

NONPROFIT NEWS AND UPDATES

— McKee Bridge Historical Society —

Save the date

Despite one close call this winter—an elder alder on the ditch bank fell across the corner of the west approach to McKee Bridge, resulting only in damage to the tree—the old bridge is standing strong and getting ready for its 101st birthday. This year, McKee Bridge Day will be held on Saturday, June 9, from 11 am to 3 pm with the usual good music, food, historic displays, vendors, raffles—something for everyone. We hope you'll join us for an afternoon of family fun and a celebration of local history.

At last year's Centennial Celebration, a number of local people were interviewed and video-recorded through a project called Stories of Southern Oregon, coordinated

by Maureen Battistella of Southern Oregon University. This year these stories, which give a variety of perspectives on the history of the past century in the Applegate, will be shown at McKee Bridge Day.

Our centennial t-shirts are still available at Ruch Store, Tiffany's Outpost, and Applegate Store. If you don't find your size, a full range will be available on June 9.

As the date gets closer, more information about this year's celebration will become available. For updates, visit Applegate Valley Connect at applegateconnect.org to read the information in our directory listing and also to check the calendar on June 9. Hope to see you all there.

Paul Tipton • 541-846-7501
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— Pacifica —

Spring at Pacifica

We've been enjoying a nice variety of waterfowl on Heron Pond: buffleheads, goldeneyes, mergansers, and more. There is a waterfowl identification sheet on the kiosk by the pond. Come enjoy our visitors.

New and in progress

The 2nd Annual Spring Art & Music Fest is being planned for Mother's Day. Bring Mom and have a great day looking at art, listening to live music, and eating great food. Moms get a complimentary canvas tote bag (\$1 for others) that they (or their kids) can decorate. It will be perfect timing for one of our great wildflower walks and a bird walk...after all, Pacifica is a nature center and it's spring! Sounds like a great day, so don't forget: Sunday, May 13, 10 am - 4 pm.

The Fragrance Garden is almost done (if a garden can ever be really done!). Whoo-hee! Over 100 kinds of fragrant plants have been planted around

the labyrinth and along the road. The Pollinator Garden has been dug and will hopefully be completed this spring. When things start to bloom, be sure to visit!

Pacifica will be working double-time this spring providing the Caterpillar's fascinating hands-on program, "Partners in Pollination," to local schools. Field trips (when the kids come to Pacifica) include a hay ride, art, and lots of fun science. In May we will also be hosting a new Outdoor School program for eight three-day sessions of 60 children each.

As part of plans for PODS (Pacifica Outdoor School), we now have our own little certified mobile kitchen built in a cool blue school bus. It will, we hope, be up and running by the Spring Fest so you can come admire it.

Volunteers are always appreciated for any variety of jobs. Please contact peg@pacificagarden.org.

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■ A GREATER APPLGATE

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your organization on the directory so people know what you do and how to find you. Post your events on the calendar and share stories and details about the projects you are doing. We want Applegate Valley Connect to be the primary source of information for the entire Applegate Valley watershed.

In the near future we will be launching "Community Connections" to support Applegate Valley businesses, nonprofits, and neighborhoods with information, trainings, meetings, advocacy, and other assistance to better sustain and enhance the communal, environmental, and economic vitality of the Applegate Valley. Community Connections is chaired by our newest board member, Megan Fehrman. You will hear more about these efforts in the next issue of the *Applegater*.

In January, Vice Chair Paul Tipton and Barbara Holiday joined me for a meeting with Josephine County Foundation founder, Chris Pendleton, and a remarkable group of Hidden Valley High School students to learn what it's like to be a young person growing up in the Applegate Valley. We were reminded that none of us should assume what our community is like for anyone else until we ask them, and this will be a theme for A Greater Applegate moving forward. We are not here to speak for

others—we are here to create opportunities for all to speak.

We are excited to partner with a sister organization, IV Can, in the Illinois Valley. We are sharing experiences about community building in rural areas and have begun conversations about projects on which we might collaborate to benefit our entire regions.

Community chili feed

You can learn more about these projects, meet our board, let us know how you would like to get involved and what you think about a more vital Applegate Valley at our free community chili feed on Thursday, March 15, from 5 to 7 pm, at Applegate Valley Fire District's meeting facility. The community chili feed is sponsored by Craig and Amber Hamm of the Ruch Country Store. Craig is the new treasurer of A Greater Applegate.

All of this work would not be possible if we hadn't made the decision to hire Brooke Nuckles Gentekos as a very part-time consultant. We are excited to have Brooke supporting our committees, fundraising efforts, and organizational development.

As the saying goes, we are learning to build the plane as we fly it. If that sounds like fun to you, join us—you are very welcome! To make a donation, please visit gacdc.org.

Seth Kaplan
sethkaplanconsulting@gmail.com

••• BIZBITS •••

Applegate Country Club. Applegate Country Club (ACC) has expanded its hours and is now open six days a week (every day except Tuesday) from noon to 9 pm. Stop in, see friends and neighbors, and enjoy delicious pizza. Delivery for ACC members is available! 15090 Highway 238, Applegate • 541-846-1666 • applegatecountryclub.com.

Applegate Valley Connect. Check out this new community website that connects the Applegate Valley. Find events and information about businesses and nonprofits, use the handy links to libraries, schools, government, etc. Try it out—register now and enter your own information. It's free! applegateconnect.org • applegateconnect@gmail.com.

Applegate Valley Realty. The Jacksonville office of Applegate Valley Realty has a new name, Jacksonville Realty, and welcomes a new agent, Tammy French. All agents, including Don Tollefson, Debbie Tollefson, Carol Milazzo, and Tammy French, specialize in rural homes, ranches, farms, and vineyards, as well as historic Jacksonville. Applegate Valley Realty and Jacksonville Realty strive to offer you a smooth and enjoyable experience whether you are buying or selling your home. Jacksonville Realty, 935 North Fifth Street, Jacksonville • 541-218-0947. Applegate Valley Realty, 7380 Highway 238, Ruch • 541-261-0949.

Provolt Country Store. If you haven't been to the Provolt Country Store and Deli lately, check it out. Enjoy delicious baked goods (best croissants this side of Paris!), sandwiches, soups, pizza, and more. When you walk in the door, you will notice a fresh look. Always convenient for food on the go, the store now has an inviting seating area to stay and enjoy your food. You can also have beer or wine with your meal. Open Sunday - Thursday 7 am - 9 pm, Friday and Saturday 7 am - 10 pm. Corner of Highway 238 and Williams Highway, Provolt • 541-846-6286.

Troon Vineyard. Dr. Bryan and Denise White of Arlington, Texas, acquired Troon Vineyard with a vision of expansion. They had previously bought an adjacent vineyard, now known as White Family Vineyard. Their grand plan is to combine the two properties, a total of 95 acres, and convert Troon to exclusively estate-bottled wines. They will follow full biodynamic practices and attain biodynamic certification. Total production under the Troon label will be 7,500 cases. Wine industry veterans Craig Camp, general manager, and Steve Hall, wine maker, continue to lead Troon as it enters a new era. Says Craig, "Everyone at Troon is excited to reach the stars with our new wine." Tasting room is open daily from 11 am - 5 pm. 1475 Kubli Road, Grants Pass • 541-930-2089 • troonvineyard.com.

BizBits highlights businesses new to the area, holding special events, or offering new products. If you are a business owner, let us know when you move into the area or to a different location, hold a special event, expand your business, or mark a milestone. Email Shelley Manning at manningshelley@icloud.com.



NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK PARTY

You're invited!!!

Meet old friends, new friends, and enjoy specials.

If you're new, we'll find you some friends!

1st Thurs. 6PM - Humbug Creek

2nd Thurs. 6PM - Thompson Creek

3rd Thurs. 6PM - Ruch/Upper Applegate

4th Thursday - Hwy 238

www.ApplegateCountryClub.com

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