

Applegater

Photo by Linda Kappen

SUMMER 2024
Volume 17, No. 2

Applegate Valley Community Newsmagazine
Serving Jackson and Josephine Counties — Circulation: 13,500

Celebrating
~30~
Years

ASK THE GATER

Applegater reader Lillian Stewart, concerned about emergency services, asked the Gater what is available in times of need in our rural communities.

Were you prepared for our winter weather?

BY LAURA DUEY

When unusually heavy snowfall smothered the Applegate in March, trees fell and power lines snapped, leaving some of us trapped in our homes with no power or telephone service. While snowstorms of this magnitude are rare, the Applegate is also susceptible to wildfires, earthquakes, and random dead trees falling across utility lines and blocking driveways.



Trees downed by our winter storm on China Gulch Road in Jacksonville. Photo: David Fisher.

What can you do in case Mother Nature cuts off your normal communications and transportation, particularly if you or someone in your household is disabled or has limited mobility? Above all else, prepare.

Representative Pam Marsh and the Aging and Disability Resource Connection

of Rogue Valley recommend registering with the Rogue Valley Disaster Registry and the Applegate Valley Fire District (AVFD) Community Connect, where you can note special needs about your See **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**, page 5.



Community volunteers at the RVPBA's pile-burning workshop in Williams. Photo: Alex McGlasson.

Building community bonds before an emergency

BY AARON KRIKAVA

As we prepare for the approaching fire season—readying our go-bags, cleaning gutters, and moving firewood away from our homes—we should also make sure our most valuable asset in an emergency is in good working order: our neighborhood and community relations. Communities come together to help and support each other in deeply meaningful ways when disaster strikes. Developing those relationships *before* they are needed will reduce the damage in an emergency.

One of the most valuable neighborhood tools in a wildfire situation is a simple phone tree. Having a well-laid-out structure of who calls whom along the chain can ensure all the neighbors get the message of what to prepare for and when to evacuate. There are incredible digital and online tools for communicating evacuation levels, but experience has shown they can get overloaded. Many folks in the Applegate don't have cell phone reception, many folks don't have landlines, and some folks don't have any electronic communication at all. Knowing your neighbors, and knowing who needs to communicate with them and how, can help to ensure everyone gets out safely. Now is a good time to give your phone tree a test. Maybe someone has moved or gotten a different number, so it's important to update phone trees as new landowners and renters come into the community.

Testing your phone tree is a great opportunity to plan a neighborhood

potluck. Sharing a meal and connecting with neighbors is the very basis of building community. Developing and maintaining these relationships now will enrich your day-to-day life and pay dividends in an emergency. Along with chatting about local issues and updates on our lives, we can share grant opportunities, local volunteer groups we enjoy, or our current land projects. Perhaps you and your neighbor could give each other a hand on your projects and get them completed quicker. "Many hands make light work." We all enjoy our privacy and individualism, but communal labor-sharing has always been a cornerstone of rural life.

In addition to making work quicker and more enjoyable, working together can make it safer too. When burning piles or using chainsaws, having another person around is always a best practice. Communities that work together to reduce fuel loading are more resilient when a wildfire does occur. Fire doesn't stop at property lines, so helping your neighbor clean up their property will help protect yours. Groups like the Rogue Valley Prescribed Burn Association (RVPBA) and Firewise USA help to support and facilitate this sort of community wildfire preparedness.

RVPBA supports landowners in organizing prescribed burns on their property, helping connect community members, and educating them on the safe and effective use of fire as a land-

See **BUILDING BONDS**, page 17.

FIRE DEPARTMENTS ANNOUNCE AWARDS

Applegate Valley Fire Department ceremony held in March

The Applegate Valley Fire District (AVFD) held its annual awards ceremony on March 22 at the AVFD training building in Ruch.

Firefighter awards represent recognition for the bravery and dedication of—and sacrifices made by—individuals who serve in one of the most demanding and essential professions. These awards acknowledge exceptional acts of heroism, leadership, and service within the firefighting community. They honor those who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to protect lives, property, and the environment from the devastating effects of fires and other emergencies.

And the awards go to...

Mark Chaput Spirit Award:

Jacob Heckerman

See **APPLEGATE FIRE AWARDS**, page 3.

Williams Fire Department celebrates firefighters with chili cook-off

People from all around the Williams community joined forces on May 4 to celebrate our Williams Fire Department firefighters—and to savor some award-winning chili! Each year, the Williams fire station holds a chili cook-off hosted by the Williams Fire Department Support Team and judged by the local community. The winner of the chili cook-off moves on to the Regional Firefighter Chili Cook-off, which will be held later this year at Jackson County Fire Station #5 in Phoenix, Oregon.

Five firefighters entered our chili cook-off this year, each presenting a large pot of mouth-watering chili enhanced with chopped onions and other herbs, shredded cheddar cheese, and cooked

See **WILLIAMS FIRE AWARDS**, page 3.

ECRWSSEDDM

Nonprofit Org
US Postage
PAID
Permit #125
Medford OR

Local Postal Customer

FIRE - WATER

Siskiyou Crest Conifer Field Trip Series continues through summer

BY SUZIE SAVOIE



Hiking through a forest near Miller Lake (trip scheduled for July 27). Photo: Suzie Savoie.

The Siskiyou Crest Conifer Field Trip Series is under way, with more exciting trips still coming up this summer.

At the heart of the Klamath-Siskiyou ecoregion, the Siskiyou Crest is home to one of the richest coniferous forest regions of the world in species diversity, including endemic conifer species that grow nowhere else on earth.

The Siskiyou Crest Conifer Field Trip Series highlights the 25 species of conifers that grow in the Siskiyou Crest region. From moist, low-elevation forested canyons to dry rocky ridgelines at high elevations, the field trip series will visit each conifer species in the wide variety of ecosystems they inhabit.

Each field trip will be led by Luke Ruediger, of Applegate Siskiyou Alliance,

and Suzie Savoie, of Klamath-Siskiyou Native Seeds, as well as expert botanists and ecologists from around the region. Some trips have already occurred at the time the *Applegater* is published, but there are more great trips planned for this summer, including:

- Julie Spelletich and Richard Callagan, Anderson Butte, June 1
- Scot Loring, Sundew Lake, June 2
- Barb Mumblo, Whisky Peak, July 5, and Big Red Mountain/Dutchman Peak/Tamarack Meadows, July 7
- Matt Dybala, Miller Lake, July 27
- Julie Kierstead, Mt. Ashland, August 3

Field trip discussions will include a wide variety of topics related to the specific conifers visited and, depending on the trip, will also cover general ecology, botany, biodiversity, habitat connectivity, wildlife associations, nonvascular plant associations, and fire ecology. These trips will be fun adventures at popular destinations, as well as remote backcountry areas that are seldom visited. Field trip leaders will point out and help identify wildflowers, shrubs, and other tree species during the trips as well.

Come join us on this conifer adventure series and meet some new friends—humans and plants—along the way.

This field trip series is a fundraiser for Applegate Siskiyou Alliance. Register here: eventbrite.com/cc/siskiyou-crest-conifer-field-trip-series-3218659.

Suzie Savoie
klamathsiskiyou@gmail.com

New summer programs at Jacksonville Community Center

BY SUE MILER

As spring blooms and seedlings develop into our valley's beautiful and enjoyable yields of flowers, fruits, and vegetables, we are nurturing a new crop of programs and activities for adults and youth at the Jacksonville Community Center (JCC), including camps for youth, free concerts, and a resource fair for older adults and their families. The following activities are already scheduled for the summer. Additional programs planned for later this summer include sessions on sound healing and senior wisdom cafes. Consult the JCC website at jacksonvillecommunitycenter.org for the most up-to-date information about additional programs.

Youth programs

The summer months bring an expansion of JCC's activities for youth, including three summer camp sessions.

Jacksonville Woodlands Explorer Camp. Two sessions: 9 am-noon June 17-19 and June 24-26, ages 6-12. During these three-day camps, kids will have a blast exploring our local woodlands with Tara Laidlaw, an experienced instructor from the Southern Oregon Land Conservancy. Campers will meet at JCC and walk into the Jacksonville Woodlands for exploration, nature journaling, games, and activities. This camp will help local kids learn about and connect with nature, make friends, and have fun outside! Register for one session or both.

Art Adventure Camp. 9 am-noon July 15-17, ages 6-12. Kids will make new friends as they create awesome arts and crafts, including friendship bracelets, tie-dye, eco printing, and a variety of painting methods. This camp will take place at JCC. Kids will also enjoy a lunch break and supervised play at Doc Griffin Park.

For adults, youth, and families

Free House Concert: Alquimistas Trio. 5:30-7 pm June 12. Go on an ecstatic journey through Afro-Brazilian rhythms and melodies and enjoy the alchemical magic of the music of this group, which is famous for playing at monthly block parties in Ashland.

Single-session adult programs and activities

Senior Resource Fair: Aging Successfully. 10 am-noon June 11. This free event will provide resources for preparing for the changes that come with aging. Speakers and service providers will be sharing information on legal matters, Medicare benefits, companion programs, and support services to age gracefully. Refreshments provided! Preregistration is encouraged but not required. Walk-ins welcome.

Oregon Black Pioneers: 450 Years in 45 Minutes. 4:30 pm June 14. The popular narrative of our state's history excludes the experiences of African-Americans before the mid-20th century. For this presentation, Mariah Rocker, of the Oregon Black Pioneers organization, will correct the record by highlighting key individuals and events that characterize Oregon's unique and centuries-old Black history.



In a youth cooking class, friends work together to make strawberry shortcake. Photo: Sarah Greco.



Children enjoy local trails and nature activities during Jacksonville Woodlands Explorer Camp. Photo: Sarah Greco.

Ongoing adult wellness classes

JCC offers ongoing weekly wellness classes intended to promote healthy activity and social connections. Class fees vary; scholarships are available. Consult the JCC website for details. Classes currently include:

- Line Dancing for Fitness: 1-2 pm Mondays
- Flow Yoga: 5:30-6:30 pm Mondays
- Gentle Chair Yoga: 9:30-10:15 am Wednesdays
- Beginner Tai Chi and Qi Gong: 8:30-9:30 am Thursdays
- Intermediate/Advanced Tai Chi and Qi Gong: 9:10-10:15 am Thursdays
- Beginning Yoga: 10:30-11:30 am Fridays

JCC serves adults and children of all ages, and we welcome residents of our entire area, including the Applegate Valley, Medford, Ashland, Central Point, Talent, Phoenix, Gold Hill, Rogue River, and other communities in the valley. Online registration for many JCC activities is highly recommended, and in some instances required. For those needing help or having technical issues with the registration process, call JCC at 541-702-2585 and leave a voicemail to receive personal assistance.

JCC is located at 160 East Main Street, Jacksonville. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Raefield, executive director, at jraefield@jacksonvillecommunitycenter.org.

Sue Miler
Board President

Jacksonville Community Center
suem@jacksonvillecommunitycenter.org



During the Outdoor Leaders Institute six-day overnight, teens will whitewater raft on the Rogue River and backpack in the Rogue-Siskiyou National Forest.

Upcoming summer SFI classes

BY SAMANTHA VOYAGER

People come to the Siskiyou Field Institute (SFI) to learn about and explore the Klamath-Siskiyou bioregion. SFI is a conduit for scientists and naturalists to share their passion and knowledge with the public each year through adult education field courses and youth education programs.

Many programs are coming up at SFI, including a transformative six-day overnight Outdoor Leaders Institute (OLI) for teens aged 14-18 from June 17-22. During their OLI journey, youth participate in outdoor activities, gaining new leadership skills and deepening their connection to the natural world. This summer youth will backpack in the Rogue-Siskiyou National Forest and whitewater raft on the Rogue River. Throughout their adventure, students step out of their comfort zone, embrace new experiences, learn from challenges, acquire new technical skills, and forge lifelong friendships. All meals, snacks, and equipment are included in the price of attendance. Visit thesfi.org/summer-camp or contact edmanager@thesfi.org to learn more.

Our summer Adventure Learning Program classes are open to ages 12 and up (some classes open to ages 16 and up) and cover a wide array of topics. The following classes run through July. Visit thesfi.org to learn more.

Birding by Songs and Calls, 7 am-4 pm June 8, Ashland. In this intermediate-level workshop, an expert will guide students on auditory bird identification, mnemonic strategies to strengthen memory of bird sounds (such as copying the sounds with your own voice), and other skills to help you confirm identification without visual aids. While visiting two different habitats—riparian and forest—you'll practice repetition to build up your auditory memory and learn to identify the majority of singing birds without seeing them.

Geology of the Grayback Pluton and Williams Watershed, 6-8 pm June 13 (online introduction) and 9 am-4 pm June 15 (field day), Williams. Explore the surprising connections between geology and hydrology in the Williams Basin and the Grayback Pluton complex. In an online [See SFI CLASSES, page 14.](https://thesfi.org)

SEEKING TREASURER

Volunteer position on the Applegater Board of Directors

Oversee the nonprofit newsmagazine's financial administration, including:

- Attend monthly board of directors meetings in the Applegate Valley
- Pick up mail and deposit checks
- Pay bills
- Supervise bookkeeper re invoicing, reconciling bank statements, etc.
- Should be fluent in Excel, QBO, PayPal, Square, online banking

Send resumé and inquiries to Diana Coogle at diana@applegater.org.

AVFD thanks you—your support makes a difference!

BY AISHA MAYERS

We are deeply grateful that the recent levy for the Applegate Valley Fire District (AVFD) passed, thanks to the overwhelming support of our community. Your resounding vote of confidence means more than words can express.

We have taken significant steps to enhance our readiness and response capabilities as we prepare for the upcoming fire season.

The passing of this levy is not just a bureaucratic formality;

it's a lifeline for our operations and, ultimately, for the safety and well-being of everyone in the Applegate Valley. Without this vital support from the community, we would not have the resources necessary to upstaff our stations for the summer in our ongoing efforts to protect lives, property, and natural resources from the threat of wildfires.

Station 53 in Ruch will be staffed with a minimum of three firefighting personnel, and Station 51 in Applegate with a minimum of two, which will help ensure quicker response times and more effective firefighting efforts during critical periods of heightened fire risk.

We are thrilled to announce significant progress on our grant-writing, thanks to the dedication and hard work of our team. These grants represent valuable opportunities to enhance our capabilities, improve our services, and strengthen our ability to keep the Applegate Valley safe.

One of our most notable achievements is securing funds for equipment upgrades, such as new fire helmets and wildland fire shelters. These upgrades are essential for our personnel to perform their duties safely and effectively.

Grants awarded

We've made strides in securing grants for training and professional development programs. AVFD is partnering with Mercy Flights, a grant recipient, to build and fund the Southern Oregon Emergency Medical



See page 12 for more upcoming AVFD events.

Services Apprenticeship Program. This program assists college students with obtaining real-life work experience through employment and education assistance. These initiatives are integral to ensuring that our firefighters remain highly skilled and prepared to handle a wide range of situations with expertise and confidence.

We also received a grant from the Oregon State Fire Marshal that allowed us to hire a full-time fire marshal, Brian Mulhollen. This has enabled us to implement innovative wildfire prevention and mitigation projects, including fuels reduction, vegetation management, and community-outreach initiatives aimed at raising awareness about wildfire risk and promoting proactive measures to reduce it. By taking a proactive approach to wildfire prevention, we can help safeguard lives, property, and natural resources in the Applegate Valley.

As we continue to pursue additional grant opportunities, we remain dedicated to leveraging every available resource to enhance the resiliency and preparedness of AVFD.

Join us!

AVFD is seeking dedicated individuals to join our team. If you're passionate about serving your community, protecting lives, and making a difference, we want to hear from you. Whether you're an experienced firefighter or are looking to start your journey in emergency services, or are interested in the prevention aspect, we offer comprehensive training and support. Join us in our mission to ensure the safety and well-being of the Applegate Valley. Together, we can make a meaningful impact and forge lasting connections. Contact us today to learn more about how you can become part of the AVFD family.

Aisha Mayers
Applegate Valley Fire District
amayers@applegatefd.com

APPLEGATE FIRE AWARDS

Continued from page 1

Student Firefighter of the Year:

Carson Roeloffs

Volunteers of the Year: Jason Schonhoff and William Schmidt

Hall of Flame: Jack Lynch (see photo)

Length of Service Awards:

- Ryan Burns—5 years
- Josh Howell—5 years
- Forest Bohall—10 years
- Jack Lynch—20 years (see photo)
- Chris Wolfard—20 years

EMS (Emergency Medical Service)

Award: William Schmidt

Rookie of the Year:

Thomas Crosse

Firefighter of the Year:

Kane Gunther

Mary Ziegler Family of the Year Award:

Firefighter Jack Lynch's wife Marcella Lynch and family

2023/2024 EMS Achievements:

- Josh Carson
- Evan Jackson
- Brandi McCarthy
- Justin Rainey
- Zeph Robertson
- Zach Wright

Chief's Award: Babette Rapp



Firefighter Jack Lynch was inducted into the Applegate Valley Fire Department Hall of Flame, the most prestigious form of recognition given, for his two decades of service, including the hundreds of alarms he answered, the hundreds of drills he conducted, and for his continued service to the citizens of the Applegate Valley.

Congratulations to all!



Williams Fire Department Support Team and firefighters at the annual Chili Cook-off and Firefighter Appreciation Day held on May 4.

WILLIAMS FIRE AWARDS

Continued from page 1

Judges from the community included Pastor Josh Walker, representing Williams Community Church; Laurie Nerat, representing American Legion Post #50; Jessie Spero, representing Williams Grange; Williams Elementary School Principal Steve Fuller; and Bill Ertl from the Williams Fire Department Board of Directors. To score, judges used five criteria: color, texture, aroma, taste, and heat/bite, with scores ranging from one to five (highest).

Principal Fuller tallied up the final scores: Devin Brennan won first place with a score of 100, and Jasmine Williams won second place with 96. Each contestant was presented with a swag bag of various chili-related gifts, and Devin also received a Williams Chili Cook-off apron to wear at the regionals.

Later, at the awards ceremony, members of the Williams support team and Lieutenant Oskar Sundell presented each of the 15 firefighters with a certificate describing their rank, training, and years on the force. Firefighters present to receive awards at the ceremony were:

- Lieutenant Oskar Sundell
- Fire Marshall Jon Scaroni
- Firefighter Jennifer Vetter, who also serves as financial manager
- Firefighter Devin Brennan, who also received an award as first contact at a recent Marble Gulch 911 call
- Ash Martell, community relations coordinator
- Firefighter Jacob Bivins
- Firefighter recruit Jake Manning
- Firefighter recruit Liz Dunlap
- Firefighter recruit Ben Brian
- Firefighter recruit Jasmine Williams

Firefighters unable to attend were Interim Chief Nicco Holt, firefighters KC Welch and Heather Sundell, and firefighter recruits Jesse Johnstone and Charles HooperLee.



Chili Cook-off judges, from left to right: Laurie Nerat, Steve Fuller, Bill Ertl, Pastor Josh, and Jesse Spero. Photo: Ash Martell.



Chili Cook-off contestants, from left to right: Jasmine Williams, Devin Brennan, Jon Scaroni, Jake Manning, and Ash Martell. Photo: Karen Rogers.

The support team presented each firefighter with a Channellock 87 Rescue Tool, which is great for vehicle rescues—it is capable of easily cutting through battery cables and soft metal, prying open windows, and opening or closing gas safety valves and hose couplings up to five inches.

Williams Fire Department Support Team worked hard to put together this year's chili cook-off. The team provided all the extra chili and three different types of cornbread, served the contestants' chili to attendees for \$5 a bowl or \$5 for a platter of chili samples, and helped with the ceremony, setup, and cleanup. Support team members present were President Belinda Northrup, Vice President Ash Martell, Secretary Karen Rogers, and members-at-large Wanda Olson, Judy Grimsby, Allison Cleveland, Erika Mussack, Scotty Kaiser, and William Bourne.

Karen Rogers, Secretary
Williams Fire Department
krogers1952@gmail.com



Ramsay Realty
The Applegate Jacksonville Experts
www.ramsayrealty.com

SEE WHAT'S FOR SALE

SINCE 1966




In the Applegate Valley

7604 Hwy 238
541-899-1184



Downtown Jacksonville

190 E California St.
541-899-7969





APWC EVENTS

Providing Applegate residents with helpful resources and vital information.

Visit our website to learn more about our community events.

applegatepartnership.org/upcoming-events

POETRY CORNER

Real Gems

By Seth Kaplan • sethkapp55@gmail.com

I

Reaching into the closet's darker corners
reveals those singular objects I chose to keep
turned smooth and polished by my own geochronology
until everything left had become precious jewels.
And all the frail things turned soft and fragile,
too dear to handle, like delicate fineries
aged beyond their intended purpose into artifacts.
Among all these curiosities the real gem
was the loose stack of notes and letters, tangible
evidence that memories need only light to come to life.

II

The box was filled with decades-old baseball memorabilia.
Jackie Robinson and Mickey Mantle cards pristine
in their 1954 youth and glory. A 1963 world series scorecard.
Mordecai "Three-Fingers" Brown preserved better
than he should be from a 1910 box of Lucky Strikes.
But the real gem was the 1976 autographed baseball
from my 21st birthday signed by friends and lovers
gathered for what none of us understood was the final time.
Lost and reclaimed from one inimitable moment
at Honeysuckle Cones & Cups onto polished white cowhide.
Some of what I pulled from that box historical and valuable
and some the palpable feel of a long-fleeting moment
eating ice cream with one hand and holding
my young life by the seams with the other.

III

Discovering these boxes waiting 50 years for their grand opening
is like finding a message in a bottle yellowed with age
and new meaning. Or maybe a case of wine bottles
from a half century ago, some sealed and filled with promise
of a tasty vintage and some hiding fragments of forgotten story.
Some contents prized. Some priceless. And the real gem
was discovering what matters most depends on the nature of the thirst.

Seth Kaplan is a recent emigrant to Talent from Humbug Creek and remains a devoted member of the Applegate Poets. His poetry has recently appeared in *Tokyo Poetry Journal*, *Cobra Lily*, and *Jefferson Journal*.

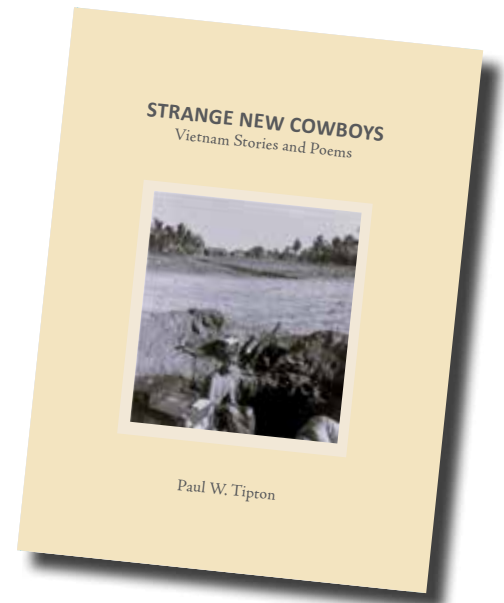
Have a submission for Poetry Corner, either by an Applegate resident or about the Applegate? Email it to *Applegater* poetry editor Paul Tipton at ptipton4u2c@gmail.com.

BOOK REVIEW

Strange New Cowboys Vietnam Stories and Poems

Paul W. Tipton
N8tive Run Press
Grants Pass, Oregon 2024

BY CHRISTIN LORE WEBER



A writer sorts words in an attempt to make sense of an experience that crowds his memory and sticks to his soul in ways that will not let him go. Focusing on what happened haunts dreams and hinders daytime concentration. This is the situation of our friend and neighbor, Paul Tipton, during and after the Vietnam War, in which he served, in-country, with a US Naval Construction Battalion repairing steel infrastructure by day and sleeping in bunkers at night—sleeping, if that was a possibility so close to the front lines, deafened by bombs that killed some of his company.

Sandra Scofield, an award-winning author formerly from Ashland, encouraged everyone to write their story, the story that grabs your life and insists that you write it despite your arguments, your privacy, your lack of understanding, your questions, your fear, and sometimes guilt. It doesn't matter what form it takes: short stories, a novel, poetry, photos, letters, even a book of illustrations for those who love to draw. Writing our story is a good way to make meaning of our personal mysteries and confusions, to leave hard-wrought wisdom woven into the timelines of our lives.

Fortunately for us, Paul Tipton is a skilled writer, and he's been working on his Vietnam experiences for 50 years. We know the Vietnam War became a turning point in our culture, a requirement of choice, and many books and movies have been written and filmed in our attempts as a nation to understand, live with, and accept our personal place in it. This is a big reason Paul's book is of vital importance. In these pages he has achieved this task both for himself and for us.

Paul's writing and the stories he chose to tell touch me deeply. I've read other books about Vietnam by talented writers, but none have moved me as much as his. One reason for the power of this book is that Paul Tipton brings the paradox of war into the center of what makes us human. He takes our most troubling questions and our deepest longing together with a moral outrage that cannot be easily defined. The main character, called Bill in these stories, cannot reconcile who he knows himself

to be with what he experiences himself doing. Are Bill and Paul one and the same man? Maybe. But now, 50 years later, Paul has had the opportunity to examine and ponder the choices of his younger self and the consequences that those choices seeded as he grew into his mature self.

How could anyone work through what is experienced in war? Paul Tipton asks this question with such intensity that the reader is sometimes tempted to skim over the words or else garner extra courage to stay on the page and take in the horror and enigma that humanity seems to conclude must be our lot since wars have been fought by us since time's beginning. Paul Tipton writes on page 94:

"...no one seemed to totally understand. No one could see behind his words to the realities burned into his memory. No one could conjure up the image of the brown-skinned, black-haired seven-year-old boy struggling to stand up along the dirt road, blood streaming down his face from the crack in his skull... No one could know the cold fear he had felt. No one could know how much he hated the people who had led them. No one could know what the guy who'd been sleeping beside you looked like after he'd been wasted by incoming in the night, splattered on the mess hall wall. And no one could know what Death sounded like, starting to talk to you in the automatic language of guns, clacking like a typewriter, beginning at your side, in the bright daylight, out of nowhere, in the green heat."

From *Strange New Cowboy* to *Treasured Sage*—that's Paul Tipton now.

Christin Lore Weber
storyweaver1@gmail.com
Strange New Cowboys is available at ptipton4u2c@gmail.com, *Rebel Heart Books*, local libraries, and the internet.



Voices of the Applegate seeks singers

Our community choir, Voices of the Applegate, is back in the swing again with successful seasons last fall and spring. We are looking forward to another great season this coming fall.

We will be rehearsing in the Jacksonville Library every Tuesday evening from 7-8:30 pm beginning September 3. Our concerts will be held on November 22 in Jacksonville and on November 24 in Applegate.

We are looking for more singers to join our choir! If you are interested in spending 90 minutes a week in joyous music with a group of happy people, then come to our first rehearsal on September 3 or call me for more information.

We hope to see you in the fall!
Joan Peterson • 541-846-6988 • joanpete5317@gmail.com

Come visit!
Serving
breakfast, lunch
and dinner.
Beer and wine
on tap or to go.



Open
7 am - 7 pm
Weds - Sat and
7 am - 3 pm Sun.
Closed Mon
and Tues.

Family-run ■ 181 Upper Applegate Road ■ 541-702-2662
Jacksonville, OR 97530

WORKING RANCH SINCE 1858

PLAISANCE RANCH

Southern Oregon - Applegate Valley

**Certified Organic Beef & Hay,
Wine Grapes, Fine Wine, and Much More.**

16955 Water Gap Road | Williams, OR 97544 | 541-846-7175

www.plaisanceranch.com

~ FINE PRINT ~

The Applegate Valley Community Newspaper, Inc. (AVCN) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation dedicated to the publication of the *Applegater* newsmagazine, which, we feel, reflects the heart and soul of our community.

Our Mission

The goal of the Applegate Valley Community Newspaper, Inc., is to provide the Applegate watershed with a communication vehicle, the *Applegater*, that will provide educational information, increase community networking, and represent all the area's diverse communities. Through honest, constructive, relevant, and entertaining reports on a wide variety of subjects and viewpoints, including our natural resources, historical and current events, and community news, we can work together to enhance the quality of life we have in the Applegate, and continue to make a difference in our valley.

Acknowledgements

The *Applegater* newsmagazine is published quarterly by AVCN and is funded by donations from our loyal readers and advertisements for local businesses.

Special thanks to Diana Coogle, Margaret Perrow della Santina, Haley May Peterson, and Paul Tipton for copy editing; Lisa Baldwin, Diana Coogle, Carla David, Jeanette LeTourneux, and Paul Tipton for proofing; Donna Espino for bookkeeping; webmaster Joe Lavine; and Barbara Holiday for layout.

Board of Directors

Diana Coogle, Chair
Barbara Holiday, Vice Chair
Laura Duey, Secretary
Rachel Arappagis
Margaret M. Patterson
William Whitman

Editorial Committee

Barbara Holiday, Editor in Chief
Diana Coogle
Aaron Krikava
Greeley Wells

All articles, stories, opinions, and letters in the *Applegater* are the property and opinion of the author and not necessarily that of the *Applegater* or AVCN.

Protection of Copyrighted Material

All materials submitted for publication must pertain to the Applegate Valley, be original (no press releases or reprinted articles), and be the intellectual property of the author unless otherwise credited.

All articles submitted to the *Applegater* are subject to edit and publication at the newsmagazine's discretion and as space allows. No more than one article per author per issue. When too many articles are submitted to include in any one issue, some articles may be placed on our website or held until the following issue.

Letters to the editor must be 200 words or less. Opinion pieces cannot exceed 500 words (no images). Articles cannot exceed 700 words. Obituaries are limited to 500 words and one photo. Essays are limited to 500 words and one per issue.

Photo Requirements

All photos submitted must be high resolution (300 dpi) or "large format" (e.g., 30" x 40"). If you have questions, email gater@applegater.org.

Photos submitted for the front-page flag are on a volunteer basis. Credit is given in the issue in which it appears, on our website, and on our Facebook page.

Submissions for the next issue must be received at gater@applegater.org by the deadline (see Editorial Calendar on this page).

Applegater Newsmagazine
PO Box 14, Jacksonville, OR 97530
applegater.org

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Continued from page 1

home or need special assistance. Then, if you need to report an emergency, AVFD will respond already knowing about your special needs. (See the list of websites on page 14 for more information.)

Neighborhood disaster groups

Representative Marsh encourages local neighborhoods to organize to prepare for disasters. If you don't have an organized local group, at least know who your closest neighbors are and if they might be able to help you in an emergency. If you are unable to walk to a neighbor's house, a good quality walkie-talkie could allow you to communicate.

Loss of power

Losing power is a particular problem in rural areas, as most of us depend on electric pumps to provide our water supplies. For people who depend on electric devices for health conditions, even a short outage could be disastrous. Generators are the traditional solution, but the smaller ones require some setup, and they all require constant fuel. Generators

that will power an entire house and start automatically could cost around \$10,000 installed.

There are also battery systems of all sizes, from cell-phone size to Tesla PowerWalls, which are literally the size of a wall. Larger batteries are most commonly paired with solar panels—whole-house systems can provide all your daytime electrical needs with solar panels and all your nighttime electrical needs with batteries. But these systems will cost tens of thousands of dollars. If you can define what electrical devices you *really* need, you may be able to use a much smaller and less expensive system. If you need a couple of hours of laptop use and a single lightbulb, you may be able to use a small portable solar panel and battery combination for around \$300. When you size your "must-have" electrical devices, you must size for the start-up wattage. For example, a refrigerator or freezer requires only around 180 watts for normal running but may require around 1,800 start-up watts. If you can't start it, you can't run it.

Telephone service

Telephone lines are usually lower on the utility poles, so landlines may continue to work even if a downed tree has disrupted power. Make sure you have at least one phone that plugs directly into a wall jack, as portable phones depend on their electric base station. Most cellular towers have backup generators, which is why cell service often continues even during a region-wide power outage. If you can't call, try texting, which requires only a minimal cellular connection. And if your cell provider's service is out, you still should be able to dial or text 911. To make sure your phone doesn't run out of charge during a long power outage, use a \$20-\$40 cell charger. Many of these come with solar panels on one side, so you can recharge the charger during a multiday outage.

If you *must* have telephone service and don't want to depend on landlines or cell service, you can invest in a satellite phone. A basic phone will start at \$300. There are less expensive adapters that will turn your cell phone into a satellite phone, but you *See EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, page 14.*

A huge THANKS to the generous donors who recently contributed to the Applegater.

SASQUATCH

Sara Katz & David Markle, Williams, OR

BEAR

Ken & Jan Chapman, Applegate, OR

STEELHEAD

Yola Sanders, Ocean Park, WA

Baldwin-Mickelson Fund
Sue Harrison, Medford, OR

Donald Sayer, Applegate, OR
Kathleen Conway &

Alan Journet, Jacksonville, OR
Sylva Hatchman, Grants Pass, OR

DEER

Anonymous, Jacksonville, OR

Anonymous, Medford, OR

Audrey Eldridge, Albany, OR

Bert Etling, Ashland, OR
Christopher Friend, Wilderville, OR

Thelma Goodnough, Applegate, OR

Harold Hopkins

Janice & Jeffrey Peacock, Lafayette, CA

Kathleen Pyle, Jacksonville, OR

Jeanette Stobie, Applegate, OR

John Taylor, Grants Pass, OR

Candace Williams, Ashland, OR

Help us

ensure that we have the ongoing support needed to publish the *Applegater* newsmagazine. All contributions are tax-deductible and receive recognition in print.

Sasquatch - \$1,000+

Cougar \$500 - \$999

Bear \$200 - \$499

Steelhead \$50 - \$199

Deer \$5 - \$49

Please make your checks payable to *Applegater* and mail to PO Box 14, Jacksonville, OR 97530. Our nonprofit ID number is 26-2062663.

Donors: We strive to ensure that our donor list is accurate. Please contact us if there are errors or omissions.

We can help you reach your market!

The *Applegater* is the only newsmagazine covering the entire Applegate Valley. With a circulation of 13,000 and a readership of more than 20,000, the *Applegater* covers Jacksonville, Ruch, Applegate, Williams, Murphy, Wilderville, Wonder, Jerome Prairie, and areas of Medford and Grants Pass.

For more information, contact:

Jackson County
gater@applegater.org

Josephine County
Max Unger @ 541-660-4031 or imaxunger@gmail.com

Next deadline: August 1

Cover Photo Credit

Thanks to Linda Kappen, as always, for capturing this couple fishing on the beautiful Applegate River.

• • •

Have a photo for the Fall 2024 *Applegater*? Email it to gater@applegater.org.

Corrections

The *Applegater* is committed to publishing accurate information in its news articles, correcting errors of fact, and clarifying misleading statements. Send suggested corrections to Editor in Chief Barbara Holiday at barbara@applegater.org.

PERSONAL MAILING LABEL

Living away for a while? Friends and relatives in faraway places?

The *Applegater* can be mailed anywhere in the US. Order a personal mailing label for:

One year: \$19.99 (4 issues)

Two years: \$34.99 (8 issues)

Mail us a check or pay online at applegater.org.

Personal mailing labels are nonrefundable.

Editorial Calendar

ISSUE	DEADLINE
FALL (Sept - Nov) <i>Earth - Air</i>	August 1
WINTER (Dec - Feb).... <i>Holiday - Arts</i>	November 1
SPRING (March - May) ... <i>History - Heritage</i>	February 1
SUMMER (June - Aug) <i>Fire - Water</i>	May 1

Inside the Gater

Save the date: Jacksaphine Count(r)y Fair set for September.....7
Cantrall Buckley Park promotes diverse cultures.....10
They Live Among Us: Brighton Gradisar.....11
Applegate Valley Fire Department is prepared.....12
Applegate Ridge Trail backed by BLM.....14
Wander Applegate, a new destination website.....17
Opinions and Letters to the Editor.....18
SOLADA film series starts in June.....19
SUTA announces opening of new trails.....20
Woodland Charter School is most improved.....22
Another star athlete: Megan Peterson.....23

— Applegate Library —

Games, prizes at
Summer Reading Kick-off Party!

BY CHRISTINE GRUBB

Join us at the Applegate Library for the Summer Reading Kick-off Party! From 2-3:30 pm Saturday, June 8, we will have games, prizes, and light refreshments while you sign up for summer reading. This year's theme is Read, Renew, Repeat.

Upcoming events

Read, Renew, Repeat: Folded Book Art, 18+ years. Book folding is the process of folding down the pages of a book to create a sculpture or piece of art. Come learn how. Used books will be provided, but feel free to bring your own! 5-6 pm Thursday, June 13.

Learn about Bats with John Jackson of Bugs-R-Us, 3+ years. It's all about these flying mammals and their important role in the ecosystem. The audience will receive instructions on building a bat house, bat ID sheets, and bat coloring pages. 3-4 pm Saturday, June 22.

Paint with Plants, 8+ years. Discover the beautiful world of natural colors right outside your door. We'll explore how to make watercolor from garden-grown and foraged plants and how to change those colors. 2:30-3:30 pm Thursday, June 28.

Ventriloquist Steve Chaney with the Corny Crow Show, 3+ years. Steve Chaney brings his comical puppets to life with the ancient art of ventriloquism. Steve's show is geared for all ages with songs, a magic trick or two, and lots of audience participation. Steve also makes a sock puppet while explaining what and how ventriloquism is done. 4-5 pm Thursday, July 11.

Herbal Tea Blending, 18+ years. Let's talk herbal loose-leaf tea! In this class, learn the art of loose-leaf tea blending and different methods of blending herbal tea. An herbal tea tasting is also included. 2:30-3:30 pm Friday, July 12.

Read, Renew, Repeat: Animal Presentation with Wildlife Safari, 6+ years. Join Wildlife Safari for a lesson about the characteristics and habitats of their surprise animal guests! 11 am-noon Friday, July 19.

How to Speak Flowers, 5+ years. Oh, the joy of flowers! In this class, learn the different languages of flowers and the importance of connecting with flowers. This class is hands-on—it includes making pollinating seed bombs with local seeds and needle felt flower making. 12:30-1:30 pm Saturday, July 20.

Coloring for Grown-ups, 18+ years. We think of coloring as a kids' activity. However, it can be beneficial for adults.

Coloring can help us de-stress. Coloring sheets and colored pencils will be provided. 5-7 pm Thursday, July 25.

Australian Didgeridoo Performance with Tyler Spencer, 6+ years. Tyler Spencer's Didgeridoo Experience combines funky didgeridoo rhythms, worldly percussive beats, storytelling, and audience participation. Tyler's Didgeridoo Experience is interactive, educational, and entertaining for all ages! 6-7 pm Thursday, August 8.

Storytelling with Kevin Menegus and The Fratello Marionettes, 6+ years. Using traditional music, intricate costumes, and dramatic staging, puppeteer Kevin Menegus brings to life the classic story of Aladdin through handcrafted marionettes. 10:30-11:30 am Friday, August 9.

Read, Renew, Repeat: Salmon Watch with The Rogue Basin Clean Water Project, 9+ years. The Salmon Watch Program teaches students about healthy watersheds, clean water, and stewardship by learning about the necessary conditions in local streams and rivers for a healthy, thriving salmon population. Students will learn by participating in hands-on activities. 4:40-5:30 pm Thursday, August 15.

Read, Renew, Repeat: Learn Hands-only CPR with the American Red Cross, 13+ years. Many people who survive a cardiac emergency are helped by a bystander. In this program, you can learn how to perform Hands-only CPR so that you can help deliver lifesaving care until professional responders arrive. *This program is not a certification program.* 5-6 pm Thursday, August 22.

Reminders

A Digital Services representative will be at the library 10 am-12:30 pm Tuesdays and Fridays on a first come, first served basis, or make an appointment at digitalservices@jcls.org or 541-734-3990.

The Applegate Library meeting room can be booked for your meeting, program, or event (even when the library is closed) by going to jcls.libcal.com/reserve/ap-meeting.

Wi-Fi is available 24-7 in our parking lot and available inside during open hours.

Preschool Storytime is 11-11:30 am Fridays.

Christine Grubb
Applegate Branch Library Manager
541-846-7346
cgrubb@jcls.org
18485 North Applegate Road

— Ruch Library —

Register for Summer
Reading and gift book!

BY MEGAN PINDER

Summer Reading is here! All ages are encouraged to participate online or by registering in person at the library. All Ruch readers will receive a gift book and be entered in a drawing for the chance to win fabulous prizes, including gift certificates from local businesses!

Read, Renew, Repeat: Teen Walking Challenge, 13+ years. June-August. Renew yourself and read some books with this walking challenge! Using the World Walking app or website and a pedometer—don't worry, we'll give you one if you don't already have one—log your steps and virtually explore USA landmarks and icons!

Web Design Essentials: Building Your First Website, 14+ years. 1-2 pm June 8. Join web designer Jamin Giersbach from popproxx.com for a comprehensive session on leveraging WordPress and Elementor to streamline the web design process from concept to publication.

Children's Author Workshop, 8+ years. 1-2 pm June 29. Join us with local author Valerie Coulman for an engaging time of stories together. As the writer of award-winning picture books for children, Valerie will share some of her own experiences. Then we'll write a story together.

Bugs and Bugs as Food with John Jackson of Bugs-R-Us, all ages. 3-4 pm July 2. The original portable zoo! Learn about bug anatomy, bugs in the environment, what bugs eat, insect defenses, and camouflage. Attendees will have the chance to touch and explore live insects and to eat real bugs (freeze-dried crickets and mealworms). Touching and/or eating the bugs is optional!

Read Renew Repeat: Animal Presentation with Wildlife Safari, 6+ years. 1-2 pm July 13. Join Wildlife Safari for a lesson about the characteristics and habitats of their surprise animal guests!

Read, Renew, Repeat: Salmon Watch with the Rogue Basin Clean Water Project, 9+ years. 1-2 pm July 20. Learn about healthy watersheds, clean water, and stewardship. Discover what conditions are needed in local streams and rivers to support a thriving salmon population.

Read Renew Repeat: Learn Hands-only CPR with the American Red Cross, 13+ years. 4-5 pm August 1. Learn how to perform Hands-only CPR so you can help deliver life-saving care until professional responders arrive. *This is not a certification program.*

Learn About Siskiyou Mountain Wildlife with John Jackson of Bugs-R-Us, all ages. 1-2 pm August 3. Take a walk on the wild side in our own backyard with Bugs-R-Us. The Siskiyou Mountains have a wide variety of animals not commonly seen anywhere else, and this is your chance to learn more about them!

Australian Didgeridoo Performance with Tyler Spencer, 6+ years. 10:30-11:30 am August 7. Tyler Spencer's Didgeridoo Experience combines funky didgeridoo rhythms, storytelling, and audience participation. Tyler is a master didgeridoo player and crafter who has been performing, teaching, and making didgeridoos for more than 20 years.

Homemade Soda, 10+ years. 2-3 pm August 21. Learn how to make your own fizzy beverages with simple kitchen ingredients. We will explore the science of carbonation and get hands-on with soda making while tasting homemade pop!

Community Yoga, 13+ years. 9-10 am 2nd and 4th Wednesdays (except June 26). Join us for an all-levels yoga class. One of our two professional instructors, Dr. Rachel Stricker and Cassidy Acacia, will support you on your yoga journey. The Community Room will open at 8:45 am and class will begin at 9 am. *Bring your own mat.*

Read, Renew, Repeat Saturday Matinee Series, all ages. 1-3:30 pm 4th Saturdays. Join us for three movies based on books: *The Wizard of Oz* on June 22 (G), the 2006 version of *Charlotte's Web* (G) on July 27, and *Hugo* (PG) on August 24. Popcorn provided!

Kaleidoscope Play and Learn, 0-5 years. 10:30 am-12 pm Thursdays. Discover how children learn through play and daily activities: singing, telling stories, creating art, and having fun! Kaleidoscope Play and Learn is open to everyone—young children and their families and caregivers.

Preschool Storytime, 3-5 years. 10:30-11 am Tuesdays. Bring your preschoolers to enjoy stories, rhymes, songs, and fun at the library.

Computer and Tech Help, all ages. 10 am-12:30 pm Tuesdays and 2-4:30 pm Thursdays. Meet with a Digital Services Specialist by appointment or drop-in.

Megan Pinder
Ruch Branch Library Manager
541-494-3284
mpinder@jcls.org
7919 Highway 238, Ruch



— Williams Library —

Join the 2024 Summer Reading Program

BY BRANDACE ROJO

All ages are invited to join the free Josephine Community Library Summer Reading Program from June 15-August 10. To join and earn prizes, register any time beginning June 1 at josephinelibrary.org/summer-reading-program or at a branch in Grants Pass, Williams, or Wolf Creek. (While the Illinois Valley branch is closed for renovation, community members can visit other branches.) Don't miss out on weekly themed "craftivities" for children on open days.

Featured Events. Visit josephinelibrary.org/calendar to learn about weekly special

events at all library branches during the Summer Reading Program for all ages. Library events are offered at no charge and open to the public. A library card is not needed to participate.

- Bugs-R-Us Bats. 1-2 pm June 21.
- Among the Stars with Joe Stodola of the Grants Pass Astronomers Club. 4:30-6 pm July 13.
- Oregon Caves National Monument and Preserve with the National Parks Service. 10-11 am August 3.
- Williams Weekly Storytime. 11-11:30 am every Friday. Themed storytime

and craft session in a safe and fun environment

Virtual communication booth. Community members can reserve the communication booth for virtual meetings at the Williams branch library at no cost. The space is large enough for one person to conduct a virtual interview, take an important call, or FaceTime with a loved one in a quiet space. It is equipped with a height-adjustable desk, outlets, and the ability to hardwire a device to the library's high-speed internet for seamless connection. Patrons can bring their own device or borrow a library laptop. Funding for the virtual communication booth was provided by A Greater Applegate.

Get a library card

Take advantage of thousands of books, e-books, and audiobooks with a library card. Find recommended reading, attend library programs for all ages, use public computers, and check out useful items

like laptops and Wi-Fi hotspots. Josephine County residents who live within the library district boundary get an annual library card at no cost. Community members living in Josephine County who do not live in the library district have several options to get a library card including a \$15 quarterly card, volunteering, and more. Josephine Community Library Foundation is also happy to sponsor the cost of annual household library cards at no cost to the requesting community member. Stop by your preferred branch for more information and to sign up.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

Register your children under the age of five for free online or stop by your nearest library branch in Grants Pass, Williams, or Wolf Creek during open hours and fill out a paper form. In eight to ten weeks, you'll receive the first book. After that, age-

See **WILLIAMS LIBRARY**, page 7.

AGA sponsors fun and informative community events

BY MEGAN FEHRMAN

Fire and water were two of the topics that were part of the Elemental Series put on by A Greater Applegate and other community partners earlier this year.

In February, AGA partnered with the Applegate Partnership and Watershed Council to bring to the community the Water Security Education Day, with presentations and discussions around household and landscape-level methods for conserving and storing water. All of the presentations and videos from that day are now available at applegatepartnership.org/watersecurity.

In March, the Applegate Valley's Forest and Fire Working Group brought us the All Things Fire Fair!, an all-day community-focused event that moved us toward becoming a more fire-adapted place, with presentations by Rich Fairbanks, on home hardening and defensible space; by Fire Marshal Brian Mulhollen, about the many resources and new programs available through the Applegate Valley Fire District (AVFD); and by the Rogue Valley Prescribed Burn Association, with a demonstration on "good fire," a beneficial tool to protect your property from "bad fire."

Dan Defenbaugh, of Jungle Tamer, demonstrated how a skid-steer loader equipped with a special masticating head can remove brush around homes by grinding, chopping, and basically chewing up brush or whatever is fed into it and then returning it all to the soil. AVFD has applied for grants totaling about \$6 million for this kind of equipment, hoping to one day be able to do this kind of work for people in our community for free.

The day wrapped up with a presentation on the Douglas fir die-off from Chris Adlam, regional fire specialist with Oregon State University Extension Service, and the Bureau of Land Management.

A Greater Applegate will post presentations from the All Things Fire Fair! on the Applegate Valley Connect website at applegateconnect.org/wildfire-resources to give community members access to these useful resources. It will take all of us working together—agencies, nonprofit organizations, and neighbors—to address this monumental task of returning the Applegate to a fire-adapted ecosystem and to address current challenges. We hope that the All Things Fire Fair! will become an annual event and a model for other communities investing in similar collaborative solutions.

To begin community-level emergency-preparedness planning, A Greater Applegate—in partnership with AVFD, Williams Rural Fire Protection District, Ruch and Williams libraries, Williams



Aaron Krikava with Rogue Valley Prescribed Burn Association demonstrates the use of good fire.



Atlas Battisti from Ruch gets a big hug from Smokey the Bear.

Grange, and Pacifica—has applied for a Resilience Hub Network and Infrastructure grant through the Oregon Department of Emergency Management. Though there is no guarantee that we will receive funding, we have started these important conversations, and we look forward to keeping everyone informed and engaged as we go along.

In other news, the Williams Farmers Market continues from 4:30-7 pm Mondays, and the Applegate Evening Market, now at the Lindsay Lodge, is up and running from 5-8 pm Wednesdays. Stop by these markets to buy local food, have dinner, and enjoy music, kids' activities, and cooking demonstrations.

Save the date!

The second Jacksaphine Count(ry) Fair is coming back to the Applegate on Saturday, September 21. Oregon Arts Watch recently published an article about last summer's fair and AGA's community-building and placemaking work. Read it at orartswatch.org/a-greater-applegate-creating-community-through-the-culture-of-place.

We are excited to make the second year of this community and fundraising event even better than last year's success and look forward to updating you on activities and details in the fall edition of the *Applegater*.

Until then, here's hoping for as many cool and wet days as we can get.

Megan Fehrman
Co-Executive Director
A Greater Applegate
megan@greaterapplegate.org

■ WILLIAMS LIBRARY

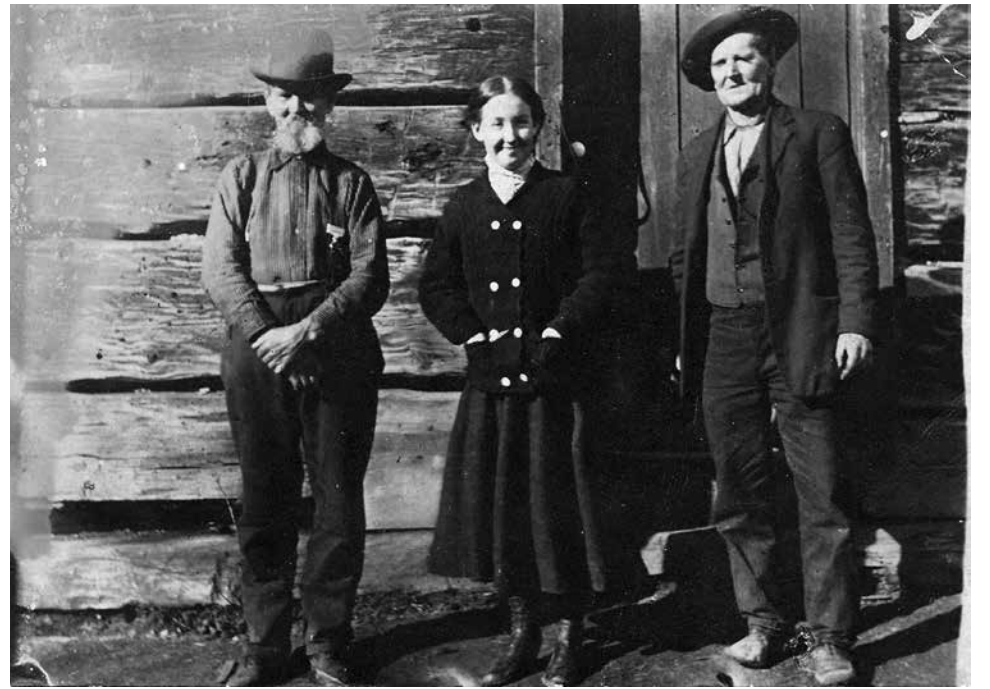
Continued from page 6

appropriate books will arrive monthly. The first book every child receives is *The Little Engine That Could*, Dolly Parton's favorite. The message is timeless, encouraging children to never give up, do their best, and stay positive no matter what.

To sign up, visit josephinelibrary.org and find Dolly Parton's Imagination Library on the "Children" page under the "Youth/Family" menu.

You can reach Williams branch manager, Amber Guient, at aguient@josephinelibrary.org and 541-846-7020. The library is located at 158 Tetherow Road, Williams. New hours are 1-6 pm Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday, and 11 am-6 pm Friday.

Brandace Rojo
Communications and
Partnership Manager
Josephine Community Library
brojo@josephinelibrary.org



Ed Langley, Katie Byrne, and Jim Terry at the one-room Watkins schoolhouse c. 1912.

Then and now: Upper Applegate History

BY PAUL TIPTON

Have you ever wondered what it was like living in the Upper Applegate Valley in the 1850s and 60s, when white prospectors rapidly inundated the area after the discovery of gold and agrarian families came in wagon trains hoping for a better life in the "uninhabited" West? One hundred and seventy-five years makes a big difference in how we live our lives, and it's hard to grasp how different, and difficult, it was to live in those past times.

Laura Ahearn, president of McKee Bridge Historical Society (MBHS), has put together a comprehensive visual and oral presentation for the Windows in Time series cosponsored by the Jackson County Library System and the Southern Oregon Historical Society. Titled "A Century in Big Applegate," it was presented on Wednesday, May 1, at the Medford Library. Don't despair if you missed it—it will be available in various formats, including on the MBHS website at mckeebridge.org and on YouTube, as are all presentations in the Windows in Time archives. Laura recently presented a preview of her program at Ruch Library for members of MBHS. The audience included Evelyn Byrne Williams and Vern Arnold, descendants of those early families and historians in their own right.

If you were born and raised in the Applegate or have been around for 50 years or so, many of the names and places will ring a bell and bring back memories of your own, related to who and where and when. Those of you who are relatively new to the area might have a less fully formed idea of the history of the Applegate, but Laura's presentation will fill in knowledge gaps for old-timers and newcomers alike.

The sites of now-abandoned "villages" were chosen for practicality, grounded in mining or farming, and often named for a post office or general store located within someone's home. They were also centered around any source of commerce, such as a boarding house or stagecoach stop. Many of those small communities no longer exist—like Watkins, now covered



The Byrne home c. 1910 on what is now called Téel (Yellowjacket) Creek.

by Applegate Lake, but Ruch, Applegate, Murphy, and Williams are still thriving community hubs in the Applegate Valley.

I've worn a number of different hats in recent years with local nonprofits, including A Greater Applegate (AGA), our local community development organization. One of the larger ideas to come from the "visioning" (listening) sessions that AGA organized throughout the valley in recent years is the idea of facilitating "village hubs," promoting the existing community's abilities to fulfill their needs and wants to have more services available within the rural communities, rather than being so connected to more distant cities.

We've gone from horse and buggies to Teslas in 175 years, along with many other changes. What changes will we see in the future with overpopulation and declining resources? No one knows, but "if we don't learn the lessons of history, we are likely to repeat them."

Get involved, be part of the solution! MBHS welcomes new volunteers who would like to help explore, document, and understand our local history.

Please join MBHS at McKee Bridge from 11 am-3 pm Saturday, June 8, for live music, historical displays, and family-oriented activities. Become a member to enter the Chili Cook-off (and enjoy tasting)! As always, you can find more information about our events and Applegate heritage at mckeebridge.org.

Paul Tipton
MBHS Board Member
ptipton4u2c@gmail.com

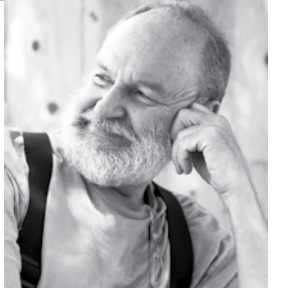
Join MBHS

McKee Bridge transports us back to the Applegate's past.
Join McKee Bridge Historical Society.
Help us preserve and celebrate the lore and heritage of our special valley.
mckeebridge1917@gmail.com • mckeebridge.org

THE STARRY SIDE

The Summer Triangle heralds summer nights

BY GREELEY WELLS



Greeley Wells

At 6:30 am Thursday, March 30, for the first time this year I finally saw the whole Summer Triangle, one of my favorite summer sights! It had cleared the horizon and was fully up in the early-morning sky. By June it'll be rising in early evening instead of early morning, and it will continue to grace our summer nights as it moves across the sky, going round and round as predictably as a clock.

The movement of the stars marks the passing of time. The night sky is full of stars that form a beautiful background pattern telling time in relation to the movements of the planets, the moon, and our seasons here on Earth. Whether we actually know details about the stars, such as the constellations they form or the elements they're made of, they are there like a clock on the wall that tells the time whether you notice it or care what time it is.

This steady movement of the stars has fascinated me throughout my life. There's something comforting about its familiarity. Even though I really know only a modest number of the constellations that define each season, that knowledge is enough to bring me joyful recognition of old friends.

Our friend the Summer Triangle is technically not a constellation, but

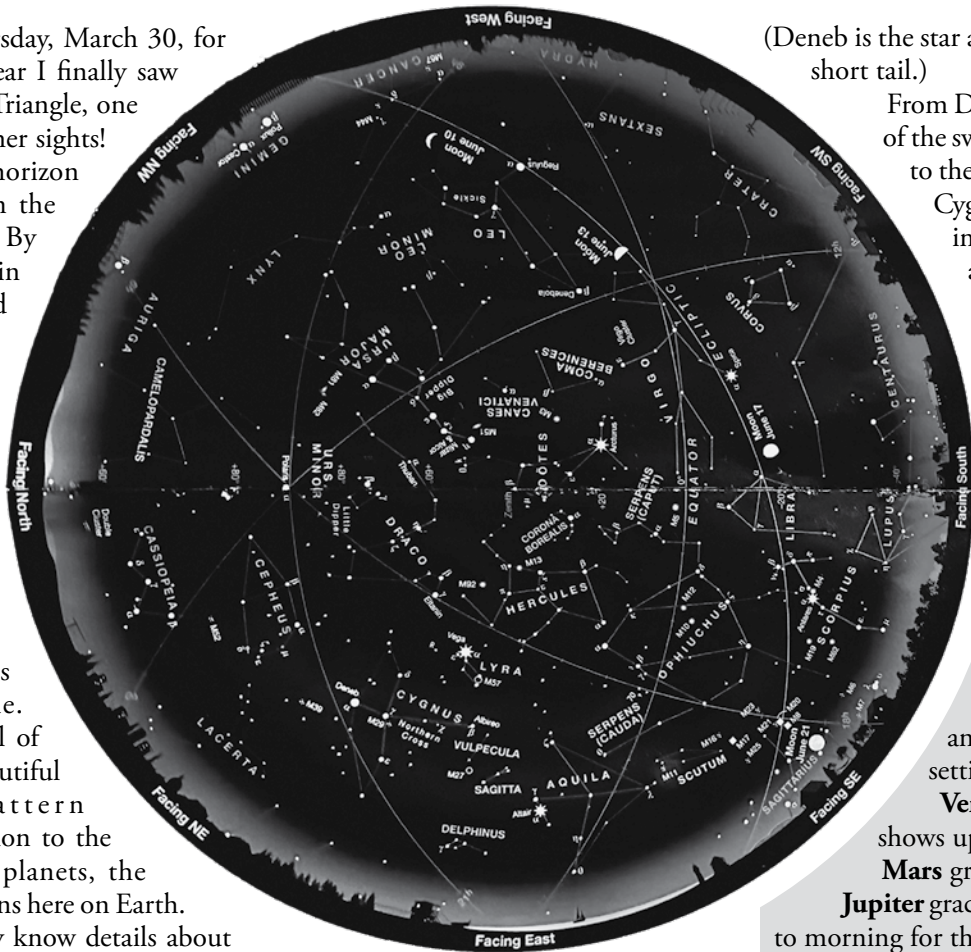


Image: Sky & Telescope (skyandtelescope.org).

an *asterism* or an obvious pattern of stars: the three stars at the points of the triangle are each the brightest star in their own constellations. The star at the top of the Summer Triangle, Vega, high in the east, is part of the constellation Lyra. Altair, at the horizon line and not quite as bright as Vega, is part of the constellation Aquila. The third point of the triangle, Deneb, is part of the constellation Cygnus the Swan.

(Deneb is the star at the end of the swan's short tail.)

From Deneb, follow the wings of the swan to the right (south) to the long neck and head of Cygnus the Swan. But now imagine the swan's wings are the arms of a cross, the tail the top of the cross, and the long neck the post in the ground. It works as the Northern Cross too! Two for one! This is another thing I love about

the sky: how different cultures see different but believable things.

As if that's not enough, our own home galaxy sweeps into it from the north, flying perfectly right through the triangle's long horizontal post of the cross or neck of the swan and out the southern side.

Facing headfirst into the west and soon to set is Leo the Lion, from last season, with his curving question-mark lion's mane and his hind-end-and-tail triangle. He's another favorite of mine. Well, okay, maybe they are all my favorites!

Greeley Wells
greeley@greeley.me

— OF NOTE —

Planets

Mercury shows up for July and August from dusk to dawn, and in September at dawn only. He's always near the sun, whether setting or rising.

Venus doesn't show up for June or July. (I want my money back!) He shows up at dusk in August and September.

Mars graces our mornings each month this year.

Jupiter graces our dawn sky in June. He then goes behind the sun and switches to morning for the rest of the season.

Saturn is faithful in the mornings until September, when he's visible all night. (What a guy!)

Meteors

Arietids are most active the morning of June 7, along with a new moon. The radiant point is below Cassiopeia, but meteors can show up anywhere.

Delta Aquariids show up late July through early August, mid-evening to dawn. The hourly rate can reach 15 to 20 meteors in a dark sky with no moon.

The Perseids are always impressive! The peak is predicted for August 12 at 6 am, Pacific time. So the mornings of August 11, 12, and 13 are probably your best bet because of a half-moon in the evenings. The August Perseid meteor shower is rich and steady, from early August through the peak. Under a dark sky with no moon, sky watchers frequently report 90 meteors or more per hour. The meteors are colorful, and they often leave persistent trains. All these factors make the Perseid shower perhaps the Northern Hemisphere's most beloved meteor shower.

Ad Rep for Jackson County Needed

Applegater Newsmagazine needs a self-motivated Advertising Representative. Existing book; generous commission. Perfect for retired or self-employed person. Submit inquiries and resume to gater@applegater.org.

Jack Smoot
REAL ESTATE BROKER

jacksmoot@windermere.com
<http://jacksmoot.withwre.com>
541-200-5211

CECE SHOOP
HOUSE KEEPING

CT Shoop Incorporated

P.O. BOX 5557
Central Point, OR 97502
(541) 930-2437
ctshoop15@gmail.com

RISE UP!
- ARTISAN BREAD -

"Thanks for loving the bread, Applegate!"

Grants Pass Water Lab

Eric Schaafsma
Technical Director
eric@gpwaterlab.com

541-476-0733
Fax 541-476-8132

964 SE "M" Street
Grants Pass, OR 97526

The Cleaning Crew, LLC
Residential & Commercial Cleaning Services

Natural Products Used for:

- House & Office Cleaning
- Window • Gutters
- Pressure Washing
- Moss Removal

541-601-6236
Licensed Bonded Insured

TheCleaningCrewOnline.com

Ramsay Realty I Know Your Neighborhood

The Applegate Jacksonville Experts
www.ramsayrealty.com

17 Years of Experience!

Jayda Wood Principal Broker
jayda@ramsayrealty.com
541-973-9105

Pegasus Sound Therapy
PEGGY LEVITON, MM, CERTIFIED

Jacksonville, OR
707-382-8641

Individual Sessions • Acoustic Modalities

Jeanne Schattler

(541) 621-2480
Principal Broker, PSA, GRI
Windermere Van Vleet Jacksonville
505 N 5th St, Jacksonville, OR 97530
jvillejeanne@gmail.com
www.jeanne4land.com

Specializing in Farms & Ranches / Eco-Friendly Lifestyle

CCB# 177466
NV 42066
CA 809835

ACTION ELECTRIC

Quality is doing the job right the first time.
Commercial • Residential • Design Build

paul.actionelectric@yahoo.com
P.O. Box 537, Jacksonville, OR 97530

Paul Crean
541-415-1081

DIRTY FINGERNAILS AND ALL

Babble-jabber gardening

BY SIOUX ROGERS



Sioux Rogers

I am so *not* a trendsetter or a trend follower. For me, “necessity is the mother of invention.” (I was sure it was my dear mum who first said those words of wisdom. Actually they are loosely translated from Plato’s *Republic*. Please don’t tell my mum.)

So la-di-da, what does this have to do with the latest in garden trends? Well, unless you were born before the invention of the wheel, nothing is really new in garden trends. But our attitudes, morals, diminishing resources, climate changes, and new knowledge all create new interpretations of land stewardship. And do we ever get it really right? Nah, but we do continue learning and observing.

Below is a slice of what is happening in the world of dirt and worms:

- Gardens that use fewer chemicals and less water.
- Gardens that are “regenerative.” These gardens use perennials and flowers that reseed without your help.
- Edible gardening has actually been around for years but is now being incorporated along walkways: dwarf fruit trees next to roses, for example, or a patch of ferny-top carrots growing merrily with zinnias.
- Small garden structures as a conscious integral feature of the garden landscape. Significantly, recycled and repurposed materials are no longer throwaways but a sought-after garden asset.



Put your veggies in the front yard (finegardening.com).



Front yard vegetable gardens are a growing trend (sustainableamerica.com).

- A “wilder” side of gardens, more like the casual version of an English garden—unorganized and inviting butterflies, dragonflies, honeybees, small birds, and, if you’re really paying attention, garden faeries.
- Vegetable gardens outside the front door instead of great green front lawns.

All the babble-jabber above describing new types of garden practice need not be confusing. For instance, who the heck needs, wants, or even thinks about regenerative gardening? (Actually, I personally could use some “regenerative”



An example of agricultural biodiversity (Wikipedia).



DIY vertical planter made from recycled pallets (onegreenplanet.org).

but vital concept. Biodiversity says, “down with monoculture.” Mum again: “Variety is the spice of life.” Focus on multiple varieties of plants, trees, shrubs, ground covers, etc. This is necessary for a few reasons. First and most importantly, if a monoculture gets the “flu,” the entire classroom goes down. If you grow a variety of stuff, not everyone gets sick!

What all the new trends have in common is conscious intention combined with foresight. In other words, when planting a summer garden, be consciously aware that, for example, a split tomato is not for throwing away; it is “dessert” for your chickens or any other animals craving a tomato snack. Seriously, instead of seeing a spoiled garden vegetable as waste, view it as fuel for the manure machine. You grow a tomato, it cracks, and you don’t want it in your kitchen. Instead of being grumpy you can throw it into the compost or you can feed it to your chickens. They eat it and then poop out the next (aged) fertilizer you use on, say, your lettuce crop. You have just come full ecological circle and at the very least, manifested regenerative gardening, edible gardening, and biodiversity.

The good news is that nature is a terrific teacher. The more you garden, the more you’ll learn about what works and what doesn’t. All you need to do is pay attention.

Dirty fingernails and all,
Sioux Rogers
littlemuddyred@gmail.com

body parts after all these years of nonstop gardening.)

Regenerative gardening, edible gardening, biodiversity, resilient plants—they all have the same intention: to create a healthy, strong garden with enough good bugs to eat the bad bugs, enough vegetables to share with the chickens, and then enough chicken poop (after it has aged) to fertilize the chickens’ next growing garden meal.

All the new words for how to garden really make sense. Take the word “biodiversity,” for example. It is a simple

Friends of the Animals **Monthly Low-Cost VACCINATION & MICROCHIP CLINIC**



- Rabies: \$20
- Distemper combo: \$20
- Microchip: \$25

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
www.calendly.com/fotas
 Details at: fotas.org/clinics



SPARK & MUSE
Creative Studio

Graphic & Website Design

- Logos • Flyers • Content Writing •
- Album & Magazine Art

sparkandmuse.com 503.910.5260 hello@sparkandmuse.com

EST. 1980

PENNINGTON FARMS

JAMS BERRIES PIES

Special Offer!
Buy One Get One
half off of equal or lesser value (\$15 minimum)



Giannelli's

Sherry Wehab
541-916-8004
Giannellisatasteofitaly.net

211 NE A Street
 Grants Pass, OR 97526

Get an additional 10% off when you mention this ad in the Applegater!



Multiple successes

BY JANIS MOHR-TIPTON

Disaster brings good change

A late-winter storm with strong winds strewed downed trees, huge limbs, and woody debris throughout the park! It was uncertain if we could even hold our planned event on April 20. And we would have to remove still more hazardous trees before that date.

Much gratitude goes to Ryan King, principal of Ruch Outdoor Community School (ROCS), who offered the use of the school grounds, including a covered pavilion, community garden, and the surrounding area, so we could hold the event on April 20 as planned. This meant that the Oldtime Fiddlers, who were available *only* on this date, could still play, as well as the ROCS student singers and their teacher, Jerry Flock. Their music and singing filled the air for over two hours. Black Barn Farm was there with tasty delights for purchase.

This year the event planning committee invited other groups and organizations to set up information booths to engage with the community and showcase the spirit of volunteerism that vitalizes many aspects of life in the Applegate Valley. Many of the nine participating groups need more members and volunteers to help them continue to serve the needs and visions of our community.

Seeing how well these groups engaged the event attendees, we plan on including even more groups next year. If you are interested, let us know.

The raffle of locally made products, generously donated, raised funds for revitalizing the park this fall with native trees, shrubs, and other plants adaptive to our changing environment. So far, we have \$530 toward this effort. If you wish to contribute to this fund, contact me or Janelle Dunlevy at janelle@apwc.info.

Appreciation for park improvements and cleanup

Thanks to the park staff, the water system has been restored with a new pump, irrigation lines, and sprinklers! Grass seed has been sown in the new dirt, so please avoid those areas.

The removal of more than 100 trees required lots of cleanup. According to Andrew Austill, Jackson County



Dead hazard trees in Area B near the parking area were removed for safety. Photo: Janis Mohr-Tipton.

parks manager, "Trees are dying in all our county parks, with Cantrall Buckley Park being one of the hardest hit areas. This has been a priority as we have to make our parks as safe as possible for visitors and park users."

A shout-out to Applegate Valley Fire District's Brian Mulhollen and crews, who were instrumental in helping drop and remove many subdominant trees, to the Northwest Youth Corps, who assisted the fire department, and to Eric's Tree Service and Brierville Fire and Forestry, who helped remove a lot more trees and do cleanup.

The Bureau of Land Management employees did frontage cleanup on Cantrall Road and assisted in the park.

Community volunteer cleanups and ground preparations will take place in early June. Fall will be planting time. Please contact me if you can help.

Janis Mohr-Tipton
Chair, Park Enhancements
janis.agapark@gmail.com
541-846-7501



Grandmother Agnes's daughter, Nadine Martin, at Dragonfly Place in Cantrall Buckley Park. Photo: Family Archive 2024.

Park's Cultural Committee promotes diverse cultures

BY MARY BUCKLEY MIKKELSEN

The Cultural Committee of Cantrall Buckley Park, under the Applegate Partnership and Watershed Council (APWC), was established in January 2021 to promote the history of diverse cultures on the Applegate.

Our first project is Dragonfly Place, a site honoring the Takelma natives of southern Oregon and, in particular, Grandmother Agnes Baker Pilgrim, known and loved by many for her ecological work and spiritual guidance. Grandma Aggie, as she was lovingly called, restored the traditional Salmon Ceremony on the Applegate River at Kanaka Flats and later on the Rogue River at Ti'lomikh Falls. She was one of the 13 Indigenous Grandmothers who traveled the globe promoting the care of Mother Earth and saving traditional wisdom. Grandmother passed on November 27, 2019, at the age of 95.

Jackson County Parks approved a memorial to Grandma Aggie to be erected in the park at the site of a multilevel platform containing picnic and activity space. The area includes a place for an interpretive sign and future native plantings.

Working in conjunction with Grandmother's family and the Siletz tribe, the committee designed Dragonfly Place, a work still in progress at this time.

The APWC park committee and numerous other volunteers cleared the site of brush and invasive species. We restored trails, set up a new picnic table and benches, and installed a large stone with two metal dragonflies, engraved with a dedication to Agnes. A second stone at the site will be engraved with more honors to her. We will add an interpretive sign later this year after doing extensive research on Grandma Aggie's history and accomplishments. As winter-storm cleanup continues, we will be busy finishing these projects.

The natural amphitheater in Area B of the park, across from Dragonfly Place, will be a cultural display and activities area. Plans are in the works for a space for lectures, permanent displays, and performances.

Future projects for the APWC Cultural Committee include history memorials of Black and Chinese residents of the Applegate. Folks with information about these histories are welcome to contact the committee heads or to join us.

We invite everyone to visit Dragonfly Place and enjoy this tribute to Grandma Aggie.

Mary Buckley Mikkelsen
Co-Chair, APWC Cultural Committee
marymikkelsen12@gmail.com

Tiffany Baida
Broker
144 SE H Street Grants Pass, OR 97526
541.218.3657
tiffany@winn-homes.com
www.winn-homes.com

TIF'S TRADING POST
SHIPPING • MAILBOXES
PACKAGE LOCKERS • ETC.
Call or Text
541-621-9610
Office@TifsTradingPost.com
Buy/Sell Meet-up Spot • 24-Hour Secure Exchange Site
Printing • Copying • High Speed Internet
Gifts • Cards • Treasures • Curiosities

Nancy Saum
BROKER
nsaumjville@gmail.com
<http://nancysaumhough.withwre.com/>
541-840-8824

Wander the APPLEGATE
Wondering where to find eats, sips, trails, farms and more?
WanderApplegate.com

Local Handmade Food and Gifts
Peach Rock Market
Your Local Goods Collective
103 N Redwood Hwy, Ste D
Cave Junction, OR 97523
458-592-0000
peachrockmarket.com

THE LINDSAY
LODGE, BAR, VENUE
Applegate, Oregon
541-846-6690
thelindsaylodge.com
Riverfront Dining
Thursday - Sunday
4pm to 9pm

THEY LIVE AMONG US



Brighton Gradisar skimming across the pool for the Got Guts Pond Skim at Mt. Ashland, April 13, 2024, which he won.



Brighton Gradisar at his middle-school graduation from ROCS, in the rhinestone-studded outfit he made and wore again at the Pond Skim on Mt. Ashland.



Quail on a rock wall. Photo: Brighton Gradisar.

Brighton Gradisar: Skier, photographer, Boy Scout, and social media guru

BY DIANA COOGLE

In the video, 14-year-old Brighton Gradisar skis fast down Mt. Ashland, then skims right across a small pool of water as though he were still on snow. The rhinestones he sewed onto his tuxedo jacket sparkle. His helmet is hot-glued onto his hat, which he has also decorated with rhinestones. It's no wonder he won Mt. Ashland's 2024 Pond Skim competition, which leans heavily on both skiing skill and sartorial creativity.



Brighton Gradisar, a community-minded young man with Eagle Scout as a near-term goal. Photo: Brighton Gradisar.

than Facebook and suggested we could announce our events with posters.

Brighton has been in Boy Scouts since second grade and aspires to the highest rank, the Eagle Scout. He especially enjoys the troop's community-service projects, such as Jacksonville Cemetery cleanup and playing Bingo with the residents of Pioneer Village. He also enjoys the outdoor activities

of Scouting. This summer his troop will do a six-day, 50-mile backpacking trip in the Wallowa Mountains of Eastern Oregon, led by Scoutmaster Matt Patten.

Hiking dovetails nicely with photography because what Brighton most likes to photograph is birds. The bird feeders at his house provide opportunities for photography, but he also likes to ride his ATV to more remote places and then walk to find birds he might capture with his camera. His favorite of the pictures

Skiing is the favorite of Brighton's four top activities: skiing, photography, Scouts, and working in social media.

It was his experience as social media manager for his Boy Scout troop that prompted Brighton to contact the *Applegater*, suggesting that we have an Instagram account.

"It's a great way for a larger audience to get connected to the Applegate," he told us. He thinks it's easier to use

parts of speech." His least favorite subject is science, which he finds not as engaging as he would like.

Certain sports, however, do engage him. He runs the 800-meter, competes in cross-country, and swims. It's the "push of racing" that he likes, "the effort to do your best." He was captain of the cross-country and track teams at ROCS and continues to run on those teams at South Medford now.

It is no surprise to learn that Brighton has participated in the leadership training offered at Pacifica. He will help fifth and sixth graders with outdoor education this summer. "I'll be teaching them team bonding and plant, animal, and bird identification," he says.

Future plans

As for the future, Brighton hopes to join the Mt. Ashland ski patrol next year. He would like to major in communications in college and, after graduation, travel in Europe, if his pocketbook allows. He looks forward to connecting travel with his love of photography and skiing.

Brighton is sure he will come back to the Applegate to live. "I grew up here," he says. "I have connections and am well rooted in the area. I feel comfortable about living where I live."

Diana Coogle
diana@applegater.org

Williams Cub Scout Pack 238 celebrates National Public Lands Day

The Williams Cub Scout Pack 238 joined several other scouts from the area to celebrate National Public Lands Day on April 13 at the Provolt Recreation Site. With shovels, rakes, and wheelbarrows, the scouts did an incredible job of adding mulch to the trails. Some of the older scouts went across the road to help pull some old posts.

The Williams pack, co-ed and open to kids from kindergarten through fifth grade, is sponsored by Williams American Legion Post 50, which chartered the pack and also houses its monthly meetings. If you have a skill to share, are seeking a volunteer opportunity, or are interested in joining our pack, please reach out to Pack Leader Rachael Couch at 480-540-4486.





Whistling Duck
FARMSTORE FERMENTARIA

Natural Foods & Goods - Farmstead Ferments
OR Coast Fish - Local Fine Foods - Organic Produce

ACCEPTED HERE | WhistlingDuckFarm.com

Open all year - Mon-Fri 11am-6pm - Sat 11am-5pm - Closed Sunday
(541)761-6772 - 12800 Williams Highway - Provolt OR

LEHI

Family Owned & Operated Since 1976
Licensed-Bonded-Insured
CCB# 96496

PUMP SERVICE, INC.

WATER WELL
PUMP SALES, SERVICE & REPAIR
HAND PUMPS-FLOW TESTING
FILTRATION SYSTEMS
HOLDING TANK SYSTEMS
SOLAR PUMP SYSTEMS and MORE...

lehipump@gmail.com

(541) 846-6662

AVFD, a small district with a big impact

BY LIZA CROSSE

Recently I spoke with McKenzie Turnbull, logistics chief for the Applegate Valley Fire District (AVFD), who is in charge of all vehicles, facilities, and small equipment. My goal was to learn about AVFD's material resources and how they have evolved to improve safety. In part, my purpose was to understand how our tax dollars are spent. I'm happy to report that I came away feeling that AVFD's resources are wisely used. I was also impressed by the range of modern tools available for emergency responders' use, as well as the professional standards upheld by McKenzie and others.

Big trucks. Type 1 trucks are big and fast and sometimes red, and AVFD has eight of them, as well as another 20 smaller trucks and tenders. Fire trucks come in a range of FEMA-designated types—Type 1 is the leading structure-fire response truck. Costing up to \$1 million when new, AVFD purchases used Type 1s for around \$40,000, and it is McKenzie's job to keep them in prime working order. Type 1s are spread across AVFD's seven stations, along with various smaller, more maneuverable trucks suited for brush fires or medical response, and water tenders.

Fire-rated pumps. To fight a structure fire, a pump needs to produce at least 1,000 gallons per minute at 150 pounds per square inch. In a Type 1 truck, that

requires the engine to run as if it were traveling 55 mph! At a recent local house fire, water had to be pushed uphill 800 feet to reach the house, while still maintaining sufficient pressure to effectively fight the fire.

Having a combination of strategically placed stations, firefighting vehicles, and modern pumps results in a better ISO (Insurance Services Office) rating. This often results in lower insurance costs for property owners in Applegate Valley. All equipment at fully staffed stations receives daily inspections to ensure everything is in tip-top condition and ready to go. Volunteer stations receive monthly inspections.

Safety Equipment. Fire-resistant suits ("turnouts") and helmets have improved greatly over time to include built-in goggles and much more. One of the more amazing pieces of equipment is the Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA), typically costing \$5,000 each. AVFD has a good track record of getting grant funds to purchase SCBAs and other equipment. Firefighters suffer from a high incidence of cancers from their exposure to toxic smoke, and the SCBA is a comprehensive system that is fire-resistant to 300 degrees, which enables firefighters to fight fires more safely. In addition to a breathing apparatus, the SCBA has internal LED



Logistics Chief McKenzie Turnbull with a Type 1 fire engine. Photo: Liza Crosse.

gauge lights visible to the firefighter, alarms for when air or batteries are low, and an alarm that goes off if a firefighter stops moving. There is also a thermal imager so that firefighters can see people who may be collapsed in a dark or smokey room. SCBAs can "buddy breathe" with other firefighters or a person trapped in a smoky place. All functions have mechanical backups in case of battery failure.

Medical Equipment. Because 60 percent of AVFD's calls are medical emergencies, all vehicles carry a comprehensive array of medical equipment. One of the biggest improvements has come in extrication equipment, formerly known as the "jaws of life." Modern extrication equipment is battery-operated, does not require a hydraulic pump and hoses, and is much lighter than older tools. This enables emergency responders to quickly help people in difficult places, such as a car that has rolled down an embankment.

Communications. In the big picture, a comprehensive, countywide upgrade to the emergency radio system, led by Emergency Communications of Southern Oregon, will provide new radio towers to enable emergency communications in many places in the Applegate Valley where cell phones don't work. You may have seen the new tower at AVFD's Station 54 on Water Gap Road. On the ground, specialized apps, such as PulsePoint and First Due, provide emergency responders with information and maps to an incident. They can also update others about the status of an incident. In combination

with radio dispatch, information about a patient's condition can be shared with hospitals for optimal treatment.

McKenzie says that readiness is his job. Beside him stands a team of people, from board members to student firefighters, all dedicated to preparedness. Thank you, Applegate Valley Fire District!

Liza Crosse
Secretary

Friends of the Applegate Fire District
lizacrosse@comcast.net

Upcoming AVFD events

Coffee with the Chief, 9 am June 12. Chief Wolfard will update community members about news and recent events at the Applegate Valley Fire District (AVFD). This is a great opportunity to ask questions and learn more about your local fire district! AVFD Training Room, 1095 Upper Applegate Road, Ruch.

Spaghetti Dinner! 5-7 pm June 20. Babette's homemade sauce! Just \$5. Hosted by the Friends of the Applegate Fire District. Have fun with other community members while supporting AVFD. AVFD Training Room, 1095 Upper Applegate Road, Ruch.

Save the date. Special fundraiser and pig roast! September 20. Sponsored by Friends of the Applegate Fire District. Details to be announced.

Photos, below left: A pump panel on a Type 1 fire engine. Below right: Firefighter Carter McDougall in full turnout and SCBA. Photos: Liza Crosse.



NEW 3D XRAY TECHNOLOGY



Now offering Clear Correct!
ClearCorrect is the simple, effective way to straighten your teeth.
Yes, we do **Root Canals!**

\$99.00 New patient exam, standard prophylaxis (cleaning), and xrays.

Ask us about conscious sedation for your dental anxiety. We can help!

Offer good with coupon only. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Offer excludes treatment for Periodontal Disease. Expires May 31, 2023. Excluding insurance reimbursement. No cash value.

Rex F. Miller DMD PC
Comprehensive & Cosmetic Dentistry

570 Blackstone Alley • Jacksonville **541-899-1924**

Clip this ad!
Open Mon. - Thurs.

EXPERIENCE MATTERS

A law firm with roots in the industry.



L O N E Y

L A W G R O U P

- ✓ Business & Administrative law
- ✓ Criminal Defense and Litigation
- ✓ Hemp

loneylawgroup.com

ASHLAND OFFICE
541-787-0733

THROUGH THE LEPIDOPTERAN LENS

Greenish Blue butterflies are beautiful to observe

BY LINDA KAPPEN



Linda Kappen

The Greenish Blue (*Icaricia saepiolus*) is a butterfly of the Lycaenidae family of butterflies. The wingspan of this blue butterfly reaches up to 1.25 inches.

The male dorsal view is a lively, coolish blue with greenish hints and a black border. The female dorsal view is soft brown with mixed blue and sometimes orange near the hind wing border. Both sexes have black forewing cell bars with borders edged in white fringe. The ventral view of the male is light gray with turquoise-blue scaling at the base near the abdomen. The female ventral view is a very light tan with hints of brownish-gray and sometimes blue at the base. Both sexes have irregular black spots, a row of dashes at the margin, and a row of chevrons at the submarginal with orange patches between the rows. Some variations will occur throughout the Pacific Northwest region.



Dorsal view of a male Greenish Blue with a black border around its wings. Photo: Linda Kappen.

The Greenish Blue will produce one brood and can be seen in flight from late April to late August. Host plants include various flowering clovers of the Fabaceae family of plants. Males will patrol the host plants close to the ground for females. Females will deposit eggs inside flower buds of clovers or other host plants. The

Greenish Blue larvae will eat the flower until halfway through larval stages, hibernate, then resume feeding in spring or early summer.

Wet meadows, grassy moist riparian areas with open fields of clover, and forests

are the habitats for the Greenish Blue. This species of blue does not appear to be attended by ants perhaps due to the moist habitats. (Some species of lycaenids have a symbiotic relationship with ants because the larvae of the butterfly secrete a sweet sticky substance that ants are able to consume without harming the larvae.) The range and distribution are all mountain ranges in Oregon and the Pacific Northwest, Alaska, British Columbia, and from the Olympic Mountains in Washington to the Rockies and southern

California. The Greenish Blue is very common inland except for our coastal subspecies, which is imperiled in Oregon.

In my experience, Greenish Blues are not abundant every summer, but when they are present there is a healthy population. For a quiet look and a photograph, they are easy to approach while they are busy puddling or sipping nectar from flowers. Indeed, they are a fun and beautiful blue to observe at high to low elevations.

Linda Kappen
humbukkapps@hotmail.com
Linda Kappen is a southern Oregon naturalist specializing in lepidoptera.



Female Greenish Blue on a flowering host plant. Photo: Linda Kappen.

Ventral views of a male Greenish Blue butterfly on the left and a female Greenish Blue on the right at Crater Lake National Park. Photo: Linda Kappen.







- **WE DELIVER** MOVING • REMODELING • STORING HOME STAGING • RESTORATION
- **YOU LOAD** Looking for a better way to store your items?
- **WE PICK UP** Call us to learn more and get a free quote!

Yep, it's that easy! Serving Josephine & Jackson counties


541.659.1800 • GoMinisSouthernOregon.com

► Use **PROMO CODE AG10** for \$10.00 off initial delivery. ◀



SELLING REAL ESTATE AND WINE!

Heidi Martins and her Vizsla, Kaya, at Crooked Barn Vineyards in Applegate.




Whether you're scouting out the perfect property or simply savoring the finer things in life, come visit us at Crooked Barn Vineyards in the stunning Applegate Valley.

While you're here, why not chat about real estate possibilities? I've got the inside scoop on some incredible properties. Swing by our tasting room any Friday, Saturday, or Sunday from 11 am-5 pm, or drop us a line for a private tasting tailored to your schedule.

Let's make your Oregon dreams a reality—both with our award-winning wines and real estate!

Heidi Martins
Realtor, Windermere Van Vleet Jacksonville
heidimartins@windermere.com • 458.225.0303



Owner, Crooked Barn Vineyards
14430 Highway 238, Applegate
info@crookedbarnvineyards.com
458.225.0300

BLM backs the Applegate Ridge Trail

BY MARK HAMLIN

Years of preparation and planning by the Applegate Trails Association (ATA) has culminated with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) reinforcing their commitment to the Applegate Ridge Trail (ART). In a meeting last fall, Medford District Manager Elizabeth Burghard and Field Manager, Ashland Office, Lauren Brown committed their resources to begin the environmental analysis (EA) for enhancements to the East ART and a nearby Jack-Ash trail segment in early 2024. An EA is a prerequisite to any new trail construction. The map shows the proposed trails to be analyzed in orange—about 30 miles of new trail in all.

Expanding day-hiking opportunities that are easily accessible from Highway 238 has been an ATA priority. Therefore, day-hiker loop trails of three to five miles are in the plans for the following trailhead locations: (1) Bunny Meadows off Forest Creek Road, (2) China Gulch, and (3) the existing East ART trailhead. Plans also include progress on the Center ART, the next section of the backbone ART. That section goes from Bunny Meadows near Ruch to Humbug Creek Road.

The environmental analysis, to be followed by seeking funds and trail building, will be done in two phases. The first phase includes some enhancements to the popular and existing East ART trail. A few years ago, the ATA Board of Directors identified an area of outstanding scenic value where the whole Siskiyou Crest comes into view. One can see the crest all the way from Mt. Ashland in the south to Grayback in the west. A new trail, totaling 4.6 miles, will access this extraordinary scenery. The new trail,

the upper portion of which will be named the Crestview Cutoff, will branch off the East ART and return to the Highway 238 trailhead. The environmental analysis has already begun with a target completion date of late 2024, assuming delays don't intervene. Then we can get to work looking for funding and organizing volunteer trail-building crews.

The second phase involves multiple trails in the area between Ruch and Humbug Creek. Out of Bunny Meadows will be a shorter and a longer loop up

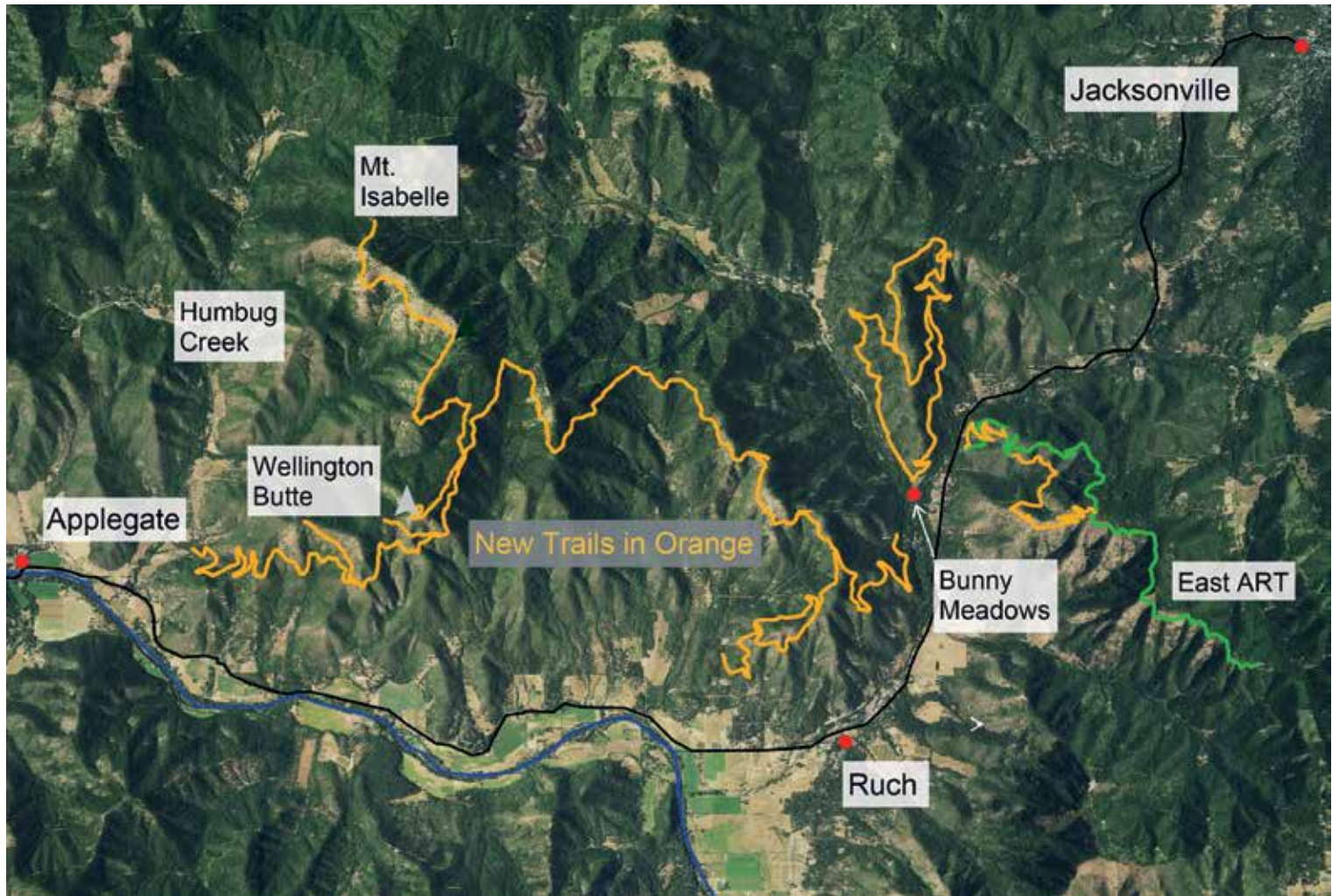
to a ridgetop, north of the parking area, that has great views. This area is also known as the North ART. We hope to eventually connect into Jacksonville via a to-be-determined route. Also from Bunny Meadows, the Center ART begins its journey westward toward Grants Pass. Much outstanding scenery is in store for the hiker, equestrian, or bicyclist. The trail ascends to the ridgetops and trends along the ridges before descending to Humbug Creek Road, marking the end of the Center ART. Of course, there is a short spur along the way to the top of Wellington Butte. The target for completion of this phase of the EA is late 2026.

You can begin to see that this process—planning, EA, funding acquisition, and finally trail building—takes a long time. Extending the ART all the way to Grants

Pass might take two decades. Moreover, only ongoing community commitment will bring these trails to completion.

The BLM is the land manager; however, the resources they can provide are limited. It's up to volunteers from the community, in partnership with BLM, to drive the process forward. The planning, fundraising, and trail-building are all largely up to volunteers. The ATA, an all-volunteer nonprofit dedicated to this effort, is currently seeking volunteers and additional board members. If you, or someone you know, might be interested, please contact us by visiting our website at applegatetrails.org or emailing chairman@applegatetrails.org.

Mark Hamlin, Chair
Applegate Trails Association
chairman@applegatetrails.org



■ SFI CLASSES

Continued from page 2

classroom session, learn how the geologic terranes of the Klamath Mountains formed and how the water stored in the plutonic rocks of the Grayback Mountain area has important effects on streams, salmon habitat, and water flow in the Applegate Watershed. Then, in the field, explore the geology of the Grayback Pluton first-hand by hiking the beautiful trail to Mt. Elijah, with its spectacular views and meadows around the Bigelow Lakes Basin.

The Wide World of Butterflies and Diurnal Moths, 8:30 am-5 pm June 18-20, Ashland. Get a hands-on introduction to the butterflies and diurnal moths of the Siskiyou and southern Oregon Cascades. We'll begin day one in the classroom, learning what butterflies and moths do, discovering where and when to find them, and viewing reference collection specimens on display. We'll then spend the afternoon in the field with nets as we observe, catch, and learn more about the species we encounter. Days two (Illinois Valley) and three (Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument) will take place entirely in the field, where you'll get plenty of hands-on practice netting and identifying a diversity of local species.

An Immersive Marine Biology Experience, June 21-23, Charleston.

Explore marine biodiversity in the field, offshore on a research vessel, and up close in the lab at the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology. We'll see benthic and planktonic marine organisms, pelagic and shorebirds, and marine mammals using scientific tools to get to know them better. We'll also learn about ecological and oceanographic processes influencing the form, function, and survival of marine species and discuss uses of marine resources by local communities, coastal tribes, and wildlife.

Unraveling Oregon's Coastal Geology, 9 am-5:30 pm July 12, Selma. Get ready to learn about an area so complex that even geologists disagree about where the Siskiyou Mountains end and where the generally more recent Franciscan complex begins. We'll go coastal from the Oregon-California border to 11 miles north of Brookings to find out when or if the Siskiyou stopped growing, why they are uplifting and moving north, and why the Far West has doubled in girth in the last half billion years. Find pillow basalts, clastic dikes, kinky folds, debris flows, and dirty sandstones in unmorphed mint condition.

Samantha Voyager
Outreach and Marketing Coordinator
Siskiyou Field Institute
outreach@thesfi.org

■ EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Continued from page 5

must also subscribe to a satellite telephone service, which starts at about \$12 a month.

Mercy Flights helicopter service

Our area is lucky to have emergency medical helicopter service through Mercy Flights for its members. Although there are some Federal Aviation Administration weather minimums that can restrict flying, helicopters can fly day and night and land on relatively flat ground with at least a 100-foot by 100-foot clear space. They can use only preestablished night landing zones (LZs) that have been pre-surveyed in the daylight prior to its use. So, if you have property that you would like Mercy Flights to use as a preestablished LZ, contact them for an evaluation of the site to ensure its suitability.

Laura Duey
Applegater Board Member
laura@thedueys.com

AGA to offer funding for neighborhood gatherings!

Bring your neighbors together for a potluck to discuss emergency preparedness (or other topics).

A Greater Applegate (AGA) will provide \$250 each for a total of ten neighborhood gatherings. Apply at bit.ly/44NHMYq.

For more information, contact info@agreaterapplegate.org.

Online resources to help you prepare

- Applegate Valley Fire District (AVFD) Community Connect: communityconnect.io/info/or-applegatevalley.
- Food and Drug Administration (FDA) preparation checklist for people who depend on powered devices: fda.gov/media/80782/download.
- FDA's advice on food safety during an emergency: fda.gov/food/buy-store-serve-safe-food/food-and-water-safety-during-power-outages-and-floods.
- Mercy Flights: mercyflights.com.
- Pacific Power has a good list of Safety and Preparedness Resources: pacificpower.net/outages-safety/storm-emergency-preparedness/safety-preparedness-resources.html.
- Ready.gov is a federal government website with advice and checklists for preparing for emergencies.
- Rogue Valley Disaster Registry: rvco.org/home/sds-2/emergency-preparedness/disaster-registry.

Have a happy and safe Fourth of July

PACIFICA NOTES

BY PEG PRAG

Insects at Pacifica

Pacifica provides a natural corridor between the Siskiyou (via Powell Creek) and the Applegate River for insects. We have planted a large pollinator garden that provides nectar and pollen, and Pacifica's Nature Center will soon have a large area of interactive activity stations on insects.

Though not singing (other than a sweet buzz), bees are a very important insect family for human food. There are around 3,000 species of wild native bees in the West, plus honeybees, which, though not native, are still very important. Like other insects, they are declining, but there are things home gardeners can do to help protect them.

Things to do

Don't use pesticides. Watch your carbon footprint. Learn about insects.

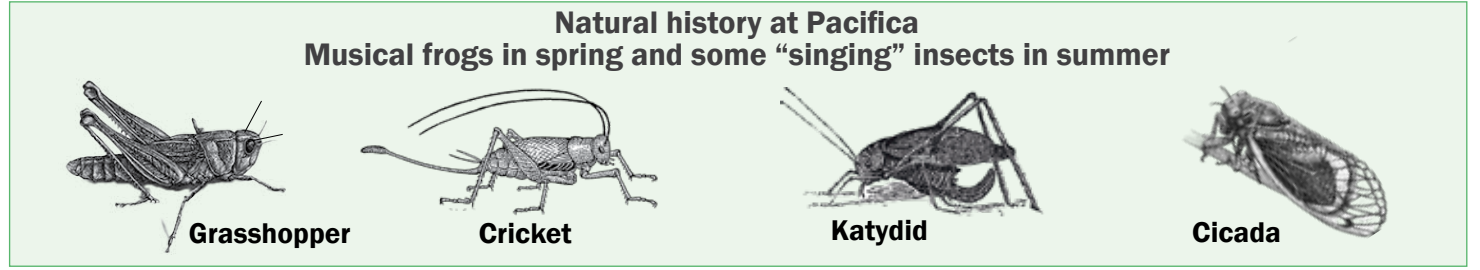
Insects, including bees and other pollinators, need good food sources spring through fall. Plant appropriate flowers, shrubs, trees, and grasses that bloom in a variety of seasons. Don't make your garden or yard too tidy. Leave open ground, rocks, and branches.

Make "insect hotels" to house insects that don't live in the ground or a hive. Turn outside lights off at night. It's been shown recently that more than attracting insects at night, these lights paralyze them—they don't know which way is up or where to fly.

Take part in a Citizen Science project. Everyone can help with this important work. A 13-year-old boy from New York is currently the world expert on fireflies.

Insects are in trouble

If we were humble enough, we might admit that insects could rule the world. Earth could survive without humans but not without ants and certainly not without insects. As a staple food for birds and



other animals, they are essential for the functioning of ecosystems.

There are about five *million* kinds of known insects (plus many that aren't yet known) but only around five *thousand* kinds of mammals. Ninety percent of the animals on our earth are insects!

Despite that, many insects are in trouble. Globally we've been losing ten percent of insects per decade. The western US is a particularly bad spot. If you're of a certain age you might have noticed *clean* car windshields that used to be insect-covered.

One positive point is that freshwater insects are increasing rather than declining, likely because America has been cleaning up its water pollution. We can do this for other insects too!

There are grassroots things we can do to help, but complete solutions are going to require sweeping change—much of it top-down and requiring full engagement by scientists, lawmakers, CEOs, bankers, agribusiness men and women, and community organizers.

For more information, visit thebeeconservancy.org, scistarter.org/caterpillars-count, bumblebeewatch.org, scistarter.org/pollinatorgardens/monarch-larva-monitoring-project, greatsunflower.org, and scistarter.org/pollinatorgardens/journey-north.

Peg Prag • peg@pacificagarden.org

Update on Pacifica's Sequoia Sanctuary

BY RICHARD REAMES

On February 18, 2023, over 60 individuals joined forces to plant 113 sequoia trees in a spiraling circle spanning 100 feet in diameter. Today, these trees are thriving. They have doubled in size and are visible from space through Google satellite imagery.

To mark the first-year anniversary, we buried a time capsule at the circle's center,

housing letters, notes, pamphlets, and business cards. Scheduled for unearthing every 50 years, on February 18, 2074, it will be inspected and reburied for another half century. Photos of the planting and the capsule burial are available at arborsmith.com/sequoia-sanctuary.

The vision for this circle of trees is for it to evolve into an event space suitable



Sequoia Sanctuary

for various community gatherings, ultimately forming solid walls of living wood. Experience it firsthand by visiting Pacifica. To locate it, walk approximately 100 yards down the ant trail; the gate is on your right.

Pacifica is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, boasting 428 acres of public hiking trails, horse-riding trails, and an 18-hole disc golf

course. Pacifica features a large event hall constructed by rocker Steve Miller and is home to the historic Pond House, which is available for rent. Weddings take place year-round.

Donations are greatly appreciated. For more information, visit pacificagarden.org.

Richard Reames
richard@arborsmith.com

Visit the A-Frame Bookstore @ Ruch Library

Used books from \$1 to \$3

Open 1 - 3 pm
Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday

Managed by Friends of Ruch Library. Join us!

The Book Barn

Now open the first Saturday of each month

Sale by donation
12 - 4 pm

Located next to the A-Frame Bookstore

Pacifica Summer Camps Mark your calendars!

June 3-July 17: Ceramic Open Studio Starts! Ages 14 and up.
June 23: Indigo Dye Shibori-Inspired Workshop. Ages 7-14.
June 25-28: Earthwise Forest School Summer Session. Ages 4-7.
June 25-28: Summer HEART Camp. Ages 8-14.
July 2, 10:30 am-12:30 pm: Come paint a hanging wall vase. All ages.
July 16, 10:30 am-12:30 pm: Come paint a mug. All ages.
August 6, 10:30 am-12:30 pm: Come paint a customized plate. All ages.
July 8-11: Creative Engineering ~ Discovery and Play. Ages 7-12.
July 22-26: Ceramics: Come Discover Your Inner Artist. Ages 13-17.
August 5-9: Ceramics: Come Discover Your Inner Artist. Ages 9-12.
August 6-9: "Oh, The Places You Will Go!"
 Destination: Dance Camp! Ages 5-17.
August 11 & 12: How to Speak Flower ~ Summer Camp. Ages 6-10.
August 12-15: Gallop into summer at our Horse Camp! Ages 7-14.
August 19-22: Sewing Camp ~ Summer Sewing. Ages 7-18.

**For more information and to register,
visit pacificagarden.org.**

ROCKWELL GROUP
BROKERED BY **exp** REALTY

Do you know

WHAT YOUR HOME IS WORTH?

IT MAY BE WORTH MORE THAN YOU THINK!

I'M SIMONA FINO. YOUR DYNAMIC REAL ESTATE EXPERT IN SOUTHERN OREGON

Scan the QR code To Get Your

FREE HOME VALUATION

Call or Text Simona Fino
at 541-326-2552

SCAN

Did you know that having a strong negotiating agent on your side can make a huge difference in maximizing the value of your home? Even if you aren't thinking about selling anytime soon, it's important to know how much equity you may have in your home. Getting your FREE Home Valuation, you can stay informed and make better decisions about your financial future. Don't miss out on the opportunity to know the true worth of your home!

Living Southern Oregon

Discover local and real estate updates on my YouTube channel! Scan this code to find and subscribe for the latest insights and information.

License # 201218814

THE SISKIYOU MOUNTAIN ADVOCATE

BLM salvage logging and its effects on the environment

BY LUKE RUEDIGER

In recent years beetle mortality has become a visceral sign of climate change, with flat-headed fir borers chewing through low-elevation stands of Douglas fir and bark beetles attacking ponderosa pine trees. Mortality occurred in large patches at low elevations, especially on droughty sites, harsh exposures, sites with poor soils, sites more conducive to oak woodland, chaparral, or mixed hardwood stands, and in many previously implemented “forest health” logging projects.

Since the 1990s, federal land managers have implemented landscape-scale logging projects supposedly intended to increase “forest health” and resilience to drought and beetle mortality; however, in many locations these “restoration” thinning projects have had the opposite effect and both the false claims used to justify the logging and the forested habitats “treated” by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) have begun to unravel.

In response to this recent tree mortality, the BLM has prescribed yet more logging, this time “salvage” logging in former forest-health thinning projects that subsequently sustained significant tree mortality. The newest proposal includes 5,000 acres of salvage logging throughout southwestern Oregon and the Applegate Valley and would include the removal of both dead standing trees and live green trees that survived the recent mortality events. The removal of these naturally resistant trees undermines the selective pressures and evolutionary processes that build resilience in our local forests and will impact forest health, habitat, and biological values.

Many people seem to think salvage logging is benign, and the BLM even

claims the logging will be beneficial. Yet, a closer look at recently implemented salvage logging on Lick Gulch in the Little Applegate Valley reveals a very different story involving large-scale clear-cut logging, massive soil disturbance, stream sedimentation, noxious and nonnative weed spread, plantation development, increased fire risks, and reduced resilience, as well as dramatic impacts to many wildlife species and their habitat.

Many people also believe that forests with significant beetle mortality sustain higher fire risks and that salvage logging reduces these fire risks by removing woody biomass. Yet, significant scientific research demonstrates otherwise. Extensive research has shown that beetle mortality does not increase fire risks, fire likelihood, or fire severity, including research in the Pacific Northwest (Meigs et al, 2015), in the Rocky Mountains (Simard et al, 2011), and in California (Bond et al, 2009).

At the same time, salvage logging is also known to deposit significant logging slash in one massive flush onto the forest floor. This increases both fine and coarse fuel loading, while the logging also removes microclimate conditions that contribute to more moderate fire activity. Unfortunately, salvage logging is also followed by artificial tree planting and plantation development, which dramatically increase fire risks by maximizing dense, young, even-aged, and highly flammable vegetation.

Snag habitat is also important for innumerable wildlife species as foraging habitat for perches, for dens, and for cavity nesting. If left undisturbed, complex early seral habitat created by wildfires and beetle mortality create some of



Recent BLM salvage logging on Lick Gulch in the Little Applegate Valley was implemented as widespread clear-cut logging with all the associated impacts to scenery, wildlife, watershed health, and fire risks. Photo: Luke Ruediger.

the most diverse habitat in our local environment. The flush of hardwoods, herbaceous species, grasses, sunlight, and an important mosaic of living trees and standing snags creates the ideal conditions for numerous wildlife species, including rodents, insects, and ungulates, who create a complex food chain, supporting local black bears, cougars, coyotes, foxes, massive populations of woodpeckers, terrestrial salamanders, and large raptors, to name a few.

Additionally, the removal of standing snags will degrade forest conditions by starving future stands of coarse woody debris, standing snags, and habitat complexity. Snags act as important biological legacies and are important for the biological integrity of beetle-affected ecosystems.

Snag habitat is also important in building forest complexity and as

recruitment for coarse downed wood, which holds moisture, builds forest soils, harbors mycorrhizal fungus, and aids forest regeneration. Snags also store significant carbon on the landscape for long periods of time. At the same time, logging immediately releases the majority of that carbon into the atmosphere.

The results of salvage logging are quite literally clear-cut. Rather than encouraging a natural, diverse, dynamic vegetative recovery following recent mortality outbreaks, salvage logging degrades habitat, develops additional plantation stands, increases fire risks, and releases naturally stored carbon through tree and snag-removal operations. Rather than making our forests more resilient, the BLM is fueling the climate and biodiversity crisis.

Luke Ruediger
siskiyoucrest@gmail.com

Love where you live!
I sell homes, not houses!

Monica Mason
real estate agent
Lic # 201251683

541.592.9670
monica@ramsayrealty.com
7604 Hwy 238 Jacksonville, OR 97530
190 E California St Jacksonville, OR 97530

Ramsay Realty
The Applegate Jacksonville Experts

Klamath-Siskiyou
NATIVE SEEDS

grow native | grow wild

Based in the Applegate

klamathsiskiyouseeds.com

HANDCRAFTED
ORGANIC COCONUT
SOY WAX CANDLES

VEGAN. CRUELTY-FREE

everlongcandleco.com
hello@everlongcandleco.com

EVERLONG CANDLE CO.
EVERLONG
COOL CANDLES WITH A CONSCIENCE

KEEP YOUR MOTOR RUNNING

AGAINST THE WIND GARAGE

CALL TODAY
541.660.9631

general repair & diagnostics, customs,
hot rods, EV conversions & mobile service

THE POT RACK
KITCHEN EMPORIUM • EST 1992

140 W California St - Jacksonville
Open Daily 10:30am-5pm

WE SHARPEN KNIVES!



Pressure

from Tami Quinn Hollenbeck

Have you ever been thirsty and you go to your kitchen sink and as you're filling your glass, you start to wonder how the water gets that great pressure coming through the pipes as it comes into the kitchen faucet? You may know that the well has a pump, but have you ever wondered what that large metal or fiber wound tank was? That's your pressure tank! As the water is going into the pressure tank, it compresses the air in the tank (commonly through use of a rubber bladder or rubber diaphragm mounted within the tank) which in turn causes pressure to build up within the tank... you go in the house and want to get a glass of water and that compressed air in the tank forces the water into the pipes and to your kitchen sink... viola! You're not thirsty anymore. Most well systems will have a pressure tank in line to help keep everything running smoothly. If you notice things aren't running quite as smooth as it used to, give Quinn's a call today!



WELL PUMP & FILTRATION SERVICE

Call us Mon. - Fri. 8 - 5, you'll have a live person answer the phone that is ready to help you!

Quinn's Well, Pump and Water Filtration is located at 6811 Williams Hwy. We install, maintain and repair complete water pumping systems, and we offer a complete line of water filtration equipment. Contact our professional staff by phone, e-mail, or visit our office. www.quinnswell.com CCB #192047

541-862-9355
541-772-7867

**Applegater seeking
Jackson County
Ad Rep**

**Part-time
Existing book
High commissions**

**Contact
gater@applegater.org**

Wander Applegate

Our valley's new destination website was a community effort.

BY CHRISTINA AMMON

I've always considered writing a solo pursuit, consigned to corner café tables, quiet libraries, or the middle of the night, when I wake to scrawl an idea across my bedside notepad.

So, when I was asked to write an Applegate Valley destinations website with community members, I was skeptical. *Write with a group of people?*

This would not only require skillful collaboration, but vulnerability. Would a group be open to floating the dumb ideas that are inevitable to the writing process? It would take courage.

If you don't know, a "destination website" is an online resource that travelers can use to plan their visit. These websites are often funded by a town's chamber of commerce. Local examples are Visit Grants Pass and Medford's "Heart of the Rogue" websites.

A Greater Applegate backed our website with grants received from Travel Oregon and Travel Southern Oregon, our state and regional tourism commissions.

Since a key value of A Greater Applegate is community involvement, hiring a slick marketing firm was out. During the listening sessions held throughout the valley in 2019-2020, residents made it clear that any foray into "destination management" would have to be conscious, low-impact, inclusive, and above all, community-led. Keeping the Applegate the Applegate was a priority.

It was in this spirit that the Destination Applegate Working Group gathered for a series of meetings to brainstorm ideas for the website.

We initially asked ourselves: How do we describe the Applegate? What did we want the website to feel like? What activities does the Applegate offer?

■ **BUILDING BONDS**

Continued from page 1

management tool. A controlled burn can seem like an overwhelming project, but working with skilled and experienced members of the RVPBA, pooling tools and equipment from local groups, and bringing together community volunteers make this important tool accessible to private landowners. This spring we held a pile-burning workshop that was well received, and we are planning on holding more of those in the future. If you'd like to hear more or get involved with the RVPBA, sign up for our email list at RogueValleyPBA.com

Firewise USA is a program of the National Fire Protection Association that helps groups of neighbors increase their wildfire preparedness. They offer informative tools for organizing and planning a community response to a wildfire, as well as grant opportunities and awards. If you're interested in learning more about the program or learning how to form a Firewise community in your neighborhood, contact Brian Mulhollen, the Applegate Valley Fire District fire marshal, at 541-899-1050.

Living within the fire-adapted landscape of the Applegate Valley, we need to make sure our communities are fire-adapted too. Fire is another member of our community, one we'd all benefit from meeting with more skill, awareness, and community support and connection.

Aaron Krikava
roguevalleypba@gmail.com



We did generative exercises, throwing out words as they came to us: Lush, Pioneering, Unplugged, Rugged, Refined. The word "real" came up over and over again. Authenticity was a priority. We wove in quotes from residents, like Diana Coogole and Evelyn Byrne Williams.

We also wanted images to truly convey the Applegate. In one meeting, the group insisted that the photos on the draft site were "too Napa." Fortunately, we were able to hire a photographer to capture a fuller sense of the Applegate and its residents.

One of the biggest challenges for the group was finding a slogan, which is a convention among destination websites. We let ourselves get ridiculous. Some examples:

Fill up your tank—no, seriously!

We've got everything—except

gas and internet

Centrally Isolated

Come for the wine,

stay for the Sasquatch

Where the grass truly is greener

I wrote the phrases down, reworked them, and sent them back to the group for feedback. Over the weeks, my dreams were filled with the group's ideas. What would

best reflect the working group's ideas and capture the Applegate well?

Then, one day, while on a hike, I hit record on my phone and began to ramble. I recalled the working group gathered in my living room, talking about all adventures to be had in the Applegate and about all the delights and surprises hidden in nooks throughout our valley. I remembered Marcy Rustad, owner of Applegate River Lavender Farm, weaving her hand through the air like the curves of Highway 238. "It's kind of wandering."

The group liked the word "wander" so I recorded as many phrases as I could think of—*Follow Your Sense of Wander, State of Wander* and then...

This land is made for wandering.

"Yes!" I nearly shouted into the phone.

Laurel Briggs, our designer from Creative Marketing and Design in Jacksonville, liked the concept too. "Wander" had a playful and modular quality, meaning she could apply it across the site categories: *Wander where to eat? Wander down a trail. Sleep Wanderfully.*

The group gave their approval and Laurel finished translating our collective vision into a beautifully designed website (wanderapplegate.com).

It turns out that writing with a group is a wonderful thing. A haunting blank page was never a problem. With so many minds and hearts on the job, there was an abundance of ideas.

What should we write together next?

Christina Ammon

christina@footlooseintheapplegate.com

Want your business listed on Wander Applegate? Fill out the contact form on wanderapplegate.com or get in touch at info@agreaterapplegate.org.

rebel·heart
· B O O K S ·

541-702-2665
157 West California St.
Jacksonville, OR 97530

www.rebelheartbooks.com

Shop Our Bookstore
via Bookshop.org

OPINIONS

Critical considerations for our region's forest management

BY HALEIGH MARTIN

Many studies show that less than ten percent of mature and old-growth trees is left in the lower 48, and most of those trees are found in the Pacific Northwest (PNW) of Washington, Oregon, and northern California. The forests of the PNW, and of the Applegate Valley and southern Oregon specifically, are truly unique, and they deserve unique management to match.

As stewards and residents of these forests, we must encourage land managers to reassess forest policies to reflect the evolving needs of both our ecosystems and the communities that rely on them. The Northwest Forest Plan, a regional landmark conservation effort created in the 1990s, requires urgent revision to address crucial aspects overlooked in its initial formulation. Right now, the US Forest Service (USFS) is amending the Northwest Forest Plan (NFP) for the first time in over 30 years, so now is an excellent time for our public land managers to take into account numerous topics that were not addressed in the formulation of the NFP decades ago.

Tribal inclusion stands as a cornerstone of any land management consideration as we look toward the future. Indigenous communities possess invaluable traditional ecological knowledge and spiritual connections to the land. By integrating their perspectives into forest management decisions, we not only honor their rights to their lands but also benefit from their sustainable practices and deep understanding of local ecosystems.

The NFP must also confront the pressing issue of climate change. Rising

temperatures and altered weather patterns threaten the very foundation of our forests, exacerbating wildfire risks and jeopardizing biodiversity. Any amendment to the plan should prioritize strategies aimed at mitigating these impacts.

That is also why old-growth forest protection must be central to the NFP amendment. These ancient ecosystems harbor unparalleled biodiversity and serve as vital carbon sinks. Protecting remaining old-growth stands and promoting their regeneration is essential for maintaining ecological resilience in the face of climate uncertainty.

In addition to this, the devastating impacts of wildfires underscore the urgency of proactive forest management. Incorporating wildfire management strategies, such as controlled burns and fuel-reduction measures, can help mitigate the destructive consequences of increasingly severe fire seasons to protect our human and wildlife communities alike.

Amending the Northwest Forest Plan to prioritize tribal inclusion, address climate change, safeguard old-growth forests, and mitigate wildfire risks is not merely a matter of environmental responsibility but a necessity for the well-being of both ecosystems and communities. I urge the USFS to utilize this opportunity to amend the NFP in the most forward thinking and holistic manner to keep the local communities, wildlife, and unique biodiversity of this region safe.

Haleigh Martin

KS Wild Communications Manager
haleigh@kswild.org

Climate is a dominant force influencing the water and fire theme

BY ALAN JOURNET

The 2024 *Applegater* summer issue theme of fire and water is extremely timely! It is interesting to note, however, that such a theme could easily be subsumed under the umbrella theme of "climate change." Those residents of the Applegate Valley who reject the scientific consensus about climate change and deny that it is happening, must also reject the abundant and well-accepted data that demonstrate the reality of climate change.

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Climate at a Glance website, the historic temperature trend for both Jackson and Josephine counties reveals a clear warming since the late 1800s at the rate of 0.2^o F per decade. Summers are warming faster than winters. Meanwhile, NOAA also indicates that precipitation has been variable but on average unchanging (though winters are trending wetter and summers drier). Meanwhile, the snowpack, graphed by the US Geological Survey (USGS), has been declining for several decades. These trends in combination depict a region where, for these decades, summer water availability has been declining and soils and vegetation, inevitably, have been drying much more than historically was the case.

If we now consider future trends for our two counties, as depicted by USGS, we find that the same projections—that have been tested historically and revealed to be accurate—suggest a continuation of these trends into the future. A moment of reflection will reveal that this continuation will pose problems for both future agricultural water availability, especially

during summer and fall, and future fire risk.

Failing to consider what the climate projections suggest as we explore future water availability and fire-risk trends is to ignore the most profound influence driving them. It would behoove all of us to cease the traditional focus on historic averages as the basis for identifying tomorrow's temperature expectations and start comparing our future temperature to the demonstrated trends.

It's true that what we do in the Applegate Valley will not have much influence on the driving force behind these trends (i.e., global greenhouse gas emissions and their increasing atmospheric concentration), but we can be cognizant of what those trends suggest for our future and adapt our way of life to prepare for the anticipated future conditions. We should also acknowledge that the projections are not inevitable; their fruition depends on our behavior. Thus, we probably should be good national, international, and global neighbors by reducing our contribution to the problem (i.e., by reducing our emissions) as much as possible.

It's worth repeating the last thought; while the evidence suggests that these recent trends are evident today and will likely continue, they are not inevitable. Our future is collectively in our own hands.

Alan Journet

Co-facilitator, Southern Oregon
Climate Action Now (SOCAN)
Board Member, Applegate Partnership
and Watershed Council
alanjournet@gmail.com

Love your enemies

BY JIM REILAND

I'm in a book club in the Applegate that is interested in public policy issues. Two of us identify as libertarian or conservative, and two as liberal or progressive. After reading a book or collection of articles we meet to talk about the proper role of government on a range of issues.

We relish the opportunity to talk "across the aisle." Despite ideological differences we agree far more often than we disagree, and even then disagreement is usually a matter of degree. Each topic and discussion introduces new information and perspectives that have helped me to moderate views and better understand what the "other side" values.

We recently read a book that addresses the division in America. *Love Your Enemies: How Decent People Can Save America*

from the *Culture of Contempt* is by (self-described) conservative social economist Arthur C. Brooks.

The title might suggest this is a "let's hold hands and sing Kumbaya" sort of book, but it's not. Brooks offers an explanation for today's divisiveness and, more importantly, a clear guide to disarming the contempt that feeds the downward spiral of relations between people who disagree.

He introduces readers to "motive attribution asymmetry," which is "the phenomenon of assuming that your ideology is based in love, while your opponent's ideology is based in hate." Then Brooks cites a 2014 article in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* that reported a study that found

"a majority of Republicans and Democrats today suffer from a level of motive attribution asymmetry that is comparable to that of the Palestinians and Israelis."

And that was before the 2020 election and today's conflict in the Gaza Strip!

In the next pages we learn what contempt looks like. According to another researcher Brooks interviewed, John Gottman at the University of Seattle, "If you want to make a lifelong enemy, show him contempt." Gottman says, "The indicators of contempt include sarcasm, sneering, hostile humor, and—worst of all—eye rolling. These little acts effectively say 'You are worthless.'"

Have you ever done that? I have.

The last chapter contains the author's "Five Rules to Subvert the Culture of Contempt." However, earlier Brooks writes what to me is the core message—the three major lessons from the science of morality that challenge

the culture of contempt and bring people together:

1. Focus your arguments on the moral values we share—compassion and fairness—rather than those held by only one part of the population.

2. Be wary of manipulative leaders in politics and media who use the moral dimensions where we disagree as a wedge to divide us and fuel contempt.

3. Divergent moral values are not a bug in the human system. They are a feature that can make us stronger.

If you're interested in having open, productive conversations with people—family, neighbors, friends, coworkers—who hold different beliefs, check out this book.

My book club gave it four thumbs up; we are recommending it to everyone!

Jim Reiland

jim@manyhandsbuilders.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Volunteering at Sanctuary One is more than a job; it's a calling

Every Monday since retiring, my wife and I look forward to our four-hour shift at Sanctuary One, a place of natural beauty, amazing animals, and wonderful, caring people. A place of healing, tranquility, and service, it is truly a little gem right here in the Applegate Valley.

My wife and I spend most of our time working with the dogs. But there are other opportunities too: working in the gardens or working with cats or farm animals. And plenty more.

There are currently several goats, two horses, three pigs, and a duck residing at the farm. The animals and facilities need volunteers to aid the staff in keeping things running smoothly. Shifts are flexible, with opportunities available seven days a week. You don't need to be retired to get involved.

It is amazing, meaningful work for a happy little community of staff and volunteers of all ages. Check out the website at sanctuaryone.org. Sign up for a tour of the farm or reach out directly to janelle@sanctuaryone.org to discuss volunteer

opportunities. You'll be glad you did. "People, Animals, and the Earth. Better Together." Tom Eckert, Jacksonville, OR

•••

More information about Abe Lincoln votes in Oregon

I am responding to the article "Josephine County votes help Abraham Lincoln win the election" [page 19, *Applegater* spring 2024]. I have no qualms with most of the article and certainly know that southern Oregon in the 1860s was heavily Democratic. My disagreement is with the final statement that there were only three votes from Oregon for Abe Lincoln. If you are talking electoral votes, you would be correct, but not actual votes cast. Oregon had only three electoral votes in 1860, and they were cast for Lincoln.

Up in Umpqua County (now Douglas County), Jesse Applegate was the leader of the new Republican Party. When they formed in 1859 their platform avowed the strongest devotion to the union. The convention stood squarely against slavery.

See *LINCOLN VOTES*, page 23.

SOLADA-AGA to offer care circle meetings

BY HAYRIYA HEIDI HANSEN

Do you believe in a community model of compassionate care? Do you hope to age in place, either now or in the future? Are you aware that finding and affording in-home care in the event of an acute or chronic issue could be challenging? Perhaps you are a single person who feels alone and wonders how you will survive in such a situation, especially living rurally and totally on your own? Or maybe you have children but feel you don't want to depend on or be a burden to them? Many circumstances could create a need for help, from a hip replacement to an accident to a death in the family.

A Greater Applegate (AGA), SOLADA (Southern Oregon Living and Dying Alliance), and a representative of a local established "care circle" are teaming up to offer several informational meetings about creating local Compassionate Caring Circles, or "beehives," that could help families or individuals from having to resort to paid help or assisted living.

Here are some topics:

- Remaining informed about alternative care options
- Reducing or delaying paid help or assisted living by supporting each other
- Taking actions to establish local reciprocal relationships between friends and neighbors
- Preparing for the future from a community approach
- Developing mutual support systems around situations, such as medical appointments and transportation needs, bulk-meal preparation and delivery, combined errands, coordinated pet care, and patient advocacy.

We'll be holding introductory meetings on June 11 at the Ruch Library Community Room and June 12 at Dorothy Gale's Event Center in Provolt. Both meetings will start at 6:30 pm and end at 8 pm. Please arrive by 6:15 pm so you can settle in and we can begin on time.

We hope that you will choose to join us and learn about this valuable tool that can help you and those you love to live with community support, age gracefully, and die peacefully in the rural community you love. For questions, please call me at 541-787-7490 or visit our website at solada.org.

Hayriya Heidi Hansen • 541-787-7490

SOLADA Film Series: A focus on the end

BY TRESSI ALBEE AND DAVE LEVINE

This is a heartfelt invitation to Applegaters, neighbors, friends, and community members to join SOLADA (Southern Oregon Living and Dying Alliance) for our Summer Film Series.

Beginning in June, we are presenting the following selected films that address the issues that arise at the end of life:

- *The Last Ecstatic Days*, where we will explore the powerful story of Ethan Sisser's ecstatic dying and death.
- *Evelyn*, a documentary film that takes a deep, intimate look at suicide and its impact on a family as they heal and reconnect after a family member's suicide.
- *End Game*, a documentary about terminally ill patients in a San Francisco hospital.

Following each film there will be a discussion among community members, facilitated by members of the SOLADA Board of Directors.

So what is SOLADA? We are a group of community members who want to promote more comfort and accessibility with conversations about death, dying, and grief. We do this by maintaining an online directory of service providers for people at the end of life and grief support services. We host Death Cafés in Grants Pass monthly (the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Grants Pass Art Museum) and on a revolving basis in the wider rural communities (see our website for recent events at solada.org). Death Cafés are places where participants can gather and talk about death and dying without judgment or proselytizing. The Death Café conversations tend to be deep, meaningful, and insightful, and they have the capacity to build stronger community connections. We host classes and events for grief support, creating advance directives, panel discussions, and workshops devoted to the topics of death, dying, and grief, and we table at events to have conversations in the community.

So, what does it even mean to promote death and grief literacy? Well, let's start with the reality we all live with: each of

us is going to die. It is the one promise granted and kept with all life. And in our current US culture, death is quite denied, disavowed, and distorted. With our limited cultural capacity to even look at death, grief can become a tailspin of emotion that we feel woefully inadequately prepared to cope with. We all do it, we come into momentary consciousness about the need for end-of-life planning, advance directives, wills, trusts, all of our belongings, funeral arrangements, obituaries, our property, our pets, and our children. Then we find a way to shut it down, to quiet the terror of our own ending. More often than not, we just don't quite get around to it.

And all of that was just the logistical and material part of dying. What about the emotional or spiritual or psychological part of dying or witnessing a loved one die? And what about the endless quiet longing after the loss of a loved one? This is where SOLADA can be an invaluable support. Our website is a useful resource for events and classes as well as a directory of providers offering end-of-life and grief support care.

Tressi Albee • tressialbee@icloud.com
Dave Levine • davelevine2@gmail.com

SOLADA Summer Film Series about death, dying, and grief

The Last Ecstatic Day

6-8 pm, June 26, 2024

Unitarian Universalist Church
129 NW E Street, Grants Pass, OR
\$10-\$20/sliding scale

Evelyn

6-8 pm, July 18, 2024

Dorothy Gale's Event Center
14458 Williams Highway Williams, OR
Donations accepted

End Game

6-8 pm August 15, 2024

Grants Pass Art Museum
229 SW G Street, Second Floor,
Grants Pass, OR
\$10-\$20/sliding scale

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD

Expressing thanks— and the need for a treasurer!

BY DIANA COOGLE

The most important thing to report is that we are still looking for a treasurer. If you are good with numbers and are looking for a way to serve your community, join us! See our notice on page 2 and contact me for more information.

The board is looking forward to our annual one-day retreat in September, when we will assess where we stand as an organization and where we want to go in the future. Thanks to Seth Kaplan for being our facilitator again this year.

This is a good moment for me to thank the many volunteers who help us keep the *Applegater* coming to your mailbox, free, on a quarterly basis—all the copy editors and proofreaders, the distributors, the writers and photographers, our webmaster Joe Lavine, and, most of all, our board members, who do the nitty-gritty work that is so vital in keeping a nonprofit organization working.

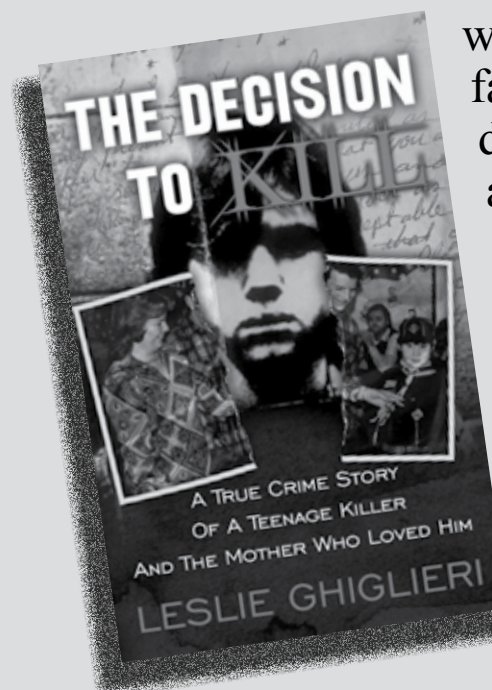
Thanks to you, too, readers, for reading and appreciating the *Applegater*, especially to those of you who express that appreciation with your generous donations.

And thanks to our advertisers. One way you, readers, can support the *Applegater* is by giving our advertisers your business.

We appreciate your letters to the editor and other feedback. What would you like to see in the *Applegater*? Let us know! What questions would you like to address to the community? Send them to us. We're here for you.

Diana Coogle, Chair
Applegater Board of Directors
diana@applegater.org

What happened in the APPLEGATE VALLEY...



when a Christian family is faced with drug addiction, a mental health disorder, and violence? An inspiring true story of the mother, Cherie Wier, as she struggles to understand and forgive her son.

Retired psychiatrist Dr. Sasser called *The Decision to Kill...* "A thought-provoking read."

Readers say...

"There are no words. Amazing true story. I cried. Hard time putting it down."

"Filled with love, addiction struggles, family, faith and forgiveness, this story is beautifully told."

Food 4 Less, Rebel Heart Books, Oregon Books, Barnes and Noble, and Amazon.
▶ A portion of each sale supports addiction recovery. ◀

For Opinion piece and Letter to the Editor requirements, please visit applegater.org/submitting/#articles.

Upper Bear Gulch and West Bear Gulch trails now open!

BY JIM REILAND

On Saturday, June 1, the Siskiyou Upland Trails Association (SUTA) will celebrate opening five miles of new trail within the Sterling Mine Ditch Trail System (SMDT) between the Wolf Gap, Tunnel Ridge, and Bear Gulch trailheads. This National Trails Day Event will be held at the Wolf Gap trailhead, approximately three miles off Sterling Creek Road. Festivities will begin at 9 am with a ribbon-cutting ceremony followed by family-friendly activities that include refreshments, natural history, trail design and maintenance displays, and, of course, hiking on the new trails!

SUTA volunteers and a hired crew of Applegate residents built these trails to create a variety of hiking options from several trailheads. There's a two-mile out-and-back trail to an overlook of the Little Applegate Valley and Siskiyou Crest, and at least a dozen loop-and-lollipop routes (out-and-back combined with a loop) ranging from five to ten miles, starting from the Tunnel Ridge, Wolf Gap, or Bear Gulch trailheads. Visit sutaoregon.org for a trail map, more information, and directions to the trailheads.

The new trails, designed by SUTA volunteer Duane Mallums, were approved by the BLM in 2021 and funded by private donations and an Oregon Parks and Recreation Department Recreational Trails Program grant. The Upper Bear Gulch and West Bear Gulch trails weave through oak woodlands, chaparral, grassy meadows, and mixed conifer forest as they gently descend (or climb, depending on where you start!) the south side of Bear



Joy Rogalla, SUTA president, with Chloe on the new trail with Anderson Butte in the background.

Mountain between Wolf Gap and Tunnel Ridge. Views are stunning at every turn—Wagner Butte to the east, Red Mountain and Dutchman Peak to the south, and the Red Buttes Wilderness to the southwest. Sharp eyes may spot hawks and golden eagles soaring on thermals above the trail or elk grazing on a distant slope. Wildflowers, including three of our area's four Frittilaria species delight early-spring walkers; jaw-dropping scenes of vivid fall colors splashed across the mountainsides await the autumn hiker. These trails are accessible during winter months, except immediately after heavy snow; summer hikers and runners may want to get an early start on warm days.

The new trails are meant for *foot traffic only*—they are narrow, traverse steep terrain, and pass through numerous rocky outcrops considered treacherous for equestrians or mountain-bike riders. We hope you come out to enjoy these trails, a new “gem in the crown” of the SMDT-Jack-Ash Trail System.

Jim Reiland
jim@manyhandsbuilders.com

••• BIZBITS •••

Applegate Station Market and Café. Have you stopped in to see the new market and cafe? It is bright, attractive, and off to a great start. The managers, Will and Amelia, hope all patrons visit, relax, and enjoy a cup of local, organic coffee or espresso, a cold, refreshing lemonade, or house-made pastry on a comfy chair or couch. With emphasis on local, quality, and specialty, they stock locally obtained meats, fruits, jams, wine, beer, and handcrafted soaps and candles. They have big plans to build on their beginnings with food trucks, picnic tables, and a cold-case deli with seasonal sandwiches, fruits, and vegetables. 15095 Highway 238, Jacksonville • 541-702-5030 • applegatestation.com.

Applegate Valley Chiropractic and Wellness Center in Ruch is now doing more than chiropractic. Dr. Anne has expanded her practice to include prenatal care, pediatrics, cold-laser therapy, nutrition, and sports medicine. Her dedication to healing extends to animals, too, with her Grace Victory Home Animal Sanctuary, which adopts injured and stray animals. 7370 Highway 238, Jacksonville • 541-899-7467 • applegatwellness.com.

Art in the Garden, a fundraiser for the Grants Pass Museum of Art. Many artists are participating this year—both long-time favorites and some new—and will be selling one-of-a-kind treasures in several private gardens, including Cascadia Vineyards and Winery in Wilderville. Purchase tickets for this self-guided tour at Diamond Home Improvement, The Kitchen Company, The Grants Pass Museum of Art, Greenleaf Industries, and Redwood Nursery in Grants Pass. Tickets are \$25 each. Saturday-Sunday, June 8-9 • 10 am-4 pm • facebook.com/GrantsPassMuseumOfArt.

Community Glass Recycling Center. The Applegate Valley Vintners Association, in collaboration with Ruch Country Store, A Greater Applegate, and Rogue Disposal, is sponsoring a community glass recycling center at Sunshine Plaza on Highway 238 in Ruch. The vision is to have glass recycling available at a few spots throughout the valley—and this is the first location! This bin is for non-redeemable glass only and available for use every day of the week.

Finding Foundations Convention. There is something for the whole family at this two-day event. Visit the free outdoor vendor area, with access to dozens of local, small businesses, ranging from soaps, jewelry, flowers, baked goods, and food trucks. Take classes at the Education Hall on canning, sourdough bread baking, beekeeping, and gardening, with a variety of speakers and Q&A sessions. Tickets required. Noon-8 pm Friday, June 28, and 9 am-1 pm Saturday, June 29, at Edgewater Christian Fellowship (not a church event), 101 Assembly Circle, Grants Pass • wearefindingfoundations.com/convention.



McCully House Inn now has a bakery! Manager and baker Bella Grubb calls its style “British inspired”—those pastries, cookies, biscuits, and traditional British scones—and influenced by the story of Jane McCully, who, with her husband, John, built the house in 1860 and who later kept it solvent by baking bread and pies for local miners. Both Bella and her brother, Henry Grubb, do the baking and create the menu. Stop by for coffee, tea, and those delicious baked goods. For more information, contact Bella Grubb at thebakery@McCullyHouseInn.com. 240 East California Street, Jacksonville.

Meraki Project. A new nonprofit, whose mission statement is to enhance physical, mental, and spiritual well-being through education, wellness, movement, music, and the arts, is now working out of the green building on the Sugarloaf Community Association property. Meraki (Greek for putting love into your work) is offering space to anyone interested in hosting an educational workshop or small classes like yoga, dance, music, poetry jam, art, jiu-jitsu, etc. Says Maria Richard, director, “Meraki would like to create a positive collective in Williams for the community to come together!” Hours are 7 am-9 pm Saturday-Sunday; weekdays by appointment only. 206 Tetherow Road, Williams • merakiproject24@gmail.com • 415-686-4284.

Margaret Patterson • margaret@applegater.org

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 gater@applegater.org.

**BOB THOMAS
AUTOMOTIVE, INC.**

FOREIGN / DOMESTIC
SERVICE AND REPAIR

“We care about your repair.”

Brian Thomas, Owner
535 Rossanley Drive
Medford, OR 97501
www.BobThomasAutomotive.com

Mail Tribune
Readers'
Choice

541-734-3743
Fax 541-245-3784

Bradley Realty

Broker

Julia McCue

Cell: 541.291.6624
Office: 541.582.0111
114 E. Main St. P.O. Box 1887
Rogue River, OR 97537
Email: jmccuerealtor@gmail.com
www.bradleyrealty.biz

f

Follow us
on
Facebook.
[applegater.
newspaper](http://applegater.newspaper)

Local Company

Team Senior REFERRAL SERVICES

Providing FREE guidance for seniors and their families since 2016

We'll simplify your search with one quick phone call!

We can help you make educated decisions without having to make hours of calls yourself regarding cost, quality of care, vacancies, reputation and more!



CALL US FIRST!

We can help with

- In-Home Care
- Medicaid Spend Down, Annuity
- Home Health
- Veteran's Aid & Attendance
- Assisted Living
- Memory Care
- Adult Foster Homes
- Hospital & Rehab Discharges

NEVER A CHARGE TO THE FAMILY!

Jamie Callahan, Founder & CEO

FREE
Senior Living
Guidance!



“ Team Senior helped me with everything from packing up my old place and driving me around to look at places, to providing information about every assisted living facility with just one call! ”

- Susan

Being LOCALLY owned means that no franchise dollars leave Southern Oregon! We reinvest in our community.

(541) 295-8230 | www.TeamSenior.org

USFS prepares for summer

BY THE US FOREST SERVICE-SISKIYOU MOUNTAINS RANGER DISTRICT

Happy summer, Applegate community and partners!

Employees at the Siskiyou Mountains Ranger District (Star Ranger Station) have been busy this spring preparing for another great summer of recreation, surveys, and implementation. Fire and Recreation crews have been busy clearing roads of downed trees and fallen rocks. Wildlife crews are busily surveying for owls, Siskiyou Mountains salamander, and bumblebees.



Illegal outhouse and trench built adjacent to Tamarack Meadow. Photo: US Forest Service.

Timber and Fuels crews have been working with various partners, including Lomakatsi, to remove dead and dying Douglas fir and other ongoing treatments in the Upper Applegate Watershed Restoration Project (UAWRP).

In keeping our promise made in the last edition of the *Applegater*, here are some updates related to various projects and a reminder on where you can find additional information.

UAWRP Environmental Analysis (EA)

The Decision Notice for this 52,000-acre project, signed in August 2020, was a unique collaborative approach between stakeholders and federal agencies aiming to restore ecological conditions resilient to disturbances and climate change. For information about the project, including maps, please visit fs.usda.gov/detail/rogue-siskiyou/landmanagement/projects/?cid=fseprd662282.

Progress to date. Commercial cutting and yarding wrapped up on April 8 in units 41, 42, 54, 60, 61, 63, 67, 68, 110, and 111, totaling approximately 650 acres. Tentatively, felling and yarding work via helicopter will resume in January 2025.

Grayback Shaded Fuel Break Categorical Exclusion

This project aims to reduce hazardous fuels along strategic linear features such as roads, trails, ridgelines, or key access routes. This project would provide and maintain a shaded fuel break, allowing firefighters to safely engage with wildfires and provide a safer ingress and egress for the public. For more information about the project, visit fs.usda.gov/project/?project=63141.

Progress to date. As mentioned in the last *Applegater*, this fuel break was not incorporated into the Yellowjacket EA (see below). Specialists have begun surveying and assessing the project area to develop the treatment areas. This will continue through the summer, and we hope to have a signed decision in fall 2024.

Yellowjacket EA (formerly Little Applegate EA)

The proposed footprint of this project bridges the landscape between the UAWRP and Ashland Forest Restoration project footprints. The primary focus will be to address the unprecedented Douglas-fir mortality through fuel-reduction treatments along main roads (Forest Service roads 20 and 22, and any roads designated with four digits), around infrastructure and communication sites, and adjacent to private and state property.

Progress to date. Over the past several months, our team of specialists have been refining the scope of work within the project area. This prioritization and discussion will continue into the summer as site visits and surveys are conducted. Once we have narrowed the scope of the work, we plan to organize multiple public-involvement opportunities prior to formal public comments during the scoping period.

Tamarack Meadow Restoration Project

During the 2023 field season, one of our employees noticed a recreational vehicle pad site created in the meadow, along with an outhouse (see photo). This meadow system on the Siskiyou Crest is home to a variety of sensitive and unique plant species. We plan on restoring the meadow and helping prevent other camps from becoming established there.

Where can you find information?

GovDelivery. This is a primary method of communication. GovDelivery is a web-based email subscription system that allows anyone to receive information on specific topics and projects that interest them. Subscribers receive an email whenever USFS makes information available. Subscribers may customize and manage their subscription profiles to receive exactly the types of information desired, and subscriptions may be canceled at any time. To subscribe, visit public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDAFS/subscriber/new. If you need help signing up for GovDelivery, please contact Amanda Merz at amanda.merz@usda.gov.

Constant Contact. Another primary form of communication, Constant Contact is a web-based email subscription that allows a member of the public to subscribe to our news release mailing list. Sign up for forest updates at fs.usda.gov/rogue-siskiyou.

RRSNF web page. To view current and recent projects across the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest (RRSNF), please visit fs.usda.gov/projects/rogue-siskiyou/landmanagement/projects.

RRSNF Facebook page. Information shared here is of a general nature that highlights forest projects, events, announcements, and employees. Go to facebook.com/R6RRSNF.

jennifer.sanborn@usda.gov
US Forest Service

Siskiyou Mountains Ranger District

Pipe dream becoming a reality on the Upper Phillips Ditch

BY LUKE WIMMER

The Applegate Partnership and Watershed Council (APWC) has been working in partnership with the Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District (JSWCD) on the Upper Phillips Fish Passage and Irrigation Efficiency Project. This years-long project aims to upgrade an irrigation ditch in the Little Applegate in order to restore instream flows of the Little Applegate River and provide infrastructure upgrades to irrigators.

Originally built in the mid-1800s, the Upper Phillips ditch required substantial annual maintenance to clear vegetation, repair rodent holes, and install the push-up dam in the channel to allow water to flow. Some years, downstream users would not receive water at all. Seepage from the unlined ditch also caused overly saturated areas downslope—a concern for several landowners whose residences and farming operations are in close proximity to the ditch.

The project comprised multiple phases. The first phase focused on improving fish passage at Upper Phillips Dam by enhancing a side channel to enable flow around the dam. This involved strategically placing boulders and logs in the stream to direct water toward both the side channel and the irrigation ditch, ensuring that irrigation water rights were met while allowing sufficient flow for fish to navigate around the diversion. Completed in 2021, this structure eliminated the need for a push-up dam and now helps provide fish passage to critical spawning and rearing habitat. By directing water into the side channel, we have made the stream passable year-round to adult and juvenile fish, allowing them to bypass the dam entirely. In addition, we installed a new headgate, fish screen, and measuring device at the intake to the irrigation ditch.

Currently underway, phase two involves the installation of nearly 7,000 feet of solid wall HDPE pipeline along the Upper Phillips ditch. This type of piping has a life expectancy of over 100 years and the flexibility to be bent into the original ditch footprint along the hillside contours, saving time and costs over other pipe options. A local construction company, C&C Constructors LLC, began construction in early March and estimates completion by the end of June 2024. Upon completion, the project should reduce water-diversion rates and volumes, allowing more water to remain instream, while increasing the amount of water available on-farm for the over 100 acres of irrigated land. Additional



JSWCD engineer Paul DeMaggio explains the new turnouts to irrigators. Photo: APWC.



Irrigation pipeline ready to be buried along Little Applegate Road. Photo: APWC.

benefits include reduced labor for ditch maintenance, improved flexibility, and reliability of irrigation deliveries.

Proposed phase three involves removing the Lower Phillips Dam and using the new Upper Phillips Ditch Pipeline to convey water to the Lower Phillips Ditch.

This irrigation efficiency project was funded by the Oregon Department of Water Resources and utilizes the Allocation of Conserved Water Program. Under this program, water users agreed to permanently return 75 percent of the conserved water back instream to the Little Applegate River to directly benefit fish habitat. The remaining 25 percent is split among the water users.

This project would not have been possible without the ongoing support for the water users who championed it through many years of planning and logistical challenges. It is the result of a long-term partnership of more than 13 years between the Upper Phillips Ditch Water Users, JSWCD, and APWC. Additional project partners include Oregon Water Resources Department, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife fish biologists and the Fish Screens and Passage Program, Adkins Engineering and Surveying, Cascade Stream Solutions, Middle Rogue Steelheaders, Rogue Basin Partnership, US Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, Laird Norton Foundation, Pacific Power Blue Sky Habitat Fund, Trout Unlimited, and American Rivers.

Luke Wimmer
Aquatic Restoration Project Manager
Applegate Partnership and Watershed Council
luke@apwc.info

MONTAGE ORIENTAL MEDICINE

acupuncture
chinese herbs
microneedling

Sang Ly Montage
Licensed Acupuncturist

541.708.3953

845 NE 7th St.
Grants Pass, OR 97526

Two Rivers Vineyard

Wednesday - Friday
12 PM - 6 PM
Second Saturdays

Wine, Food Trucks and Live Music

2123 Riverbanks Rd. Grants Pass, OR (541) 472-8873

LOCALLY GROWN PROFESSIONAL

Serving the Valley I Love!

Evelyn Winningham
Principal Broker
evelyn@ramsayrealty.com
541-951-7055

Ramsay Realty
The Applegate Jacksonville Experts
www.ramsayrealty.com

NEXT GENERATION | SCHOOL NEWS

Woodland Charter School is among Oregon's most improved schools

BY CHRIS CARMIENCEKE

Woodland Charter School is finishing up a thriving 2023-2024 school year!

Now that Woodland has been around for more than 11 years, the hard work of the founders and the commitment of the faculty and families have provided the southern Oregon community and the Applegate Valley a charter school they can be proud of. This year we added a kindergarten class and now have more than 210 students and 25 faculty members in our kindergarten through eighth-grade school. In addition, the campus has never looked more cared for and robust! Thank you to everyone who has had a hand in bringing this Waldorf-inspired education to our local community.

Here are some current highlights about Woodland. First, we have the largest student population to date. In addition, we are finding our school is showcasing academic results that we have never seen before, which is due to the wonderful, committed teachers and faculty who support our students daily. In fact, Woodland has been rated by Public School Review (publicschoolreview.com) as the 48th most improved school in Oregon (out of 740 schools) and is one of the few in southern Oregon to be in the top 50 list of most improved schools. Lastly, we continue to provide students with a hands-on, developmentally appropriate, nature-based education that allows them to be joyful, to experience play, and to dig into thematic-based academics.

Grant funding has been supporting Woodland throughout the school year. We have received several local grants that have been highly beneficial to Woodland. We received a Summer Reading Grant from Dollar General Foundation to add books to our library. We also received a generous grant from the West Family Foundation to furnish our lovely new kindergarten classroom. Also, we were funded by the Pacific Power Foundation to purchase math intervention materials to support students struggling in mathematics. We



Some happy seventh-grade students at recess.



Inside the kindergarten classroom at Woodland Charter School.

deeply appreciate the generous support of these funders for contributing to our school.

The future is bright at Woodland Charter School as we finish this school year. We are proud to be graduating 24 students from the Dragonfly Class and wish them success as they transition into high school. We will be honoring them at Woodland at 6 pm June 5, 2024.

We are also expecting a full school for the 2024-25 school year, while continuing to provide innovative after-school programs, a summer gardening program, and community events for education and entertainment. Please contact me if you would like to know more about our local charter school and its opportunities.

Chris Carmiencke, Education Director
Woodland Charter School
chris.carmiencke@woodlandcharterschool.org

APWC hosts Applegate Outdoor School at Cantrall Buckley Park

BY CHARLOTTE HYDE

Throughout April and May, Applegate Outdoor School (AOS), run by the Applegate Partnership and Watershed Council (APWC), hosted approximately 575 sixth graders from Hedrick and Oakdale middle schools in weeklong sessions of inquiry-based learning at Cantrall Buckley Park. Students began their outdoor school experience with a pre-visit in their classroom, followed by four daylong sessions at the park and a final classroom post-visit.

AOS is one of many outdoor school providers in the state and the only one in the Applegate Valley. While there is a long history of outdoor education in the state of Oregon, a major shift occurred in 2016 when Measure 99, known as "Outdoor School for All," was passed. This measure allows state lottery funds to be used to support fifth or sixth graders' outdoor school experiences. As such, schools can apply for Measure 99 funding through Oregon State University Extension Service and receive funding for transportation, food, housing, program fees, and all other expenses associated with outdoor school. Therefore, AOS is of no cost to the families of attending students.

Cantrall Buckley Park is highly suited to hosting an outdoor school. Students can interact safely with the Applegate River, witness restoration in progress in the riparian zones, and examine the array of native trees, such as Pacific madrone, black oak, Douglas fir, and ponderosa pine, which grow throughout the park. Especially in spring, the site is bursting with life. Students have witnessed goslings cross the river with their protective parents and even collected elusive juvenile lampreys during a macroinvertebrate sampling lesson.

The AOS curriculum is place-based, standards-aligned, and heavily geared toward scientific inquiry. On day one, students explore different stations throughout the park, where they plant willow cuttings, model erosion and deposition at an interactive stream table (see photo), learn to take a bearing with a compass, build a soil horizon, and discuss the ecosystem services of riparian zones. Next are five field studies: water quality monitoring, macroinvertebrate sampling, forestry, soil science, and fire ecology. From percolation testing to matchstick forest building to tree mapping, lessons immerse students in scientific inquiry and critical thinking by engaging them in genuine science and data-collection practices. Other activities, such as soil sculpture competitions, a "macroinvertebrate mayhem" tag game, and fire response strategy skits, integrate creativity and play into the learning environment. All the while, the curriculum introduces students to scientific tools from increment borers to clinometers to field microscopes,



AOS students collect and identify benthic macroinvertebrates in the Applegate River. Photo: Charlotte Hyde.



AOS students model weathering, erosion, and deposition with an interactive stream table. Photo: Charlotte Hyde.

allowing them to build real-life skills that can be applied beyond the outdoor school experience.

The importance of outdoor school cannot be understated. In an age when children are more isolated from the outside world than ever before, outdoor school provides an opportunity for students to connect with nature. Further, some students who struggle to focus in the classroom thrive in the outdoor school environment. During AOS post visits, students are asked one thing they learned at outdoor school. The vast majority have enthusiastic responses. Some of the most common include: "willows can root from cuttings," "rivers have lots of bugs in them," "how to measure trees," and "how to use a compass." In addition to this informal survey, students take pre- and post-assessments of their sessions to gauge learning outcomes. The knowledge, skills, and perspective on nature that students gain during outdoor school have the potential to influence their hobbies, academic interests, and even careers.

APWC is planning to construct yurts at Cantrall Buckley Park for future AOS seasons, which will allow students to stay overnight. Overnight experiences draw schools to outdoor school providers and amplify the student experience. Information on our fundraising efforts for yurts at Cantrall Buckley Park can be found on our website at applegatepartnership.org.

Charlotte Hyde, APWC
Education and Outreach Coordinator
charlotte@apwc.info

WOODLAND CHARTER SCHOOL

Woodland Charter School is a tuition-free arts-integrated public Waldorf school located in Murphy, Oregon, serving Josephine and Jackson Counties. Please visit our website or contact the office for more information!

ENROLLING GRADES K-8
FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

301 MURPHY CREEK RD. GRANTS PASS
WWW.WOODLANDCHARTERSCHOOL.ORG

WOODLAND CHARTER SCHOOL
TEL: (541) 846-4246

Bella Union
RESTAURANT & SALOON
Great Food,
Live Music and Fun
Open Daily 11:30 - Midnight
541 899-1770
170 West California St. www.bellau.com

NEXT GENERATION | SCHOOL NEWS

Homeschooled athlete is on a winning streak!

BY BARBARA HOLIDAY

Megan Peterson, a homeschooled high-school senior, is an accomplished wrestler and equestrian on Hidden Valley High School (HVHS) teams and is also a long-time 4-H member.

Wrestling

Here are some of Megan's honors during her senior year:

- First place at Best of the West Wrestling Tournament
- First place and the Most Outstanding Wrestler awards at Girls Grants Pass Winter Kickoff tournament (second consecutive year).
- First in her weight class at Regionals and the Most Outstanding Wrestler award of the Regional tournament (second consecutive year).
- Champion at Folkstyle State tournament—the first Champion at State in 37 years for HVHS, and the first female Folkstyle State champion in HVHS history. At the awards assembly, the previous state champion, Dan Vidlak, presented her with his puck that he had received when he won State back in 1987. Megan also won Most Inspirational, Most Pins, Most Takedowns, the Principal's Award, and Athlete of the Month.
- Athlete of the Week, including an interview on KAJO radio.
- Fourth place at Reno Worlds National Folkstyle tournament.
- First place in Freestyle at State, qualifying her for the Fargo National Freestyle tournament for the third year in a row.
- Megan and a teammate, Kaydence Johnson, will be traveling to North Dakota in July to compete in the National Fargo Freestyle tournament. She is now fundraising for the trip, which includes a 34-hour train ride from Portland.

While a junior, Megan placed second in Folkstyle at State and third in Freestyle at State. As a sophomore, she placed fifth in Folkstyle and first in Freestyle at State.

Equestrian

For HVHS's equestrian team, Megan—riding her 16-year-old buckskin mare, Chai—has competed at State in multiple events, including the eight-person drill team, Canadian flags, and Birangle.

She also competes in individual events, including barrels, poles, keyhole, Figure 8, and individual flags.



Megan takes first place at state wrestling championship. Photo: Althea Core.



Megan and Chai at a competition. Photo: Ashley Lucas.

While a sophomore and a junior, Megan competed in an equestrian meet while simultaneously wrestling for State in Freestyle at the Jackson County Expo.

In May, Megan, along with her eight-person drill team, competed in Equestrian State in Redmond, Oregon, placing sixth out of 17 teams. Her Canadian flag team placed third out of 32 teams. In June, Megan and her team will compete in the Nationals for Canadian flags in Washington State.

4-H

Megan has been involved in 4-H for over seven years. Showing her pig for Livestock and Ag at this summer's Josephine County Fair, August 7-11, will be her final participation.

After graduation Megan plans on working fires during the summer, then taking a gap year. Because she loves working with horses, she is considering trade school to become a farrier. She also plans on being an assistant coach for the wrestling team at HVHS next season.

Barbara Holiday
barbara@applegater.org

ROCS first graders learn about bread and more at Rise Up!

BY JENNIFER PAYNE

The first-grade class from Ruch Outdoor Community School (ROCS) went on an amazing field trip to Rise Up! Bakery. A very special thanks go to Jo Ferneau and Rosie Demmin for providing this wonderful learning experience for our kids and for providing such a high-quality bread for our valley!

At Rise Up! Bakery, students learned about:

- Engineering and construction. How straw-bale structures are made and the use of alternative building materials.
- Health and nutrition. How artisan bread, including sourdough, is made, including the ingredients and the process.
- Local economy. How supporting local businesses that provide sustainable wages for employees and sell their products at local employee-owned stores and farmers markets is important to the local economy.
- Local food. Producing and consuming food that is made locally and without preservatives.
- Science. The science behind the baking of bread—leavening, heat, and measurement of ingredients.
- Outdoor education/science. First-grade teacher Mrs. Brown led the students on two nature hikes where they observed and recorded all of the different bird species that they spotted. They did sound-mapping exercises (determining



First-graders learn the science behind sourdough starter at Rise Up!.



Students watch as perfect handmade loaves of bread come right out of the oven.

in which direction a sound is coming from) and identified trees, bushes, flowers, and scat.

Each student made a small, round loaf of bread using artisan baking techniques that Jo showed them. On the way home they ate their bread with ear-to-ear smiles.

It was a very special day!

Jennifer Payne
jenniferpayne@me.com

■ **LINCOLN VOTES** *Continued from page 18*

Elected delegates from Oregon to the Republican National Convention in 1860 were Lender Holmes, who had been the Republican nominee for secretary of state in 1858, Dr. Warren, and A.G. Hovey. Holmes was unable to attend, and Jesse Applegate convinced him to send his proxy to Horace Greely of the *New York Tribune*.

Greely carried a great deal of influence in the north at this time and Jesse had great respect for him. The Oregon delegation was encouraged to back Jesse's old friend and mentor Edward Bates to start with, but on the third ballot they switched their three votes to Lincoln, which gave him 231 votes, two votes short of what he needed for nomination, and that began a landslide of other states switching their votes to Lincoln.

Joseph Lane, from Umpqua County, was nominated for vice president by the Democratic Party's pro-slavery southern wing. He came home to Oregon to canvas for votes, believing he could carry the west coast. Jesse, realizing that the question of slavery and the Union itself were at stake, rode from his Umpqua farm to the Willamette Valley to canvas for votes for Lincoln. It is said that wherever he stopped, he left a Union man and a vote for Lincoln.

In 1860 in Oregon, 5,344 votes were cast for Lincoln, 36.2 percent of the total votes. John Breckenridge, the Southern Democrat, got 5,074 votes (34.37 percent), and Stephan Douglas, Democrat, got 4,131 votes (27.99 percent).

Leta Neiderheiser, Grants Pass

References: Oregon Argus and Jesse Applegate: A Dialogue with Destiny.

Ridiculous Rose by Salila Oldham



Fourteen-year-old Salila Oldham, creator of this cartoon strip, is homeschooled on her family's farm outside Grants Pass in the Applegate Valley. Salila wants to write, illustrate, and publish a children's book in a couple of years.

Look who's reading the Gater!

Take us with you on your next trip. Then send your favorite "Reading the Gater" photo (must include the physical paper) to gater@applegater.org or mail to *Applegater*, PO Box 14, Jacksonville, OR 97530.



Photos, clockwise from top left:

- **Karen Giese** celebrated her birthday at Marisol Boutique Hotel in San Juan del Cabo with the Applegater and friends.
- **Max Unger and Caroline Brandes** enjoyed the Gater prior to the Applegate Valley Business Network at the Lindsay Lodge.
- **Victoria Steele** caught up on Applegater news while waiting for a tour of the Leaning Tower of Pisa in Italy.
- **Meagan and Lance Haas** preferred reading the Gater over swimming in the clear waters of the Bahamas.
- **Connie Moreland-Bishop** was entertained by the Applegater while visiting Toledo, Spain.

Keep those articles, letters, opinions, and "Reading the Gater" photos coming in. You are the Gater!



EL ARRIERO MEXICAN FAMILY RESTAURANT

2366 WEST MAIN ST.
MEDFORD, OR 97501
(541) 245-5872

235 BARNETT ROAD
MEDFORD, OR 97504
(541) 245-6778



(541) 777-0124

Call for Custom Meditation

Somatic Trauma Coach & Master Bodyworker

Gabrielle Pullen
MFA, GCFP, LMT #25754

JFB MYOFASCIAL RELEASE & FELDENKRAIS®

Insight Journaling™

Your Life Matters

iRest

The Polarity of Overwhelm

A Guided Meditation for Calming Distortion



- Spirits
- Hand-Cut Meats
- Craft Beer
- Picnic-Perfect Deli Sandwiches
- Farm-Fresh Produce
- Local Wine
- Tasty Side Salads



Shop Local. Buy Fresh. Live Well.

