



# JACKSON COUNTY

Library Services

## Ruch Library News



### A Geologic History of the Applegate

by Mark Prchal

Saturday, May 16 at 1:00 at the Ruch Library

Mark Prchal is a geologist living and working in the Applegate Valley. He is an enthusiastic speaker who is always eager to share his knowledge of our local geology.

Prior to 1988, California's geologic map of the Klamath Mountains had many holes that were not mapped due to being too complicated. Mark was hired by the State of California specifically to map the geology of some of these previously non-mapped and incorrectly mapped geologic terrains between Happy Camp and the Oregon border. This work was published by the State as *Regional Geologic Map for the Weed Quadrangle, California* (RGM004A), 1988. Much of the Applegate Valley is in the same geologic province as he mapped for the State of California, i.e., the Western Paleozoic and Triassic belt of the Klamath Mountains

This program is free and refreshments will be served."

### Oregon Reads Books

This winter has been anything but dull at Ruch Library. Circulation statistics keep going up, from 1501 in November to 1692 in December to 1951 in January. Many people are taking advantage of the new free highspeed wireless Internet in and around the library building, and we just concluded the annual Winter Reads program for adults with drawings for free books and a book gift certificate. There have been staff changes over the winter: Betsy Brauer is the new Ruch Branch Manager, following Janis Mohr-Tipton's move to Central Point Branch. Lisa Martin is the library assistant on Tuesdays and Thursdays; Kristi Kowalski and Thalia Truesdell staff the library on Saturdays. And as always the library is the go-to place for help with schoolwork, research, job search/resume preparation, and tax forms, as well as free public computers, and our collection of books, CDs, movies, magazines, and reference material.

Ruch School sixth graders spent the morning of February 19 at the library for a research session in preparation for the annual "Night of the Notables," during which each student gives a presentation in character as a historical personage. This year's choices of notable people includes Cleopatra, Georgia O'Keeffe, Thomas Edison and Ronald Reagan. Betsy and library volunteers taught the basics of research which will give students a good foundation to build on up through high school, and they also provided individual help.

Because the next issue of the *Applegater* won't appear until July, we have to look far into our crystal ball to give you an idea of library events for that period. Some aren't in final form yet, but you can definitely look forward to these:

Oregon Reads began February 17. For Oregon's 150th birthday year (that's

"sesquicentennial," to be precise) the books to be read statewide naturally relate to the history of our favorite state. This year there are three choices, one each for adults, young adults, and children.

*Stubborn Twig*, by Lauren Kessler (adults), tells the story of an Oregon family through nearly a century beginning in 1903, when Masuo Yasui arrived in Hood River, to seek his fortune. Thirty-seven years later he and his family are successful orchardists, active in the orchardists' cooperatives, the Methodist Church, and the Rotary Club; in the backlash after Pearl Harbor, their lives were disrupted and many were sent to the internment camps set up for Japanese-Americans. A fascinating and moving account which also explores what the American dream has meant, and what it means to be an American.

*Bat G*, by Virginia Euwer Wolff (young adult), is about a sixth-grade girls' baseball game in the rural Oregon of 1949, when teams from two small towns meet for their annual game. Added to the traditional spirit of rivalry are other deeper conflicts: one player's father died at Pearl Harbor; another girl was interned with her family in the "relocation camps." The *School Library Journal* has high praise for this book, which "speaks volumes about courage, responsibility, and reconciliation. All in a book about softball!"

*Apples to Oregon*, by Deborah Hopkinson, author; Nancy Carpenter, illustrator (children). The subtitle tells the tale: Being the (slightly) true narrative of how a brave pioneer father brought apples, peaches, pears, plums, grapes, and cherries (and children) across the Plains. A reviewer says, "a hilarious tall tale—from the team that brought you Fannie in the Kitchen—that's loosely based on the life of a real fruiting pioneer."

Oregon Reads will be taking place in nearly every public library across Oregon, with discussions and special events or speakers. Watch the library's bulletin boards for more details; visit [www.jcls.org](http://www.jcls.org), or sign up on our email list (front desk, or send your email address to [akantha@mac.com](mailto:akantha@mac.com)) to get notices about these and other library events. Plan to join your friends and community in this shared reading experience, and read these books with your children too.

We will celebrate Dia de los Niños/Dia de los Libros with craft activities on April 30.

**Summer Reading Program** for children and teens begins June 8, 2009. The theme for 2009 is "Be Creative @ Your Library," and there will be plenty of activities and prizes to fill summer days.

### Volunteers needed

Would you like to commit an hour or two a week to helping out at our library? Volunteers can help in many ways. Just now, we need:

- Story-hour person, reading to pre-schoolers and kindergartners, each Tuesday at 11 am. (about 45 min.). "Storybags" with books and activities are provided by the library.

- Display designers and assemblers, to add seasonal and theme-based displays around the library and in the display cases. Here's a chance to have fun, help the library be more attractive, and promote interest in aspects of our collection.

- Helpers for events connected with this year's Summer Reading Program. Events include arts and crafts, and (new this year!) science activities, for different age groups. You can help with ideas/planning/preparation, and hands-on at the events. The programs and activities are important for bringing young people

into the library during the summer, encouraging them to enjoy reading, and opening new interests to them.

- Shelves and shelf "readers." Essential and always needed in the library, to be sure all the materials get back to the right places where they can be found. This is a pretty easy and relaxing activity. We guarantee you'll come across some intriguing books for your own enjoyment too.

Most volunteer positions can be flexible in hours and days (Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday) and can require a commitment to specific events or to one or two hours per week for at least several months (since some training may be involved).

Ruch Library hours are Tuesday 11 am-5 pm, Thursday 1 pm-7 pm, and Saturday 12 pm-4 pm.

Betsy Brauer, • 541-899-7438  
Manager, Ruch Branch Library

### Friends of Ruch Library (FORL)

Through fundraising, volunteer time, and sponsoring special events (our current series is described elsewhere in this issue) Friends of Ruch Library works to support our branch library and maintain expanded hours and service. Here are some highlights of what is underway for 2009.

### Support for extended hours

Expanded service at Ruch—being open on Saturdays, and open 16 hours weekly instead of just 8—depends on community financial support. The county's reduced budget provides only 8 hours a week for our library.

FORL is the group heading up the work to continue extended hours. Our fundraising in 2007 and 2008 paid for expanded hours for 2008 and 2009, and now we are raising the money for 2010.

All the proceeds of FORL activities have always gone to supporting the library, but the need to raise \$12,000 each year for expanded hours has required much more than our traditional A-Frame Bookstore and annual book sale can provide.

Fundraising for 2010 began with the book sale in October 2008 and the December Art Show and Sale, and we are now planning for more events through the rest of 2009.

The FORL Board cannot do this alone: we need your ideas and participation. The annual members' meeting (on a Saturday in April) will include discussion of ways to raise the money for extended hours. Watch for details of time and date, as well as an accompanying special event.

If you have ideas or want to help in any way, you can phone or email the two contact people listed at the end of this article. The campaign will need a variety of volunteer help: ideas, planning, and organization; set-up/take-down/and other hands-on work at each event; phone-calling, publicity design, and more. There's something for everybody and every level of involvement. The 2007-2008 campaign featured very successful concerts by generous local musicians. Others with special skills may wish to donate the teaching of a class with the proceeds going to the cause of extended hours. What are your ideas? Please let us hear from you!

### Small Canvas Art Sale

Artists: we have had about 40 small stretched canvases (about 6 x 8 inches) donated, which we'd like to distribute to Applegate artists for painting/collage/sketching, with a theme of "The Applegate Valley". The completed works will be sold in an event to benefit Ruch Library. Contact one of the individuals below, to get on the list if you'd like to participate.

### The A-Frame Bookstore

Our bookstore is tiny on the outside, but inside is a whole world of books (as well as CDs and DVDs) at the most reasonable prices you'll find anywhere, from twenty five cents to one dollar. All proceeds support the Ruch Library.

We now have one bookcase full of New Arrivals, changing every month. The Children's Room has a section of materials for learning/teaching math, science, language, and so on (home schoolers, take notice!). Other special sections feature large print books, and books on cassette.

The A-Frame Bookstore is open the same days at the library but slightly fewer hours: Tuesday 12-4 pm, Thursday 2-6 pm, Saturday 12-4 pm.

Stop by for a visit soon. And your donations of books/CDs/DVDs are always welcome. Recycle, clear your shelves, and help your library!

### Keeping in touch with FORL

Our web site at [www.forl.org](http://www.forl.org) has the up-to-date Calendar of events at the Library, a page of expanded descriptions ("More About Events"), and pages about "Staff and Volunteers", "Library News", a form to print out and join FORL (\$6/year) and "Library Resources". This last page has how-to's about some not-so-well-known services and features, including: download free audiobooks; get books at another branch sent to Ruch for you to pick up; find help, during library hours or not, with web searches, reference questions, and homework; renew your books by phone or computer; find out about delivery of library materials to household individuals.

The new *Applegater* online calendar, [http://www.applegater.org/Community\\_Calendar.htm](http://www.applegater.org/Community_Calendar.htm), is a great new listing of community events including those of FORL. And the Outpost's website has a community calendar too, at <http://outpostintheapplegate.com/pages/events>. Check both these resources for fun and useful stuff and be sure to submit your group's events to them.

FORL also sends out emails (prior to each FORL event) and a newsletter every two or three months. The newsletter goes out to our email list and we will be posting printed versions on the library bulletin boards.

Ruch Library is our community center in so many ways, and FORL is the community organization formed long ago to support it. We want to include everyone. Please let us hear from you.

Contact Cynthia Cheney, [akantha@mac.com](mailto:akantha@mac.com) to be added to our email list, participate in the Small Canvas Art Sale, or with suggestions about the website.

Contact Kaye Clayton, FORL President, 541-899-1044 to volunteer, offer ideas about fundraising or FORL activities, or participate in the Small Canvas Art Sale.

## Applegate Library News

Oregon celebrated its 150th birthday this past February. The Oregon State Library is promoting a statewide reading program. The program is about early immigrants who settled in Oregon. The reading material consists of three books, one for each of three age groups. The adult book is "Stubborn Twig" by Lauren Kessler. It is about several generations of a Hood River Japanese Family. There will be some special activities at some of our library branches that you may want to participate, watch for news releases in the near future.

Speaking of special activities, Bev Mays won the Barnes and Noble gift certificate drawing for the adult Winter Reads Program this past year. Congratulations Bev!

It's not just the books that make us remember the library, it's the services: Phyllis, Thalia and Carole who are there to answer your questions, help you use the computers, lead you to the "sale shelf" where you can purchase barely used books for a dollar. And don't forget the meeting room, the place we all count on for so many of our own uses: Applegate