fair amount of fear, worry, and frustration, but mostly an outpouring of love for Taj and the immense challenge he was facing.

I would not have wanted to go through this experience without the support of all the people we have come to know at ECS. Through ECS, all children up to 5-years old in Josephine County can receive free evaluation and services for any kind of developmental delay or disability. I cannot express enough gratitude to the people we have worked with at ECS. After two years of receiving services at ECS, Taj is speaking with 58% intelligibility.

In Josephine County many children with delays or disabilities do not receive services from ECS. Sometimes parents have difficulty acknowledging the challenges facing their child. However, the research reveals that children who have developmental challenges or disabilities are more successful when they receive supportive services early in life. So, it is beneficial when parents do seek support and services for their child. If you are a parent in the Applegate/Williams Valley raising a child with any kind of developmental delay or disability you are invited to join a local support group.

For more information please contact:

- Southern Oregon ESD - Linda at Early Childhood Services 541.956.2059
- Applegate/Williams Parent Support Group:
Tressi Albee • 541-415-0436
tressi@wildblue.net or



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BACK IN TIME

Summer of '29

BY EVELYN BYRNE WILLIAMS WITH JANEEN SATHRE



John., Evelyn and Gladys Byrne.

By 1929 my parents were somewhat prospering after having left the Applegate and moved to Medford where dad found employment at the Owen Oregon Sawmill. They were renting a two story house at 408 West Sixth Street next to the Perl Funeral home. The Perl's and my folks became good friends and I often took the liberty of playing on their front steps or visiting their rabbits that they kept in a hutch in the backyard.

Mother was making some money by renting the rooms upstairs in our house. I sometimes got permission to visit a nice couple living up there and they would make me bread and honey sandwiches. I was not to play on the stairs though I found this difficult to not do. However, the closet underneath the stairway became a terrifying place that I had to stay in sometimes when being naughty. The threat of being there made me an almost model child.

My brother, Morris, and sister, Gladys, attended the Washington School where the Jackson County Court House is located now. It was close enough to our home for my sister to sometimes take me there after school to play on the slide and swings. Most of all, I wanted to be able to roller skate as my sister was doing

when taking me there, but my feet were too small for skates to be screwed onto my shoes. Those old skates would probably be a collector's item now.

One day a city crew was making sidewalks by our house. When they left Morris took the liberty to write his name in the fresh cement on the corner of Sixth and Ivy Streets. Maybe it is still there. Of course, the old house is long gone and the Evelyn apartments are there in its place. The name is just a coincidence.

I remember the long hot summer in 1929 and mother convinced my dad to take us on a week-end trip to the coast. None of us had ever seen the ocean and thought getting out of the heat for awhile would be so inviting. We had a Chevrolet touring car, maybe a 1919 model with a canvas top.

It was a long ride to Crescent City, California, especially in those days. The dirt roads

were bumpy and dusty and my riding in the back seat and having to endure all of the wind and particles in the air while getting car sick, definitely put a damper on the first part of my trip. However,

seeing the beautiful big redwood trees was wonderful. Mother took a picture of us by our car, but the mystery is why she didn't take any pictures of the giant trees.

One of the worst parts of traveling in those days was having a flat tire. My poor dad had to stop and patch an inner tube several times before reaching our destination in the late evening, where we would rent a small cabin for the night. I recall there being about four or five of these cabins down by the beach. Gladys had

disappeared from us while our car was being unloaded. She had always been inquisitive and by the time my mother found her she was getting acquainted with some people in another cabin.

Our cabin was not at all cheerful but we were so glad to get out of the cold wind. Mother made our beds but she realized she had not brought enough bedding to keep us warm. No one was able to sleep so when early morning came we hurriedly piled back into the car and left. I do not remember seeing the ocean as I was too miserable to remember anything but the cold.

On the way home, we somewhat welcomed the intense heat but poor dad kept having to fix flat tires. I'm sure he was not having a good time with this trip. About four blocks from home he didn't even stop to fix another flat, we just kept on going and Gladys became so embarrassed that



Gladys and Evelyn Byrne in their front yard.

someone would see us that dad let her out of the car to walk the rest of the way home.

Soon after this trip the Great Depression came and we moved back to the Applegate in the summer of 1930. I did not return to see the ocean until 1948. The beautiful Oregon Coast became one of my favorite places to go and the traveling was so much better than that first trip back in time.

Evelyn Byrne Williams
541-899-1443



Annual Maintenance Overturns Murphy's Law #10

with Bob Quinn

The Murphy's Law for wells & pump systems is - they will cease to function primarily at a time when the need for them is the greatest.

This same law applies to the family car, of course, and if you think it makes you mad to be without transportation for a time, you don't even want to know how it feels not to be able to run the tap for a drink of water, or for a shower or, even worse, to flush the toilets. Oh, did I mention that this usually happens when you have out-of-town guests in your home? The answer is an annual maintenance check and service for your well's pump system.

Similar to the annual tune-up for your vehicle or regular oil changes, the annual pump maintenance helps to ensure the smooth functioning of your water system. A qualified service technician should examine the pump, check to see that it is functioning properly, make certain that the amperage is neither too high or low, and check the points on the motor. Such annual maintenance can help avoid future problems and should also reveal whether the pressure tank is waterlogged.

Bob Quinn is on the board of directors for the Oregon Ground Water Association and owner of Quinn's Well Drilling and Pump Service located at 6811 Williams Hwy. As part of a tradition of information that began more than 50 years ago, these columns are provided to help take the mystery out of well drilling and groundwater.

Visit Quinn's web site at www.quinnswell.com — it's a tremendous source of information. We provide well drilling, plus we install, maintain and repair complete water pumping systems. Contact our professional staff by phone, e-mail, or visit our office.

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Tickets are \$15 for adults, or two for \$25, and \$7 for ages eight and under. Tickets are available at: Ruch Country Store, Murphy Country Nursery, McKee Bridge Store, Williams General Store, Outpost Farm & Garden, Applegate Store and Sterling Bank (Jacksonville, Stewart Ave. and Ashland branches). Get your tickets and join us for an affordable afternoon of food and fun for the whole family. What a terrific way to support our very own Applegater!

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Seed saving

BY DON TIPPING

At one time not long ago, seeds men (or women as the case may be) occupied an important link in the food chain of nearly all rural communities. Farmers either grew their own seed or trusted in small family-run businesses, which stewarded old varieties or worked on developing new ones. With few notable exceptions, this continued to be the primary mechanism through which farmers bought seed. Two exceptions are worth mentioning for history's sake. The first was the W. Atlee Burpee seed company which initially took advantage of free postage until the turn of the century, to develop a loyal customer base of over one million catalogs shipped in 1915. At that time it was the largest seed company in the world, with 300 employees. And second, in Pennsylvania, George Washington Park printed his first seed list (with a hand-printing press) in 1878 at the age of 15 and grossed \$6.50. He persevered and also capitalized on free postage at the time to deliver the Floral Gazette magazine and seed list. This became Park Seeds, a burgeoning seed company with 800,000 catalogs going out in 1918. These two seed companies predominantly catered to gardeners. However, farmers were not to be swayed by lavish catalog descriptions and still relied on local seeds men.

Where are our seeds men now?

Growing the seed we need is where I encourage young farmers to direct their attention. Meditating on what has helped our farm to become successful, secure and rewarding is helping us in developing a diversity of niche markets. This has enabled us to grow on an artesian scale and receive just compensation. Diversity also helps our farm organism to evolve in multiple directions, thereby fostering ecological resiliency, multiple income streams, and opportunities for stacked functions (seed crop wastes becomes poultry food, animal bedding and compost).

Growing biodynamic/organic seed is one of the most promising niches which currently exists in organic agriculture. A recent Washington Department of Agriculture study revealed that less than 20 percent of the seed used on organic farms is grown organically. The other 80 percent is a vast opportunity area. Although the USDA's National Organic Program (NOP) rule states that organic growers must use organic seeds, an enormous loophole exists: if a grower tries three sources and none of them have the variety they want, or if the price or quality are unacceptable, they can simply use conventionally grown seed. Hence many organic growers sidestep the organic seed-search requirement and source their seeds wherever they choose as long as it isn't fungicide-treated. At some point in the future, organic certifiers will more strongly require that organic growers make a more concerted effort to use organic seed. Therein lies opportunity.

Where will all this certified organic seed come from?

That is where you come in. Our world, people, plants and animals beseech us to close our resource loops. Producing bioregionally adapted seed is a critical step towards reducing pest and disease problems in our crops, on par with the need to generate soil fertility on-farm. However, seeds are easier to move around than compost is, so I propose a compromise to the overwhelming task of every farm needing to grow all its own seed. Let's return to supporting bioregional seeds men and women. Most agricultural communities have farmers who have been tinkering with their own varieties for decades. Oftentimes these farmer/landrace varieties have been selected (bred) to perform well despite disease, insects and climate stresses. This processes of developing "farmer" varieties is how plant breeder Raoul Robinson suggests that we achieve horizontal, or elastic resistance in plants in his landmark book, *Return to Resistance*.

Some communities are fortunate to already have small, family-run seed businesses. Siskiyou Seeds (Williams, OR www.siskiyouseeds.com), High Mowing (VT) (www.highmowingseeds.com), Turtle Tree (NY), Uprising (WA) (www.uprisingseeds.com), Peace Seeds (OR) and Wild Garden Seeds (OR) (www.wildgardenseeds.com) are just a few examples. Farmers would do these and similar businesses a great service by buying seed from them, growing seed for them, or honestly communicating their likes and dislikes of current varieties and specific growing challenges so that we can work to develop the seed we need. Generally, we create a better local seed system if we can strengthen these feedback loops. Seed companies can work with local growers to help conduct variety trials or share samples of breeding work in progress. Farmers can help direct future organic plant breeding by communicating their needs. Also farmers can do participatory plant breeding as advocated by the Organic Seed Alliance in Washington State, working with plant breeders, university specialists and seed companies.

Now we're talkin'

Participatory Plant Breeding is one of the most exciting elements to emerge from the ongoing discussion about bioregional seed systems. Young farmers looking for a life in biodynamic farming are strongly encouraged to delve into this fascinating field. Consider liberating yourself from a life of harvesting and washing vegetables and trucking them to some city that you may or may not actually enjoy spending time in, instead become an active participant in the process of plant domestication.

Now we're talkin'

Domestication is an ongoing process, which requires us to be fully engaged in for it to yield successful results. The real reason some heirloom vegetables don't perform as well in your market garden, as the modern hybrids, is that active breeding and selection of these varieties stopped over 50 years ago. Nearly all plant-breeding resources at most agriculturally-oriented universities are now focused on transgenics. Well, lets pick up the slack and get to work on helping to create the heirlooms of the future and restoring the gems of the past.

On our farm, we weave plant breeding into every plant we grow for seed. Sometimes it is as simple as rouging, and pulling out all the early bolting plants in a population and feeding them to the sheep. Other times its crossing different strains or varieties to create something new. Although seed production is a passion of mine, I feel that it is critical that it doesn't occur in a bubble, isolated from the real world of market gardening. I really appreciate the opportunity to take produce, that we have grown from seed to market or to our cooperative Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program, and get the direct reactions and impressions of people who are eating these plants. We have found many creative ways to dovetail commercial-scale seed growing with our CSA program and supplying a local farmers market. A few examples of this are:

- Lettuce for seed: we grow three rows on a bed and then harvest the middle row for market or CSA because the seed plants get so much larger they use up the space. If we wind up not needing them for market, they stay and grow into seed plants.
- Onion bulb selection: most of our culls are completely suitable for fresh market use.
- Calendula flowers dried for herbal use and seed production in the same area.
- Rouged plants fed to livestock.
- Seed byproducts as value-added items (tomatoes, pepper and melon flesh dried in the greenhouse for winter storage).

I have hosted young would-be farmers as interns for the past decade. Many of them are seeking a meaningful way to achieve right livelihood while being emotionally, spiritually and mentally engaged enough to want to keep at it. Strictly speaking from my own experience, seed growing fulfills these human needs in these awkward times when many of us are uncertain of what we should be doing with our time. A farmer working with seed also draws us into the important role of being spokespeople for freedom from corporate control of our seed supply. It also helps qualify us to articulate the necessity of restricting the uncontrolled

SEEDS

FROM PAGE 20

spread of transgenic (GMO) seeds and pollen. Seed growing never ceases to pose unusual challenges to the grower with many new factors that one doesn't encounter with market gardening. Seed growing will enlighten you to new disease issues, biennial peculiarities, an increased reliance on pollinators, migratory birds feasting on your crop, seed harvesting and processing wisdom, encouraging your crop to ferment in order to release its seed and many other wild and wooly tales from the brink of domestication.

Don Tipping lives at Seven Seeds Farm in Williams, which is also the home of Siskiyou Seeds (www.siskiyouseeds.com). Don will be teaching a class in seed saving on Saturday, April 17, 1-4 pm at their farm in Williams. Soulfood72@gmail.com, 541-846-923

SEEDS - BASIC CONCEPTS

Basic Botany

Nomenclature (Family->Genus->Species->Variety)

Example: Carrots:

Apiacea ->Daucus ->carrota ->"Scarlet Nantes"

- Plants cross within a species (i.e. Zucchini (Cucurita pepo) will cross with pumpkins (C.pepo), but not with buttercup squash (C.maxima) however rarely across species barriers (think mules)
- Flower parts (Pistil/ Stamen/ Anther/ Style/ petals /sepals / ovary)
- Annual vs. biennial seed producers
- Biennials include carrots, beets, parsley, cabbage family, kale, onions, leeks, Swiss chard
- Monecious vs. Dioecious (i.e. spinach)

Pollination

- Insect Pollinated – cucurbits, Brassicas, onions, leeks, carrots, parsley
- Wind Pollinated – grasses (corn), beets, chard, spinach, oaks
- Self-Pollinated – Tomatoes, peppers, eggplant,

lettuce, beans, peas
 • Extra-floral nectarines – plants entice pollinators with the sweet stuff!

Cross Pollinated Crops – need isolation from one another (usually a minimum of ½ mile).

Self Pollinated Crops – less or no isolation requirements.

Timed Isolation – planting times are staggered to avoid overlapping flowering (work well with corn).

Inbreeding Depression – minimum population sizes are needed with the cross-pollinated crops to avoid "bottlenecking" the genetic diversity of the population.

Generally 120 plants are required; an exception is the cucurbits, where you need only ten plants. Inbreeding depression is the result of too small of a population means reduced vigor, smaller yields, more susceptible to pests and disease.

Hybrid –a crossing of two separate varieties. An F1 hybrid is generally when two uniform inbred lines are crossed. The resulting generation is the F1 (for first filial), and then next season would be the F2 and so forth.

Heterosis – is the term to describe hybrid vigor which results from broadening the genetic base (the opposite of inbreeding depression).

Grex- a hybrid with many parents.

Strain cross – crossing two strains of the same variety.

Advantages to saving your own seed – save money, seed security, possible to select for adaptation to disease, pests, climate and soils; provide nectar source for pollinators and beneficial insects. Fun, learning and seed to share!

Wet-Processed vs Dry-Processed seeds – Wet-processed include tomatoes, melons, eggplant, squash, cucumbers, peppers. Most all others are harvested when seedpods are dry.

Don Tipping • 541-846-9233


Editor's note: An excellent book on seed saving is Seed to Seed by Suzanne Ashworth.

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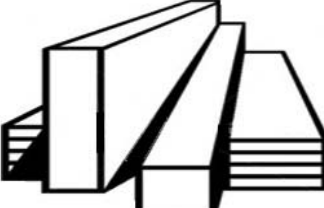
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Vegetable (Genus species)	Cycle	Pollination	Pollinator	Isolation	Seed Life	Notes
Beans (Phaseolus vulgaris)	A	Self		100'	3-5 yrs	Losses Vigor in time. Let dry in field,
Beet/Chard (Beta vulgaris)	Bi	Cross	Wind	1 mile	3-5 yrs	Beets cross w/ Chard
Broc.,Kale,Cabbage Collard, Caulifi. (Brassica oleracea)	Bi	Cross	Insect	1/2mile	3-5 yrs	Many types of Brassica exist within the same species. Consult a book
Carrot (Dacus carrota)	Bi	Cross	Insects	½ mile	2-3 yrs	Crosses w/ wild carrot
Celery (Apium graveolens)	Bi	Cross	Insects	½ mile	2-3 yrs	Attracts beneficial insects, gophers love to eat roots!
Corn (Zea mays)	A	Cross	Wind	½ mile	4-5 yrs	Minimum 200 plants. Let dry on stalk.
Cucumber (Cucumis sativus)	A	Cross	Insects	¼ mile	5-10 yrs	Mature to big & yellow. Ferment pulp water process.
Eggplant (Solanum melonega)	A	Self		150'	3-4 yrs	Let mature to yellow. Water process
Onion & Leeks (Allium cepa & Allium porrum)	Bi	Cross	Insects	¼ mile	1-2 yrs	Pull onions & replant in fall in mild winters or early spring. Leave leeks.
Lettuce (Latuca sativa)	A	Self		50'	2-3 yrs	Needs long season, otherwise easy
Melon (Cucumis melo)	A	Cross	Insects	¼ mile	5-10 yrs	Won't cross w/ water-melon. Seed ripe when fruit's ripe. Water process
Mustard (Brassica rapa & Brassica juncea)	A	Cross	Insects	½ mile	3-5 yrs	2 species B. rapa & B.juncea (spicy types) won't cross
Peas (Pisum sativum)	A	Self		50'	2-3 yrs	Weevils a problem
Pepper (Capsicum annum)	A	Both	Insects	500'	3-5 yrs	More isolation between hots and sweets is necessary
Radish (Raphanus sativus)	A	Cross	Insects	¼ mile	3-5 yrs	Beware of wild species Plant early
Spinach (Spinacia oleracea)	A	Cross	Wind	½ mile	2-3 yrs	Males make no seed
Squash/Pumpkin (Cucurbita pepo, C. maxima, C. moschata) r	A	Cross	Insects	¼ mile	2-5 yrs	3 species won't cross with each othe
Tomato (Lycopersicon esculentum)	A	Self		25-100'	5-10 yrs	Potato leaf types tend to cross more readily



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MY OPINION FROM BEHIND THE GREEN DOOR

Make the pledge

BY CHRIS BRATT

As a long-term advocate on behalf of preserving our forest environment, it's always a treat to know you have some community support. I feel my views are even more valid when people who everyone respect for their knowledge and professionalism on forestry issues confirm my convictions about protecting our natural resources on public lands.

So I gave a huge cheer a couple of months ago when two of the most respected professors of forestry science in the Northwest asked the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) "to make a pledge that it will not cut old-growth trees" (trees that exhibit older characteristics and are generally older than 120 years). For many of us working for decades to protect what remains of these most significant and irreplaceable trees, the opinion of these renowned forest scientists was unusually good news. I certainly agree with the professors when they state: "This one commitment could take an incredibly contentious issue off the table, avoiding a battle that the BLM is not likely to win."

Norm Johnson, Professor in the College of Forestry at Oregon State University and Jerry Franklin, Professor in the College of the Environment at the University of Washington stated that the next forest plan for BLM-managed lands in Oregon should make "a clear statement that old-growth trees will no longer be cut" and that this guidance, "would ease the path to a long-term solution" (for all disputed issues). They also propose that the BLM use more "sophisticated" and "comprehensive" approaches in all the activities the agency undertakes. They suggest that (tree) diameter and age based rules (i.e.: 80 year age limit on thinning in reserve areas) also be on the table and be designed following a four-step process:

1. "Have scientists and managers design and test the protocols that will be used."
2. "Give agencies deference to implement the protocols."
3. "Monitor the degree of success in implementation."
4. "Use independent review by scientists, managers and stake holders to suggest improvements."

Presently, the future of BLM's Oregon Forest Plan remains in doubt. The maneuver by the last Bush Administration to revise the Northwest Forest Plan (BLM's forest management plan for the past 15 years) and begin again to clear cut Oregon's remaining old growth forests, has been put on hold. The Obama Administration has withdrawn the highly controversial Bush Revision scheme and instructed the BLM to return for the time being, to the Northwest Forest Plan with

its protection for certain stream side reserves and old-growth forest stands.

The sad part of the failed Bush Forest Plan Revision was that it wasted millions of dollars and years of staff time on an outdated and irresponsible planning model. An even sadder result was the support by BLM managers throughout the Revision process that again placed the wishes and needs of commercial interests (logging) ahead of other users and the long-term health of the forest.

Although complicated, this turn of events has fostered opportunities

Although complicated, this turn of events has fostered opportunities for the BLM to turn over a new leaf.

for the BLM to turn over a new leaf. Hopefully, this time around they will avoid the political heavy-handedness from the timber industry and the Department of Interior hierarchy and develop more balanced and ecologically sound public forest plans using the ideas recently outlined by Johnson, Franklin and others. The days of inflated timber production to unreasonable and two unsustainable levels must no longer be the driving force for BLM's on-the-ground operations. Rather, timber production must be a byproduct of retention and restoration forest management activities. Will BLM hear the call from an influential and respected part of the academic community proposing a new forest management model? I hope so. Not only would the proposed plan of Franklin and Johnson be scientifically credible, it could potentially provide long-term solutions to the many social and economic problems confronting the BLM at this time.

If the BLM accepts the challenge and rids themselves of their own skewed priority of political decision making, they will have a good chance to regain some measure of technical and environmental credibility. And, if the BLM wants to be successful at practicing forestry and preparing forest plans that are not obsolete before they can be implemented, they must take the Johnson/Franklin proposals seriously and make the pledge,

BLM will not cut old-growth trees.

If you would like the BLM to take that pledge, let them know. For more details on conserving old-growth trees and old-growth forests, please see: www.cof.orst.edu/cof/fs/PDFs/JohnsonRestorationAug15_2009.pdf, or call me.

Chris Bratt • 541-846-6988

See you at the *Applegater* Fundraiser!

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There are many public health services available to Applegate residents through both the Jackson and Josephine County Public Health Departments. The mission of the Public Health Departments is to provide public services that protect and promote the health and well being of county residents through health education and disease prevention. Available services include:

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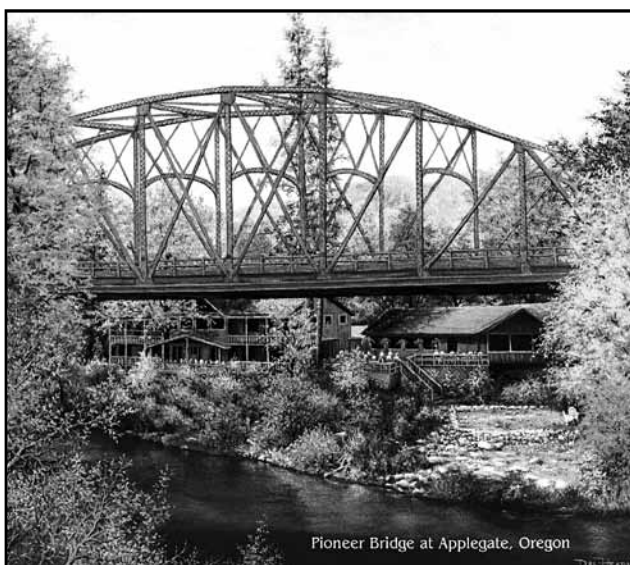
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Photos, clockwise from top left:

- Annette Parsons and Jim Clover read the Gater in the middle of Main Street in Calico Ghost Town, South-eastern California desert.
- Williams/Applegate native Kayla Rau, teaching English in South Korea for a year, stands in front of Building 63, Korea's third tallest building, in Seoul.
- Barbara Putnam relaxes with the Gater in Kodiak, Alaska.
- Guenter and Danika Foit during visit to Wernigerode, Germany
- Leo Goldberg celebrates his 100th Birthday with the Gater in Los Angeles, California.
- The Hidden Valley High School Mustang takes a break with the Gater. Inside the mustang is Michael Monahan, a junior at HVHS.



Take us with you on your next trip. Then send us your favorite "Reading the Gater" photo to: gater@Applegater.org or mail to: Applegater, 7386 Hwy. 238, PMB 308, Jacksonville, OR 9753

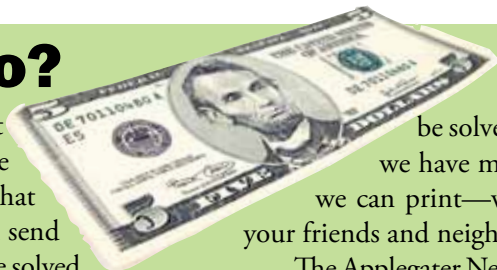


Keep those articles, letters, opinions and "Reading the Gater" photos coming in. You are the Gater! All of you – donors, writers and our good readers – please accept our most sincere and grateful thanks.
The Applegater Staff and Board

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