



JACKSON COUNTY Library Services

Applegate Library

The Jackson County Library Services are offering adult computer training classes beginning the end of April. The Basic II Computer Classes will be held at the Jacksonville Library on three different Wednesdays:

**April 27 from 2-4 pm,
Session One: Word processing.**

**May 4 from 2-4 pm,
Session Two: Photo Editing.**

**May 11 from 2-4 pm,
Session Three: File Management.**

**May 18 from 2-4 pm,
Session Four: Review and Practice.**

Now is your chance to catch up with those younger members of our community and learn some computer skills.

The Applegate Library has a new volunteer teenager, Makena Grigsby, who is helping at our library every Friday afternoon from 2-6 pm. She is there to help you with questions and is doing some of the work that our librarians love to share.

The March display case has been decked out with work from the Southern

Oregon Stitchers. The Southern Oregon Stitchers is a chapter of the Embroidery Guild of America whose mission is to stimulate the appreciation for embroidery. Their chapter puts up monthly displays at local libraries and they share their embroidery at Hanley Farm during the summer. They meet on the third Saturday of each month, usually at the Presbyterian Church in Central Point.

Our library has presented several programs this winter and spring, among them "Music, Music, Music" with the Accidentals, and the Applegate Valley Cats and a visit from Chelsea Rose who is part of the Southern Oregon Historical Society's "Windows in Time." Chelsea's program is: "On and Onwards: Finding and Mapping the Applegate Trail." Chelsea is an Applegate resident and is an archeologist with SOU.

We are looking forward to the reading and book signing by Gay Bradshaw on April 17 at 3:00 pm. when she talks about her latest publication, *Elephants on the Edge*. Be sure to join us for this event. We'll provide the refreshments!

Joan Peterson • 541-846-6988

Ruch Library

Friends of Ruch Library Annual Meeting Saturday April 16, 2:00 pm

Library friends, one and all, please join us for the Friends of Ruch Library's (FORL) Annual Meeting, Saturday, April 16, 2:00 pm, in the library's Community Meeting Room. Short (45 minutes), but sweet. We'll report on 2010 accomplishments (2010 Saturday hours, yea!), share 2011 plans, and elect Board Members and Officers. You'll be able to meet our new branch manager, too!

If you donated to support our 2011 Saturday hours, you are eligible to vote for the Friends' Board Members, so come cast your vote, too. And if you want to increase your support for our library by becoming a Board Member, speak up now! Call Kaye Clayton, 541-899-1044, or Pat Gordon, 541-899-7655, to learn more. After the biz, Janeen Sathre will help us plan our next hike.....

Hiking the Applegate with Janeen Sathre

Saturday April 16, 2:45 pm at Ruch Library

The Applegate area has a great selection of trails from easy to very difficult. From dry oak forest to alpine meadows. You can have spring flowers from April to August. You can see the Pacific Ocean and Mt. Shasta from the same mountain peak. We have our own little Wilderness area with some of the most spectacular forest, water, or views any hiker wanting to get away from it all could ask for. All of these trails are on public land, waiting for you to enjoy.

Come and learn which trails are well maintained and great for the once-in-a-while hiker and learn about some hidden gems for serious hikers, too. Plus, discover some terrific library resources to guide your next hiking adventures!

Presenter Janeen Sathre is a fifth generation native of the Applegate. She walks many of the same trails her grandfather walked in the early nineteen hundreds when he worked for the U.S. Forest Ser-



Janeen Sathre

vice and manned the Fire Lookouts. Some of the trails whisper stories her father told of trail cleaning and fire fighting here in the Applegate. Her favorite trails have flowers and water and spectacular views.

No charge; donations for the library appreciated!

Pat Gordon (541-899-7655)

"We don't stop hiking because we grow old, we grow old because we stop hiking."

—Finis Mitchel

Elephants on the Edge:

Local author to speak at the Applegate Library on April 17



Gay Bradshaw, a local Applegate resident, holds doctorates in both ecology and psychology and is the director of the Kerulos Center. She has recently published a groundbreaking book of research entitled *Elephants on the Edge*. It is not a happy book, but one that will hold your mind and emotions for days, maybe even years. It is a story about the relationship between humans and elephants, but goes beyond that with insight into our relationships with all of the natural world.

Each chapter begins with a scene that sets the mood for the intrigue of reality to follow.

"Dawn comes slowly on the veldt. With the touch of morning light, each still-life character wakens into slow motion. But there is nothing measured in the young bull elephant racing toward the feeding rhinoceros." And the reality of the chapter begins.... "What possible connection could there be between a murderous elephant and a murderous human separated by thousands of miles? Humans may kill with disturbing frequency, but historically, inter- or intra-species violence is uncommon among elephants."

As we read on through the chapters, Bradshaw points out "science's new appreciation of species' mental and emotional overlap, and in particular, how much people and elephants share, down to the very level how we each become who we are.... Science has rendered species differences on the level of cultural differences rather than biological ones."

Bradshaw goes through case after case of abuse of elephants by humans and how these abuses lead to the disintegration of the species both by psychological damage as well as physical elimination through culling and hunting.

Most of us have discovered elephants in zoos and circuses, but Bradshaw points out in her chapter entitled "Where Does the Soul Go?" that "Captivity in zoos and circuses is unsafe and fails to preserve essential ingredients for a species: physical, social, psychological, cultural, emotional or genetic characteristics. The notion that captivity allows species to thrive is also belied by low fertility, infanticide, and transgenerational stress effects." So our zoo and circus experiences are not experiences of "elephant reality." In fact, by our participation in their attractions, we are also participating in animal abuse.

Bradshaw points out that work is being done to restore elephants' souls in many parts of the world. One example is Elke Reisterer, a massage therapist, who makes twice-monthly pilgrimages from her home in Santa Cruz, California, to tend to elephants, tortoises, giraffes, snakes and emus at the Oakland Zoo. Elke even travels to Kenya, Thailand and India to treat ailing Asian and African elephants using her "listening hands."

Bradshaw concludes her book with this message that "To save elephants, we must let go of the very things that have protected us from being treated like them: our self-appointed dominion and privilege." She says that, "what befalls the elephants befalls humanity. If we lose the elephants, we lose ourselves."

This is a difficult book to read, not because the language or the science is inaccessible, but because it tells us so much about ourselves, and not all of it is easy to hear.

In the Appendix on page 253, Bradshaw lists "Ten Things You Can Do to Help Elephants." All of these suggestions can be taken to heart. #10 is "Buying Choices."

She recommends, when giving a gift to a friend, family member or associate, send a donation in his or her name to a nonprofit organization that supports wildlife protection.

We can all be participants in saving elephants on the edge (as well as ourselves).

A reading and book signing by Gay Bradshaw takes place on April 17 at 3 pm at the Applegate Library. Refreshments will be served.

Joan Peterson • 541-846-6988

Gay Bradshaw and friend.

