#### Applegater Winter 2023 17



### **Pesky Water Problems Have Finally Met** Their Match! from Tami Quinn Hollenbeck

White Scale buildup, iron staining, corroded plumbing, & rotten egg smelling water doesn't have a chance against WaterCare Filtration Systems.

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WaterCare systems can remove hardness, iron, and manganese, plus it raises low PH - all in a single pass. Extracting minerals & pesky materials from your water, before it goes into your house, expands the lifetime of your appliances.

These advanced filtration units take care of themselves & need virtually no attention.

Quinn's offers a free water analysis to determine if you need water treatment equipment and if you do what type will be best for your water chemistry.

Just because your neighbor has bad water, doesn't mean you have to!

Water is a geological cocktail so DRINK MORE WATER!



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ASK THE GATER

# Which Applegate vineyard and winery is the oldest?

#### **BY LISA E BALDWIN**

The simple answer to the question is Valley View Winery. The full answer requires a look back into Applegate Valley history in both the 19th and 20th centuries.

Peter Britt came to the Jacksonville area in 1852, in search of gold like so many others, but he very quickly turned his time and attention to other interests, including viticulture. He planted a few table grapes in the garden near his home, likely on top of the hill where the Britt concert bowl is today. He also acquired about 15 acres north of Jacksonville, which he planted in wine grapes, and produced his first wines in 1858. It was reported that Britt sold around 3,000 gallons of wine annually, enough to catch the attention of the federal revenue commission (precursor to the IRS), who billed him for back taxes in 1873. Britt paid the taxes, secured a business license, and began selling his wine under the Valley View name, establishing Valley View Vineyard as the first commercial winery in the state of Oregon.

By 1905, the year of Peter Britt's death, there were more than a dozen wineries in southern Oregon. Valley View Vineyard ceased production in 1905, and in 1914 the Oregon Enforcement Act closed all the wineries in the state, four years before Prohibition banned the sale of alcohol nationwide. The 18th amendment to the U.S. Constitution (Prohibition) was ratified in 1919 and remained in effect until it was repealed in 1933 by the ratification of the 21st Amendment.

The wine industry in southern Oregon did not start to make a comeback until the 1960s, when interest in viticulture resurged locally and a new generation of winemakers began planting new vineyards. The first of these modern Applegate Valley vintners was Frank Wisnovsky, who planted vines on his property on Upper Applegate Road

Photo, right: Gathering grapes in Britt Vineyard. Courtesy of

> Oregon Historical Society.

Photo, below: Valley View Vineyards and Winery. Photo: Courtesy of Mark Wisnovsky.

Man, wagon, horses in Britt Vineyard gathering grapes. Southern Oregon Historical Society #04534

Southern





and, in 1972, opened a winery he named Valley View Winery, in tribute to Peter Britt. Today Frank and Ann Wisnovsky's sons, Mike and Mark, manage Valley View at 1000 Upper Applegate Road in Ruch.

There are currently 19 wineries in the Applegate Valley American Viticultural Area (AVA). Valley View was the first in 1972; two others that started in the 1970s are still in operation too: Wooldridge Creek on Slagle Creek Road and Troon Vineyards on Kubli Road. The two newest wineries to join the Applegate Valley AVA are Cascadia Vineyards and Winery in Wilderville in 2018 and Dwell Wines in Murphy in 2019.

Winemaking in the Applegate Valley has history in three centuries and has become a cornerstone of our economy and our culture. Cheers!

Lisa E Baldwin • leb.97527@gmail.com

# How do we cope in challenging times?

#### **BY HAYRIYA HEIDI HANSEN**

Greetings neighbors, and welcome to the cold, damp, dark days of winter!

Solada, the Southern Oregon Living and Dying Alliance, views this time as a "little death," the time leaves turn brown, fall, and die. Collectively, we're all experiencing this little death! Additionally, many of us are grieving the newest war that is escalating in Israel and the Gaza Strip; the fires in Lahaina, Hawaii; the hurricane in Acapulco, Mexico; and any of the other countless environmental, political, or personal challenges that plague us daily. How does each of us not only cope, but grow and flourish during these challenging times? Solada offers grief and death workshops, rituals, circles, cafés, and classes. And soon, thanks to a grant from A Greater Applegate (AGA), Solada will be offering films with a theme toward increasing grief and death literacy. Our mission and purpose are to help rural folks

be more educated and resourced about grief and death.

information about classes, has a place for you to sign up for our monthly emails, and offers a resource page. Our service page is currently "under construction." We are seeking folks who offer services to those who are in need during times of illness, death, and grieving. If you offer a service that you would like to share, please click on "Contact" on the website, provide your contact information, and use the "Comments" space to add details of the service you offer, areas you serve, donations or charges requested, and any other relevant information. Our intention is to create a directory where people can find the services they need from pet walkers, chefs, death doulas, and burial consultants to therapists, caregivers, lawyers, and so much more.

Again, we'd like to thank AGA for their fiscal sponsorship, which will further the Our website, solada.org, gives mission and purpose of both organizations. Additionally, some of our members will join others from our rural community to form an AGA working group with the aim of supporting locals who want to age in place. Solada will co-host a listening session with AGA in January 2024 to learn more from local community members. Watch for more information and then plan on coming to let your voice be heard. The members of Solada, the Southern Oregon Living and Dying Alliance, are pleased to serve our rural communities and aim to increase grief and death literacy. We hope to hear from you online or see you at one of our classes. Until then, enjoy these dark, damp days of winter! Yours in service, Hayriya Heidi Hansen Solada steering committee member hayriya1@gmail.com

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### Got **News?**

The Applegater welcomes submissions! We're your newspaper and want to share your news with readers throughout the Applegate Valley watershed's many neighborhoods. What's going on around you? Let us know! Send your write-up and photos to gater@applegater.org. Thanks! See you in the Applegater....