

# Young and old head back to school

It's schooltime again and kids aren't the only ones getting ready to go back to school. This year many seniors throughout Southern Oregon are also preparing to file back into classrooms. As volunteers in the Foster Grandparent Program, sponsored locally by Rogue Valley Manor Community Services, these dedicated individuals are returning to school as "Foster Grandparents." Foster Grandparents serve at local schools, day-care, after-school and Head Start centers as well as other non-profit youth facilities located near their homes. With a specific focus on children with special needs, Foster Grandparents tutor, mentor and support. They help children learn to read, provide one-on-one assistance and guide them at a critical time in their lives. The nonjudgmental attitude and consistent encouragement offered by a Foster Grandparent nurtures the kind of environment that sets the course for a child's successful future.

To become a Foster Grandparent you must be 55 or older, submit to a background check and be approved prior to placement. Volunteers serve between 15 to 40 hours per week at supervised sites. One week-long and then regular monthly in-service trainings are provided.

Those who meet specific income guidelines also qualify to receive a small stipend of \$2.65 per hour. The stipend is not taxable and does not affect rent calculations and other benefits. Foster Grandparents also receive: travel reimbursement; an annual physical examination; paid time off; excess liability insurance; and the joy of giving special children the love and extra attention they need to succeed.

Foster Grandparents are currently needed in the Applegate Valley, particularly in Josephine County. For more information call:

Jackson County  
Lori Shumate at 541-857-7793

Josephine County  
Carole Moskovita 541-244-1079

Or visit:  
<http://www.seniorcorps.gov/about/programs/fg.asp>  
<http://www.retirement.org/rvmcs/fostergran.htm>



## The Voices of the Applegate Concert

Sunday  
November 21,  
3:00 pm  
Applegate River  
Ranch House and  
Restaurant

Don't miss the Voices of the Applegate Concert at the Applegate River Ranch House and Restaurant on Sunday, November 21 at 3:00 pm. Our new director, Blake Weller, has provided the choir with an exciting program to share with our audience.

The program will consist of a set of madrigals including "Come Again, Sweet Love," by John Dowland, "You Stole My Love," by Walter Cecil Macfarren and "Can't Buy Me Love," by Lennon and McCartney.

They will also present a set of Peter, Paul and Mary songs including, "If I Had A Hammer," and "Where Have All the Flowers Gone." The audience will be invited to sing along with a few Peter, Paul and Mary songs.

The program will conclude with a piece by Chris Dedrick dedicated to Peter, Paul and Mary.

Come to the Applegate River Ranch House and bring your friends. What a great way to begin our holiday season with a full moon and song!

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



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