



JACKSON COUNTY

Library Services

Applegate Library

All Jackson County Libraries are still offering free basic adult computer classes. (See page 18.) Reservations are required. The instructors speak English and Spanish. The more advanced series of classes include instruction in word processing, photo editing, and computer file management. The classes are supported by a bequest from the Kenneth A. and Lucille D. Hulburt Family Trust. Call any of the branches to get information on the schedule and locations of the classes or visit the Jackson County Library Services web site at www.jcls.org.

Thirty-seven children and teens participated in summer reading this year. We had several programs and lots of crafts and activities. A big thanks goes to Steve Gehres, Audrey Eldridge, Cathy Egelston, John Jackson, Lucia Smith and Thalia Truesdell for their participation with this summer's activities. The Friends of the Applegate Library donated funds for many small game prizes.

The big prize winner for the teen drawing of an iPod nano player was Jennifer. Stephanie and Maggie won passes to the Ashland waterslide. Christopher won a gift certificate from Barnes and Noble which was donated by the Friends of the Applegate Library. Nine children between the ages of 3 and 12 finished the program and read a total of 230 books. They received Hometown Buffet and Kid Time! Discovery Experience coupons.

Come into the library and check out our display case. You never know what you will find there. Many of our displays are collectively compiled by library users, others are from private collections. Let the library staff know if you have a collection that you would like to share with other library users.

The Applegate Library now has eight internet stations for the public to use. We also have free wireless available for your personal laptop use.

Storytime for young children is every Tuesday at 4 pm.

Please join the Friends of the Applegate Library. We can always use more support with planning programs and fund raisers such as book sales. And speaking of book sales, look for a book sale at the Applegate Library during the week before Thanksgiving, beginning on November 15. See you at the library!

Joan Peterson
541-846-6988

Ruch Library

The Wonders Of The Night Sky

Stargazing Program Sponsored by the Ruch Library with Greeley Wells

At Sunset Saturday October 9th come to the Ruch School Green Field to hear about and see the night sky with Greeley Wells, author of "The Starry Side" column in the Applegater.

As the sun sets we will begin talking and watching the sunset and stars and planets that first come out. Venus will shine brightly and low in the west. Above her will be a tiny Crescent moon and above both will be Mars and the star Antares, rival of Mars, off to the left. We can note the difference in the steady planets and blinking stars. Very soon the incredibly bright Jupiter will rise over the hills to the east of us. It's at a rare 12 year closeness to us. The last time it was this close to the earth was 1963 and the next time will be 2022! What a treat for us. All are welcome, children especially. Chairs that lay back or a blanket to lay on and another for warmth are recommended. Flashlights take away your night vision for about 20 minutes so are a poor idea. The warmish evening will cool and continue to cool. Maybe snacks or a picnic would be fun. Special guest Chris Beekman will bring two Dobsonian telescopes he's made and we'll have a close look at some wonderful things in the sky. And if you've got binoculars or a telescope and know how to use them be my guest. Others will love to share what you find. And I can have some ideas about where to look. My quarterly article in the very latest Applegater Community Newspaper would be a good intro to this evening.

New Branch Librarian

Ruch Branch Library welcomes Johanna Boyle as the new Branch Manager. Johanna writes, "I live with my husband, Andrew, who is retired, 2 miles north of Jacksonville, on Old Stage Road. I have been working at the Central Point branch, but have also worked at many of the other branches in the county, including Ruch. Prior to working for Jackson County Library System, I worked at a large public high school in the Bay area as well as having worked at Sonoma State University, where I earned my BA in English literature. Walking and hiking are some of my favorite things to do. When time allows, I enjoy gardening, bike riding and fishing."

"I was born in Indonesia, but grew up in Holland before coming to the U.S. way back when. My husband's work took us all over the US and we have lived in many different states."

"The thing I love about library work is being of service... and making that connection when patrons find what they are looking for in the way of information, reading, or just getting to know one another. Having a library in the community—any community—is vital to that community, as I see it as the hub for gatherings, ideas, and supporting one another."

Friends Of Ruch Library Reducing Activities

There are some major changes coming our way in Ruch Library's Program Series and Fundraising Campaign. The Friends of Ruch Library (FORL) has lost key active members over the past year to re-location, illness, or new responsibilities, and efforts to attract others to take an active role have not been successful. We have many valued members who will help out when called; what we need are people able to take on continuing roles as committee members and officers. Two of our Board members (out of a total of 4), who have been serving as President and Treasurer, need to reduce their commitments at the end of their terms, and another Board member is preparing to move.

Can you help sustain our library by becoming active in FORL? Please contact Kaye (899-1040, kayeclayton@yahoo.com) or Cynthia (899-1114, akantha@mac.com).

What is at stake?

Since 2007, the Friends have led fundraising efforts/events to provide service on Saturdays. Our community pitches in to "buy" these hours; they are not included in the county's library budget. Each December, we must pay in advance for the coming year's Saturdays, currently \$12,300.

Only about \$9,000 dollars has been raised so far to keep the library open on Saturdays in 2011, and one planned event—the Art Show and Sale—has been cancelled because very few artists wish to participate. (Last year's show did poorly due to icy roads and the bad economy, and one of those factors is still with us.) So 2011's Saturday hours are not secured yet.

As for next year, the members currently active are too few to conduct fundraising for the Saturday hours in 2012. We are discussing alternatives with a group of concerned local residents who may take on that fundraising task. Regardless, FORL will not be able to continue supporting the library with programs and other activities without more involved members.

Book sales at the A-Frame will con-

tinue, but the amounts raised there and at the annual book sale are less than \$2,000 and have traditionally been used to support Summer Reading and other programs at Ruch Library.

The second loss will be the series of free public programs that since 2007 has brought 24 speakers, performers, and authors to our community. We've learned about rock gardens, the idea of justice, noxious weeds, dog training, and local history; sung railroad songs, experienced dramatic story-telling for adults and children, and discussed local emergency preparedness.

The Program Committee has done a terrific job choosing speakers, planning dates, doing publicity, and the myriad of tasks associated with making a successful event. But their numbers have dwindled also, below what's needed to carry on. We have no shortage of suggestions for programs, and they can become reality if a few people will join in the work.

On August 7, FORL held a community discussion here at the library to revitalize the organization and gather new ideas. Those who attended came up with some excellent ideas for fundraising, outreach, activities, and more—unfortunately none of those attending were able to commit to what we most need, board members and committee members who will take on continuing roles in making these things happen.

If you believe, as we do, that our library is a vital center for our community, and you want to see its programs and services continue and improve, please consider committing an evening a month to work with FORL for the library. Our community came together with FORL to help build this beautiful building; let's work together to make it flourish. Contact us and find out about how you can help.

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Friends of Ruch Library ANNUAL COLUMBUS DAY BOOK SALE

Saturday October 10
9 am-4 pm
under the tent next to Crystal Clear
Upper Applegate Road and Highway 238
Members can shop on Friday the 9th, 1 pm-4 pm

Co-sponsored with the Evergreen Federal Bank, all the proceeds will go to support the operation of the Josephine Community Libraries. More details are available on the JCLI website at <http://www.josephinelibrary.org>.

Sunday, November 14, will be the second annual "Page One" performance event at the Grants Pass branch library where willing participants read the first page from a favorite book of theirs. Great awards, prizes, and an appreciative audience makes this a delightful event. Then the **Holiday bazaar takes place the following Sunday, November 21**, with local artisans' wares and a silent auction. The new JCLI volunteer/ staff cookbook will be available for holiday giving, \$9.98 if purchased in advance, \$12.00 at the bazaar.

Plenty is happening, so please drop in and enjoy our unique model of privately-funded public library services with cheerful volunteers helping at every turn.

Bonnie Johnson
541-846-6016



Williams and Josephine Community Libraries Fall Specials

After a fulfilling summer vacation with a jam-packed summer reading program and storytimes, all a "splashing" success, the libraries are gearing up for Fall events. The Illinois Valley branch library celebrated its first full year since reopening this September. The celebration on Saturday, September 11, at the branch library in Cave Junction included live music and a potluck. The Williams Branch Library will celebrate its first anniversary in November; so please stay tuned for more details, 541-846-7020

The Williams Friends of the Library are also planning their annual **Fall Book Sale Bash for October 17 at the Williams Grange**. This is a great party, with food and beautiful raffle baskets, so please mark your calendars.

Friday, October 1, was a special celebration at the Grants Pass Library with the new Oregon Poet Laureate, Paulann Petersen. She gave a program on poetry as

"Everyone's Domain," reading poems and discussing writing with the audience. There were also outstanding intaglio print artworks by artist Barbara Mason, illuminating twelve of Ms. Petersen's poems. Live music and refreshments made it a very special evening for the kickoff of Oregon Days of Culture, sponsored by the Oregon Cultural Trust. The Grants Pass library is located at 200 NW "C" Street, and the phone number is 541-476-0571 for more information.

October 1 was also the kick-off for the Fall membership fund drive for Josephine Community Libraries, Inc. This is the private, nonprofit corporation using the NPR membership model, that is providing library services for all of Josephine County. JCLI functions by raising funds from private donations and grants, and operates with an incredible cadre of volunteers who make it all happen.

Please consider becoming a member

by making a donation of \$5.00 or more, and subscribing to the free e-newsletter from the JCLI homepage at <http://www.josephinelibrary.org>.

The next big, inaugural event will be the first ever **JCLI "Cow Scrabble" tournament on Saturday, October 16 at the Bear Hotel** at 2101 NE Spalding Avenue in Grants Pass. In this "Scrabble-thon," winners will be awarded cow-themed trophies, including the giant Scrabble Cow for the business team that earns the most points. Players get sponsors and register as individuals, or teams to compete in four consecutive scrabble games for points. Registration begins at 11:00 am, and the games start at noon. With four, 45-minute Scrabble games and breaks between each game, play is expected to end at around 4:30 pm, with prizes for the most points in various categories awarded afterwards.

It should be a terrific fun, and folks are beginning to polish their scrabble skills.