

# Fall activities at Jacksonville Community Center

BY SUE MILER

The Jacksonville Community Center (JCC) has a variety of enrichment and wellness activities that are open to residents of our entire area, including the Applegate Valley, Medford, Ashland, Central Point, Phoenix, Talent, Rogue River, and other communities in the valley. JCC serves both adults and children of all ages.

We are looking for parent volunteers to help create more youth programs at JCC. Contact sarahg@jacksonvillecommunitycenter.org to learn more about this opportunity.

Below is information about upcoming programs. In some cases, the dates



JCC sound healing leader Claudia Ingraham.

and times were still being scheduled at press time. For more details about JCC programs and the most current schedule of activities, visit the JCC website at [jacksonvillecommunitycenter.org](http://jacksonvillecommunitycenter.org). Online registration for JCC activities is highly recommended and in some instances, required. For those needing help or having technical issues with the registration process, call 541-702-2585 and leave a voicemail.

### Upcoming events

**September 10: Sound Healing with Claudia Ingraham.** This class will allow participants to understand what sound healing is, experience various sound instruments, and learn what sound tools they can use daily to enhance their lives.

**September 21: Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia.** Increased awareness of these conditions and strategies for caregivers.

**September 23: Guided Family Hike—Woodlands Walk and Wonder—Beekman Arboretum.** An event for families with kids aged 5-plus; enjoy a fun and educational walk with observation games and activities.

**September 28: Robbie Collins—The Man Who Saved Jacksonville's Historic District.** Larry Smith will describe and show photographs of how Collins led the effort to get



JCC Tara Laidlaw and campers at Jacksonville Woodlands Exploration Camp.

Jacksonville designated a National Historic Landmark, helping to ensure that over 100 commercial and residential buildings in town were preserved.

**October 6: Pre-Writing Your Novel or Memoir.** In preparation for NANOWRIMO (National Novel Writing Month), facilitated by Gabrielle Pullen.

**October 24: Odyssey to India.** Retired doctor Sherry Neuman accompanied a Rotary Club service group to immunize children in India, and then visited some of the important cultural sights there.

**October 29: Fall Nature Art Party** (for all ages) with Heidi Elliott. Held in a local park, where adults and kids will create beautiful art forms from items gathered from nature during this colorful time of year.

Also in October: Emergency Preparedness, and Medicare ABCs and D.

**November 3: Ageism Awareness.**

Also in November: Advance Directives, and a Hula performance and class.

### Ongoing programs

JCC offers weekly wellness classes intended to promote healthy activity and social connections, including Line Dancing, Tai Chi and Qi Gong, and Yoga.

Aspiring writers can attend a session of Shut Up and Write, which provides quiet time for writing in all genres, including fiction, nonfiction, and memoir.

Check our website to find out more and join us for a wide range of interesting and engaging programs and activities!

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## ■ CROOKED BARN

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built all the structures for the winery. The latest addition, after three frustrating years waiting for county permits, is the tasting room, built inside the processing area. "Having it there," Marcos says, "is a motivation for people to ask questions." With characteristic vigor, he points out the stations of winemaking, all visible from the bar: the lab where he does "the chemistry of wine," the corker, the destemmer (where fermentation also takes place), the presser, the tank for blending, and the bottling, labeling, and corking area.

Marcos and Heidi bought their Applegate property, adjacent to Applegate School, eight years ago this month and moved there the following summer. Marcos immediately set to work plowing the fields, fencing in 20 of the 60 acres with 4,000 linear feet of deer fence, planting five acres of grapes, and building the shipping room, the large processing building, and other structures.

Meanwhile, Heidi was taking classes in land stewardship and a Master Gardeners class, which took "a crazy number of volunteer hours," she says. "But for me it was vital because I had moved from the city." Her flourishing garden with its giant asparagus plants is proof of her quick learning.

While Marcos was crazy at work on the land, Heidi was also involving herself in the Applegate community. "It is easy to make friends here," she said. Marcos agreed with a broad smile. Heidi is on the board of the Applegate Partnership and Watershed Council and a member of Women Helping Other Women (WHOW). [See article in the summer 2023 issue of the *Applegater*.] "I love the crazy women there," she says, adding that WHOW reflects the Applegate sense of community and sharing.

With Marcos throwing his abundant energy into creating the vineyard and Heidi throwing her generous, open personality into community involvement and land stewardship, remodeling the



Heidi and Marcos Martins sample their award-winning wines in Crooked Barn Vineyards new tasting room in Applegate. Photo: Diana Coogle.

house was not a priority. "It's an old house in bad shape," Heidi says with a laugh and a shake of her head. "But what we wanted above all was time to tend the vines."

"It takes the highest quality in the ground to get the highest quality wines," Marcos says.

They became interested in winemaking when they lived in California (where they moved from Brazil, their original home) and were making wine with a group of friends, the Castro Valley Vintners. "That's where I learned the chemistry," Marcos says. His interest piqued, he took courses from University of California, Davis, and from Las Positas College, in Livermore, California. By then he was a goner. He wanted to grow grapes and create a winery. Land was too expensive in California, but southern Oregon was close to California and their friends there; they had vacationed in Ashland years ago and started coming to this area on weekends, enjoying the wineries, the beauty of the mountains, and the microclimates. The land they bought had been for sale for many years. It seems it was waiting for them.

Once they had bought the land, planted the vineyards, and started making

wines, they needed a name. Heidi, Marcos, and their daughter, Petra (now 29 years old), were throwing out ideas when Petra looked across the vineyard at the beautiful old barn, leaning like a matriarch over the property, and said, "What about 'Crooked Barn Vineyards?'" It was Petra, too, who drew the crooked barn image for the label.

Crooked Barn Vineyards is located at 14430 Highway 238 in Applegate. The tasting room is open 11 am-5 pm Friday-Sunday (closed during harvest). Visit [crookedbarnvineyards.com](http://crookedbarnvineyards.com), join their wine club, taste their wines, and meet Heidi and Marcos. "Park in the parking lot, then walk on in through the gate," Marcos says. "It's just closed to keep the deer out."

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