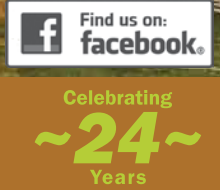




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Applegate Valley Community Newsmagazine
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Applegate trails are one step richer—the East ART is finished!

BY DIANA COOGLE

The Applegate Trails Association (ATA) is tickled pink these days. Patting ourselves on the back. Gushing with excitement. The East ART is finished!

The East ART is the 5.6-mile eastern end of the 50 miles of the proposed Applegate Ridge Trail. You can now drive to the roomy trailhead on a gravel road off Sterling Creek Road (coming from Jacksonville, take the first right after mile marker 4—there are signs), hike a few hours on a gorgeous trail of easy-to-moderate difficulty, and descend through the woods to a smaller, as yet undeveloped, trailhead on Highway 238, not far from Longanecker Road. You will have had a fabulous day. The East ART is easily accessed, close to urban centers, and easily hiked. It's a winner all around.

It will be a winner for horseback riders, too, but not yet! It is dangerous for horses at this time. The trail is narrow in places and crosses steep slopes, so there is no place for horses and hikers (or face-to-face horses!) to pass. The narrowness of the trail in some places would be difficult for a horse to navigate. There are also places with stones or roots that a hiker can easily see and step over but that could trip a horse. ATA has vowed to have the trail horse-friendly by the end of winter.



On the East ART trail a half mile in from the Sterling Creek Trailhead, Lily Kaplan trains her lens on the spectacular view while her dog, Shayna, focuses on wildlife. Photo: Lily Myers Kaplan.

ATA thanks all the volunteers who helped build the trail, the WorkSource trail crew, and the BLM workers, including supervisor Zach Million, who didn't have to swing the pick but did and who was BLM's main person seeing the trail into existence. Special recognition goes to ATA board members Luke Ruediger and Josh Weber for their work on the trail and their skillful supervision of trail workers.

We also thank, again and again, all the people who have supported the dream of

a trail from Grants Pass to Jacksonville with their money; their presence at fundraisers, hikes, and other events; and their signatures on postcards for ATA to present to BLM to prove the widespread support for this trail.

Signatures haven't been hard to come by. Patrons of outdoor stores, tourists on the streets, hikers, rafters, picnickers—everyone said, "What a great idea. Of course I'll sign." A tourist from Paris, Pacific Crest Trail hikers from Australia—

these people's signatures proved that out-of-towners support the idea of the trail, too. After all, people who come here to hike, or who come here and hike, also boost the economy. According to an Oregon Parks and Recreation Department report, nonmotorized trail activities generated an estimated \$2.1 billion in expenditure across the state in 2014 and contributed 24,340 jobs, \$1.2 billion in value added, and \$753 million in labor income. No wonder so many people support the Applegate Ridge Trail!

Hike the East ART this fall and see what we're so excited about. Do be aware of the heat, though. Those fabulous views are possible because much of the trail crosses open slopes, which can be very hot in extreme temperatures, so wear a hat and bring plenty of water. On other days open slopes could be windy and cold, so wear a hat and a windbreaker and, as always, bring plenty of water. The trail goes through evergreen-and-madrone forests and oak savannahs as well as those open slopes, so keep your eye on the weather and plan your hike accordingly.

Next up for ATA will be the equestrian improvements on the East ART, the establishment of a good trailhead on Highway 238, and the preliminary work on the Center ART.

See our video about hiking the route of the Applegate Ridge Trail on our website at applegatetrails.org, where you can also contribute to our funds, if you like. And enjoy the Applegate trails while the weather is good!

Diana Coogle
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How climate change affects grapes in southern Oregon

BY DEBBIE TOLLEFSON

Though climate change has the potential to greatly impact agriculture of all types, it could be especially significant for growing grapes, since the right climate—from winter dormancy through harvest abundance—is essential for optimum results in grapes and, ultimately, in wine.

One of the foremost scientists studying the effects of climate change on viticulture (the science of the cultivation of grape vines) and viniculture (the science of making wines) is Greg Jones, formerly of Southern Oregon University. (More information about his new home appears on page 16.) I highlighted Greg in a "Grape Talk" article a couple of years ago.

In 2005, Greg conducted a study of the nature of, and changes in, the growing season (April - October) for California, Oregon, and Washington grape-growing regions. (See page 16 sidebar for specific parameters.)

Using data from the US Historical Climatology Network (USHCN) that cover the region from the Puget Sound of Washington to the Central Valley of California, he created a 1950 - 2049 model comparing these regions. Statistics for the Rogue Valley American Viticultural Area (AVA) came from weather facilities in Ashland and Grants Pass. Because the

See *CLIMATE AFFECTS GRAPES*, page 16

Lawmakers work to preserve Oregon's agricultural heritage

BY NELLIE MCADAMS

Oregon is known for its abundance of farms and ranches; in fact, agriculture is the state's second largest economic driver.

Jackson County alone is home to more than 200,000 acres of agricultural land. That translates into 1,700 farms and ranches, 72 percent of which are owned by those over the age of 55. In addition, new research shows that a large majority of that 72 percent don't have a comprehensive succession plan in place to ensure that their land will stay in agricultural production once they retire.

This brings up the question: Who will be our next generation of farmers and ranchers? With land prices in Jackson

County increasing almost 30 percent in ten years—from \$3,604 in 2002 to \$4,682 in 2012 (according to the 2012 US Department of Agriculture Census of Agriculture)—beginning farmers and ranchers are finding it more difficult to acquire the large sums of acreage it takes to run a successful agricultural operation.

But it's not for lack of trying. This became apparent last May when dozens of interested parties attended a succession planning workshop co-hosted by the Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District, the Josephine County Farm Bureau, and Rogue Farm Corps.

See *AGRICULTURAL HERITAGE*, page 21

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ISSUE
AGRICULTURE - WINE

OBITUARY

Chuck Eckles

March 4, 1932 - December 27, 2016

Charles (Chuck) Kenyon Eckles Jr. of Jacksonville, Oregon, passed away on December 27, 2016. He was born on March 4, 1932, in Spokane, Washington, to Charles K. Eckles Sr. and Kathleen (Kelley) Eckles. Chuck grew up in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, and graduated second in his class at Wauwatosa High School in 1950.



Chuck married Jeanne Hamm in January 1954, then served in the US Army from 1955-1957, stationed at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas. Following his service, Chuck began a long career with Wilson & Co., working in Minnesota, Illinois, Iowa, and Oklahoma. He later worked in both food and financial industry positions.

Chuck graduated with honors from the University of Wisconsin-Madison (UW) with a bachelor of science degree in agriculture (animal science) in June 1954. While in college, Chuck was in Phi Eta Sigma, Alpha Zeta, and Phi Kappa Phi honor societies and was a member of Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity, serving as president of the chapter. He was also president of the *Country Magazine* Board of Control, vice president of the Saddle and Sirloin Club, a reporter for *Sickle and Sheaf*, and a member of agriculture student council.

In the fall of 1952, during his junior year, he was on the UW meat-judging team, which participated in several competitions held at livestock shows around the country. His team won first place in Baltimore in November of that year. In December, the team entered a competition at the International Livestock Exposition in Chicago, and the three-man team not only won the contest (out of 20 college teams entered), but for the first time in the history of the competition, the three team members were also awarded the top three places in individual ratings.

In 1985, Chuck moved to the Medford area where he enjoyed many outdoor activities and a gorgeous view from his home near the Siskiyou National Forest. He enjoyed spending time with his shooting group and serving on the board and volunteering for the Rogue Book Exchange. He was a lifelong Green Bay Packers fan and an avid reader and photographer.

Chuck is survived by his children and grandchildren Judi, Mark, Kevin, and Chris Stillwell; Linda, Brent, Trevor, and Catherine Gee; Steve, Glennis, Riley (Alison), Tucker, and Tatum Eckles; and Elizabeth and Mary Elizabeth Eckles; sisters-in-law Patricia Hamm Biever and Karen Hamm Rahn (Bradner); and numerous nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by his parents, former wife, and son, Daniel Eckles.

Chuck's family and friends gathered for a celebration of his life on July 14 in Jacksonville. Donations in Chuck's memory may be made to the Nature Conservancy, Salvation Army, or UW Animal Sciences Department.



Southern Oregon Smoked Salmon Festival

On Saturday, September 23, competitors will again have the chance to find out if their smoked salmon is truly the best in southern Oregon, and event-goers will be able to taste the entries and place their vote for the People's Choice Award.

The upcoming Smoked Salmon Festival is the fourth annual fundraising event for the Maslow Project folks, who do important work supporting homeless youth in Jackson and Josephine counties. Check out their website at maslowproject.com, and go to southernoregonsalmonfest.org to purchase tickets for the event or to enter the competition.

For the past two years the bragging rights have been won by Applegate locals, so come on out and give it a try or a taste or both! The Smoked Salmon Festival takes place from 1 to 5 pm at Pear Blossom Park in downtown Medford. For more information, visit southernoregonsalmonfest.com.

Paul Tipton
ptipton@frontier.com

APWC celebrates 25 years of participation and collaboration

BY LAURA CRANE

The year was 1992. The band U2 was playing on the radio.

Bill Clinton had just replaced George Bush as president.

And the "owls versus logs" debate was raging in the Pacific Northwest.

This was also the year the Applegate Partnership was born. To Jack Shipley, founder and current board member of the Applegate Partnership & Watershed Council (APWC), the sides in the owl controversy were too polarized to be constructive. The debate sounded like a sword fight without swords: a jab here, a swing there, lots of undercutting, and zero productivity.

In October 1992, Jack invited people on all sides of the controversy to a meeting at his house in the Applegate Valley. Representatives from the timber industry, federal and state agencies, and environmental groups attended, and an eight-member board that encompassed every perspective was chosen that day. Despite widely varying viewpoints, the board operated from its very beginnings on the principle of complete consensus—if a proposed action did not meet with total approval by all board members, it simply did not move forward. What has made the group successful over the last 25 years is a calculated, long-term effort to focus on commonalities among members instead of differences and on areas of agreement rather than disagreement. In the beginning of the partnership, all agreed that conflict could and should be handled more reasonably, that discussions needed to remain at a local level, and that natural resource management and environmental quality are not mutually exclusive.

The extraordinary spirit of collaboration and participation of the original Applegate Partnership continues today.

Collaboration has had good results. This year, the APWC will complete several projects that will benefit people and wildlife in the Applegate Watershed. One of those projects is to pull out the Butcherknife Creek Road culvert, which, in the early 1990s, easily allowed passage of migrating juvenile and adult salmonids, according to an evaluation by natural resource experts and road crews at that time. But 25 years later, the culvert had deteriorated and became a major safety hazard for local residents and drivers along Butcherknife Creek Road, as well as a barrier to fish. A new bridge is scheduled to be installed in late August 2017 thanks to private donations and state grants.



Now unused, this Powell Creek dam was historically used to create a pool for the landowner's tigers. Photo: APWC staff.

The APWC will also be working on instream habitat restoration through large wood placements and partial removal of an unused concrete dam on Powell Creek at the request of the landowner. The dam currently impedes fish passage by creating a velocity barrier: the water flows so fast through the dam that fish cannot physically swim through it. We are grateful to have our partnerships with local landowners for these projects.

The APWC is a nonregulatory and nongovernmental agency. During our long history, our organization and members have been instrumental in some of the Applegate Valley's most important ventures: the *Applegater* Newspaper, the Applegate Fire Plan, and the preservation of Cantrall Buckley Park as a joint project between the citizens and the county.

The APWC staff and board members continue to strive for community involvement and public outreach through participation in local meetings and gatherings and through our committees and board meetings, lectures, and other events, all of which are open to the public—we believe that people have a right to actively participate in the management of their lands, waters, and community.

We want to work with landowners to improve these lands and waters for people and wildlife. We work to provide funding to cover the cost of projects. Potential projects include increasing the efficiency of irrigation systems; ditch piping or sealing; installation of pumps; riparian fencing; removal of old and unused dams; improving fish passage at dams or culverts; and riparian restoration, including blackberry removal and planting of native plants so that people and wildlife can once again have access to streams.

If you have ideas for a project on your property, contact the energetic APWC team at contact@apwc.info. We can acquire funding for projects and provide technical assistance.

Laura Crane, APWC Intern
contact@apwc.info



A heartfelt thanks to all our firefighters!

This summer, as in summers past, with the heat and humidity came the lightning strikes and the fires. Many fires are still raging all over southern Oregon as this paper goes to press.

To all our firefighters, thank you! Thanks to those on the front lines and those behind them who plan and strategize and map. Thanks to those in command of vehicles of all sorts—from helicopters and airplanes to trucks and busses. Thanks to those who provide various needed unknowns in support of firefighting operations. We concur with Chamise Kramer, acting public affairs officer at Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest, who said, "We're so proud of all of our personnel, our partners, and the people coming to assist us with these fires!" Please accept this note of deep thanks and appreciation.

Firefighters on the lightning-caused Blanket Creek Fire, now part of the High Cascades Complex, that has been burning since July 26, 2017. Photo courtesy of Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest.

New class for Land Stewards starts in September

BY JACK DUGGAN



Land Stewards learn about pasture management from local landowners.

In the fall of 2009, a new educational program came to Jackson and Josephine counties, little noticed or recognized at the time. Since then Southern Oregon Research and Extension Center's Land Steward program has grown to apply to more than 7,000 acres. It has won awards and created a community of Land Stewards who continually contribute to each other's education. Hundreds of those acres are in the Applegate, including land sold by one of the first Land Stewards to a new Land Steward in 2014.

Registration for this fall's program is now open. The field-based Land Steward Program will meet each Tuesday afternoon for 11 weeks. During that time participants learn about and observe land-management practices across a full spectrum of topics. They meet and interact with resource specialists who can help them fulfill their stewardship dream. During the program, participants develop a stewardship plan for their lands that reflects their particular goals and dreams.

Landowners in the Land Stewards program have come from a wide variety

of backgrounds, caring for property from a quarter-acre city lot to hundreds of acres. They are mostly newer landowners, but many Land Stewards have lived and worked in southern Oregon for years. Some folks come into the Land Steward program before buying property to gain a better understanding of their goals.

The program covers forestry and wildfire, wildlife and water, pastures and soils, economics and resources. Each class goes into the field to visit a property that participates in the Land Steward program to see how different goals for each of the subjects are being carried out in real time.

Registration for this year's program, which begins September 5, 2017, can be done online or via mail by requesting a brochure. The website for the program is <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/sorec/land-steward-program>.

For more information, contact Rachel Werling, Land Steward coordinator, at 541-776-7371 or rachel.werling@oregonstate.edu.

Jack Duggan
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An interactive community website is coming to the Applegate Valley

The *Applegater* newsmagazine, along with its website, Facebook page, and online calendar, has long been an important vehicle for Applegaters to connect with and learn about what's happening in the Applegate Valley.

Another important Applegate nonprofit, the Greater Applegate Community Development Corporation (GACDC), has both a new name—A Greater Applegate—and some new directions (see article on page 7).

Now, thanks to support from The Ford Family Foundation and Community Systems, LLC, the *Applegater* and A Greater Applegate are joining forces with other community members to develop an interactive community website.

Called "Applegate Valley Connect," this website will be accessible to everyone in the Applegate Valley. You will be able to post your own events to the calendar, add your information to the directory of local businesses and service organizations, read about local news, and post community projects of interest to the public. There will also be links to informative websites and social media connections. And that's just for starters.

Updates about this exciting new website will be posted on the *Applegater's* Facebook page. Stay tuned!

If you would like more information, please email gater@applegater.org.

Applegate Valley
Connect

••• BIZBITS •••

Apple Outlaw Tap Room @ Fiasco Winery. The new Apple Outlaw Tap Room is open! Enjoy delicious hard ciders by the flight or glass, take home bottles and growlers, and try ciders not available elsewhere. Enjoy the family-friendly atmosphere with outdoor seating, games like giant Jenga and corn hole, and live music most Saturdays. Get updates on bands, events, and ciders on [facebook.com/appleoutlaw](https://www.facebook.com/appleoutlaw). Open Friday - Sunday from 11 am - 5 pm. 8035 Highway 238, Jacksonville • appleoutlaw.com.



Applegate Country Club. Complete with beautiful gardens and a new commercial kitchen, the Applegate Country Club (ACC), in the vision of proprietor Cyn Torp, will be the community center that she thinks has long been needed in the neighborhood. Rather than a golf course, ACC is a club in the country, though expansion plans do include putt-putt golf and bocce. Club memberships are offered at a reasonable price and give members first access to special events like founders' dinners and concerts, use of the space for meetings and workshops, use of the commercial kitchen, and discounts on menu items. Expert pizza man and chef Nitai Sanchez makes everything from scratch (including the gluten-free pizza dough), and ingredients are locally sourced whenever possible. On the menu are five different seasonally created pizzas, custom pizzas, salads, and pasta. Sunday barbecues will start in September. Open 11 am - 10 pm, Friday - Sunday, with Thursdays soon to be added. 15090 Highway 238, Applegate (across from the Applegate Store) • 541-846-1666 • applegatecountryclub.com.



ACC's Nitai Sanchez, Cyn Torp, and Kristin Atkins.

Augustino Estate and Vineyard. On the site of the former Bridgeview Winery in the Applegate is Augustino Estate's new tasting room, which is open Thursday through Sunday from 11 am - 5 pm. Another tasting room, their "Treehouse Tasting Room," is located at 400 Brown Road in O'Brien, Oregon. 16995 North Applegate Road, Grants Pass • 541-846-1881 • augustinoestate.com.

Boutique Body Art. Out of love of people and art, Amber Bishop created Boutique Body Art, specializing in face painting and organic henna. Boutique Body Art brings fun and festivity to parties, public events, and special occasions like pregnant belly blessings. At the *Applegater's* recent fundraiser at Applegate River Lodge, Amber adorned women with elegant henna designs (she has achieved International Certification for Natural Henna Arts) and painted children's faces to resemble colorful, fanciful animals. Amber's latest endeavor, in collaboration with Boutique Body Art artist Brooke Nuckles-Gentekos, is a presentation for girls ages 9 to 16 that is focused on their journey into womanhood. Ancient traditions applied henna to mark transformational experiences in life; in this presentation, participants celebrate their transitions through henna body art. 541-899-6827 • boutiquebodyart.com.



Cowhorn Vineyard and Garden. Congratulations to Cowhorn for being awarded the "Living Building Challenge" (LBC) Certification from the International Living Future Institute. Cowhorn is the first tasting room building in the world to meet these zero-energy, toxin-free standards. In fact, Cowhorn's building is the fourth building in Oregon, the 22nd in the US, the 63rd in the world, and Cowhorn the first small business ever to receive LBC Materials Petal. Created with locally sourced, carcinogen-free materials, the tasting room is inspiring, healthy, and beautiful. 1665 Eastside Road, Jacksonville • 541-899-6876 • cowhornwine.com.



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

BOOK REVIEWS

**One Summer:
America, 1927**

Bill Bryson

I had no idea that 1927 was such an amazing year. Author Bill Bryson brings a marvelously entertaining narrative to his history book about the summer of 1927, and I found it difficult to stop reading.

Bryson sets the stage by telling us that there were few paved highways, that most travel and shipping was done by railroads. The US population was 120 million, with 50 percent living on farms (today, 15 percent of us live on farms). Prohibition was in its eighth year, and Chicago gangster Al Capone grossed over \$100 million.

Americans were not popular folks in Europe, and we were held in very low esteem in France, in particular. This was because America demanded that Europe repay with interest the \$10 billion it had loaned them during World War I. Europeans thought that this was outlandish seeing how all the money borrowed had been spent on American goods. Many Americans viewed this nonpayment as a betrayal of trust, which added fuel to the great numbers of Americans with an isolationist bent. America increased its already extremely high tariffs, creating a wall that was nearly impossible for European industries to climb over.

Here are just a few examples of what took place in the summer of 1927, arguably one of the most sensational times of the past century.

- The American workweek had dropped from 60 hours to 48 hours, and the Fourth of July fell on a Monday, giving American workers a rare and almost unheard of three-day weekend.
- In Bath Township, Michigan, Andrew Kehoe killed his wife, then blew up an elementary school, killing 37 children and 7 adults. His farm was about to be foreclosed on, and he blamed local school taxes for this. (Kehoe had been the treasurer of the local school board.) When rescuers were at the school, Kehoe blew up his truck, killing himself, the school superintendent, and a young boy who had survived the earlier bombing.
- A 32-year-old baseball player who suffered from low blood pressure, chronic indigestion, occasional shortness of breath, and an appetite for sex and food (in that order) that knew no bounds, and whose best days were long behind him, broke his own record, set in 1921, of 59 home runs. The mighty Babe Ruth was back in style, hitting 60 home runs, a record that wasn't broken until Roger Maris did it in 1961.



- Fellow Yankee Lou Gehrig gave Ruth a run toward that record. On July 4, Gehrig led Ruth 28 to 26 in home runs. Gehrig hit 14 homers in 21 games with three of those in one game against Boston. (Gehrig was named the American League's most valuable player even though he came up short against Ruth with 47 home runs.)
- Carmaker Henry Ford, who was the only American mentioned favorably in Adolf Hitler's 1925 memoir *Mein Kampf*, was being sued for libel by Aaron Sapiro over Ford's rants about Jews published in Ford's book, *The International Jew*, a greatly admired publication in Nazi Germany. Ford was also dealing with plummeting car sales. (In 1938, on his 75th birthday, Hitler awarded Ford the Grand Cross of the German Eagle.)
- A murder trial in New York received more news coverage than the sinking of the Titanic. Ruth Snyder and her traveling corset salesman lover, Judd Gray, were on trial for the slaying of Albert Snyder, Ruth Snyder's husband and the art editor of *Motor Boating* magazine. (In 1927, women were not allowed to sit on the jury of first-degree murder trials because they supposedly couldn't deal emotionally with the fact that a guilty verdict sent the convicted quickly to the electric chair.)
- The Mississippi River flooded in epic style, remaining in flood stage for 153 straight days. The Great Mississippi Flood covered 500 miles from southern Illinois to New Orleans. In some places, the Mississippi River was 150 miles wide.
- Charles Lindbergh flew his plane, the Spirit of St. Louis, nonstop from Long Island to Paris, a feat never accomplished

before. Previous attempts had claimed the lives of 11 men in the nine months prior to Lindbergh's historic flight, which made him the most famous person in the world. He was so famous that his home state of Minnesota considered renaming itself "Lindberghia." In the first four days after his flight, 250,000 stories about it appeared in American newspapers. (Side note: Henry Ford wasn't the only person to receive a medal from Hitler in 1938—Lindbergh also received the Grand Cross of the German Eagle.)

• A young cartoonist by the name of Walt Disney created an animated short feature called *Plane Crazy*. The star was a mouse named Oswald, who soon became known as Mickey Mouse.

I have touched on just some of the stories that Bryson has written about in this five-out-of-five-stars book. Bryson is the king of popular narrative, and he takes us on a magical roller coaster ride through 1927.

Get it. Read it. You'll love it!

J.D. Rogers • 541-846-7736

**Eve, A Journey
of Discovery**

J.M. Bailey

If you grew up in southern Oregon, you have no doubt heard about the legend of Sasquatch, aka Bigfoot. You might even have a story or two of your own to tell about that one time you were in the woods, alone, semi-lost and you came across "something." It could have been the feeling you were being watched, or knowing for sure something was following you, or perhaps you even caught a glimpse of a shadowy figure that you just couldn't explain away. Having spent much of my life tromping around in the woods, often alone, I too have a few stories to tell, but nothing I experienced ever came close to what this book offers up.

If you love the idea of the elusive Sasquatch, you will thoroughly enjoy *Eve, A Journey of Discovery* by Applegate Valley author J.M. Bailey, the first book in a trilogy that includes *Iron Mountain Ridge*, *The Journey of Eve Continues*; and *Elusive, A Forever Journey*.

This story takes place in northern California where the main character, Anna, a Sasquatch enthusiast, decides to explore one more wilderness road before she heads home. As luck would have it, she gets stuck on a narrow mountain pass as night is falling. Anna decides to stay the night in her car rather than risk hiking out, which was a good idea given that the night brought with it a huge storm, making it impossible to leave.

With the sunrise, Anna finds herself completely stranded, lost without a way out, and face-to-face with her deepest obsession: Eve, a living, breathing, and enormous Sasquatch.

The story unfolds with Anna spending the next few days living with Eve and learning much about this wilderness creature—and herself—throughout each nail-biting twist and turn. This book will



surely keep you in suspense as the plot thickens when Anna is introduced to Eve's family. Many unimaginable dangers arise when a human being lives with these denizens of the deep woods.

J.M. Bailey makes this adventure seem believable, almost as if she herself has experienced something similar. Her detailed descriptions transport the reader alongside Anna as she struggles to stay alive and is torn between wanting to remain with these creatures or to return to her home and husband. The choice is taken away from her in the end, but you will have to read the book to find out what finally happens!

I found the book to be a quick read, an ideal escape for a few afternoons, and perfect for anyone interested in delving into the legend of Bigfoot. Enjoy!

Stephanie Allen-Hart
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POETRY CORNER**We exist, it is said by the scientists,
because stars explode**

by Barb Summerhawk

Starburst seeds we are;
The universe stepped back, said
Nova, baby, blow.
Let's not hesitate
We all can cross-pollinate
New worlds we'll create
Fill with souls that resonate.
Hip hop over to my side of the Applegate Galaxy, where
All of us, sown by the stars
Sift down, crop up, stand out:
We are seeds of hope
Seeds of faith
Seeds of fun
Strewn across our landscapes here, now
Born in a supernova, us—so
Let's sparkle like the stardust we are;
Shine on.

Essay *Splitting words*

Blade sinks into thick wet fir, *thwack*. I reach for the maul and swing it down onto the axe head as if I do this every day. But actually, I came out to chop wood only because I got stuck writing. What better way to deflect writer's block than to get outside, get moving, and—best of all—definitely have something to show for it after a couple hours of effort.

Grabbing the hatchet, I lop off a bothersome branch. In that gesture I realize this is about wielding tools, not following rules.

Until now, I've been a timid axe-swinger, wannabe splitter, woodlot imposter trying to figure out the rules. Like an aspiring writer worried she's not doing it right, afraid of mistakes, anxious about the correct way to wield an axe (semicolon), place a wedge (dash), angle a hatchet (comma)—that person was not yet a real wood-splitter.

Stuck, again. I yank the axe from damp, knotty wood. Looking for a different way in, I flip the log. This time it splits cleanly. I drop the axe, glance at my tools, extend my metaphorical insight: As a teacher, I encourage students to gauge good writing by the impact of their rhetorical choices—effective

use of tools—rather than obsessive adherence to grammatical rules. To experiment, throw their weight into it, try stuff. Seeing wood-splitting that way transforms my woodlot experience. I am at play with logs and tools, not captive to fear of errors.

What was a chaotic woodpile, like a disorderly heap of ideas, gradually transforms into a next-winter-worthy composition. An introduction, then conclusion, of crisscrossed logs bolsters each end. Logs are arranged and rearranged, added and deleted. I tinker with organization, syntax. Occasionally the whole pile collapses, forcing me to start over. But eventually a recognizable genre emerges: stacked firewood.

I check agreement and parallelism, push in protruding ends, sweep up chips, and head back to my desk, ready to write again.

Margaret Perrow della Santina

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~ FINE PRINT ~

WHO WE ARE

The Applegate Valley Community Newspaper, Inc. 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 Applegate Valley Community Newspaper, Inc. (AVCN), provides the many rural and diverse communities of the Applegate Watershed with a communications vehicle, the *Applegater* newsmagazine, free of charge to all watershed residents. Our quarterly paper presents constructive, relevant, educational and entertaining reports on a wide variety of subjects such as:

- natural resources
- ecology and other science information
- historical and current events
- community news and opinions

AVCN encourages and publishes differing viewpoints and, through the *Applegater* newsmagazine, acts as a clearinghouse for this diverse community. We are dedicated to working together with community members to maintain and enhance the quality of life that is unique to the Applegate Watershed.

Acknowledgements

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All articles submitted to the *Applegater* are subject to edit and publication at the newsmagazine's discretion and as space allows. 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 450 words or less. Opinion pieces and articles cannot exceed 700 words. Community calendar submissions must be brief.

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 masthead are on a volunteer basis. Credit is given in the issue in which it appears on our website and on our Facebook page.

All submissions for the next issue must be received at gater@applegater.org by the deadline.

A huge THANKS to these generous donors to the *Applegater*.

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Editorial Calendar

ISSUE	DEADLINE
WINTER (Dec - Feb).....	November 1
Holiday-Arts	
SPRING (March - May)....	February 1
Commerce-Community	
SUMMER (June - Aug)....	May 1
Environment-Fire-Recreation	
FALL (Sept - Nov).....	August 1
Agriculture-Wine	

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For more information, contact:
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Next deadline:
November 1

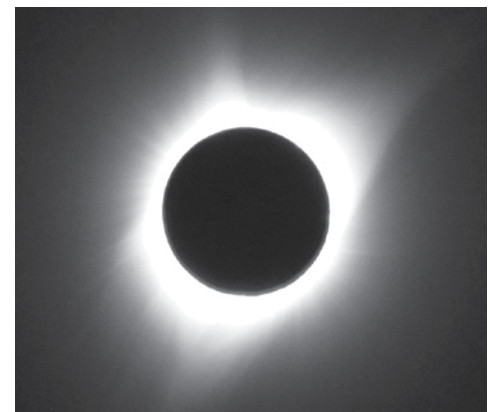
Our family fundraiser was fun for all!

A sincere thanks to all of you from the Applegate Valley community who came out on July 23 to support the *Applegater* and enjoy live music, a tasty barbecue, wine and hard cider, some fun games, and face painting—in spite of extreme temps and humidity!

A huge thanks goes out to Applegate River Lodge for hosting this event, to our sponsors—Apple Outlaw Cider, Applegate Valley Realty, and Hidden Valley Market—and to all of you who donated such wonderful items for the silent auction. That event drew lots of bidders who took home some great bargains. Hope to see you again next year!

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Eclipse photos taken at Philomath, Oregon—where our editor just happened to be—by Connor Kutzler, a 16-year-old student at Philomath High School. Using a 300mm lens on his Canon EOS 70D camera, Connor took photos by putting eclipse glasses over the lens.

Masthead photo credit

Teya Jacobi took this photo of common merganser ducks on the Middle Fork of the Applegate River.

Thanks again, Teya!

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Jackson County Library Services

— Applegate Library —

Swoosh! And just like that, summer was gone.

Summer Reading was fun. Children had to be reminded to walk, not run, as they tried to pass each other with elbows out as if to keep the others corralled behind them. The minute they hit the library floor, their eyes darted back and forth as they headed out to find the prized “golden book.” Little heads spent a lot of time at the “eye-spy window,” searching the display for the best book to read. These are some of the reasons that Lisa Martin, branch head, says, “I so love my job!”

Soon it will all be forgotten as we prepare for fall harvest, canning, and school. But no matter what time of the year or what season we’re in, there are always books to read and fun things to do at the library. Come by and see what classes and demonstrations we have available.

Applegate Library is located at 18485 North Applegate Road, Applegate, and is open Tuesdays and Fridays from 2 - 6 pm and Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10 am - 2 pm. For more information, contact branch head Lisa Martin at 541-846-7346 or lmartin@jcls.org.

— Ruch Library —

Beat the heat at Ruch Library! C’mon in and enjoy our air conditioning, newspapers and magazines, thousands of books, DVDs, and audiobooks.

Summer Reading was fun and exciting at the library as children, teens, and adults all strove to “Build a Better World.”

Several terrific programs addressed Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (STEAM): creating wire sculpture, learning wood-scrap construction, learning animals and plants of the Siskiyou Mountains, building a flashlight out of an Altoids tin, and learning about the eclipse.

In June, 17 adults and 7 children got together and created over 60 dresses from pillowcases for girls in Africa. We decorated these simple dresses with colorful trim and ribbons for shoulder straps and had a fun time in our “sewing circle.”

Determined to do this again next year, we are actively seeking donations of like-new cotton pillowcases, trim, and people who sew!

Thanks so much to the people who made this project come to life! We can only imagine the joy these dresses will bring to girls who receive them.

In partnership with Ruch School, we have collected over 35 pounds of used and broken crayons to be melted down and remade into crayons for patients in children’s hospitals across America through

The Crayon Initiative (thecrayoninitiative.org). Great recycling, everyone!

We encourage people to contribute to our community display on “Awesome Boat Creations” through the month of September. If you have a watercraft that would fit in our (locked) display cases, we would be happy to have you participate.

On Saturday, September 16, from 11 am to 3 pm, we will offer an eclectic variety of materials, some of which will float, for building boats. A toddler’s wading pool will determine whether your creative construction will actually float. Fun for all ages! Please join us!

Thank you to the Friends of Ruch Library for their support of the Summer Reading Program, to Theresa McTaggart for her plant sale to raise money for books for the program, and to local businesses for their generous donations of services for our gift basket for adults. And kudos to the many volunteers who offer hours of help and support! Together this community contributes to building a better world.

Ruch Library is located at 7919 Highway 238 in Jacksonville (Ruch) and is open Tuesdays from 10 am to 5 pm, Thursdays from 1 to 7 pm, and Saturdays from 11 am to 4 pm.

For more information, contact branch manager Thalia Truesdell at 541-899-7438 or ttruesdell@jcls.org.

— Friends of Ruch Library —

Members of our community are often surprised that the A-frame Bookstore works hand in hand with our Ruch Library! In fact, we are right next door.

Unlike other Friends of Library groups, who sell books from space within the library, we have the unique A-frame, a small bookstore packed with a wide variety of fiction and nonfiction books sold at bargain prices. Staffed by volunteers, the A-frame Bookstore turns over all profits from sales to Ruch Library.

The A-frame has a close history with the library, including operating as a lending library when county libraries were closed in 2007. Visitors will even find a continuation of the mosaic art designed for the Ruch Library on the front of the A-frame Bookstore.

But...the aging structure needed two major improvements. With the help of our library district board and the Energy Trust of Oregon, we replaced the heating and air conditioning system and the roof! Be sure to stop by to enjoy the fresh look and comfortable feel.

There are many ways to help Friends of Ruch Library (FORL) in our efforts to serve the library and community, such

as working as a volunteer, becoming a member, donating books, or making a cash donation.

Buying a raffle ticket for a delightful donated quilt provides another opportunity to help. The quilt is now hanging in the Ruch Library. A single ticket can be purchased for \$5, three for \$10, or seven for \$20. The drawing will be held during the Fall Book Bonanza, a large outdoor sale at Ruch Library on Friday and Saturday, September 29 and 30, from 10 am to 5 pm.

During the Bonanza, all genres will be featured, including a special “fill-the-bag” sale. It is a great bargain for fantastic books. All proceeds benefit the Ruch Library.

One use of our funds is to provide programs that might be of interest to others. Send us your suggestions! Want to offer a program that you feel might be of interest to the community? Contact us and tell us your thoughts. We do offer an honorarium for presenters.

Next Program? “Awesome Boat Creations” on Saturday, September 16, from 11 am to 3 pm. Create your boat (materials provided), and we will see if it floats! Check out the library displays prior to this event.

Josephine
Community



My library
works for me.

— Josephine Community Libraries —

Williams branch weekly storytime

Bring the whole family to children’s storytime and craft at 3:30 pm every Wednesday at the Williams branch of Josephine Community Libraries.

The library is located at 20695 Williams Highway and is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays from 1 to 5 pm. For more information, contact manager Evelyn Roether at 541-856-7020 or eroether@josephinelibrary.org.

Back-to-School Fine Amnesty

Start the school year fine-free at the library. As a way to support the Food Bank, all four branches of Josephine Community Libraries will offer Back-to-School Fine Amnesty, accepting nonperishable food items in lieu of cash payments from September 19 - 30. Each donated item forgives \$5 in fines.

When “paying” a fine with donated food items, patrons should bring overdue library materials to a checkout volunteer at any of the libraries before depositing them into the collection containers. Replacement costs for lost library cards or lost or damaged materials will not be resolved by donations.

Readapalooza: Free bookish fun for everyone!

Celebrate reading, books, and community on Saturday and Sunday, October 21 and 22, at the Grants Pass branch during Readapalooza weekend, which will be filled with activities for all ages, including the Storytime Celebration, the Plot Planning Party for National Novel Writing Month in November, and the Community Read-Aloud.

Storytime Celebration: Read, talk, sing, play

On Saturday, October 21, from noon to 4 pm, bring the whole family to children’s library Storytime Celebration. Enjoy storytime all day with special storytellers, crafts, pumpkin walks, face painting, and free family fun.

NaNoWriMo Plot Planning Party: The world needs your novel

On Saturday, October 21, from 4 to 6 pm, join local fiction writers at the Plot

Planning Party to prepare for National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo), the annual event that encourages kids and adults to tackle the challenge of writing 50,000 words of a novel during the 30 days of November. Come and learn more about NaNoWriMo and how it works. Meet your fellow writers and discuss your project with others taking the challenge.

Launched in 1999, NaNoWriMo inspires its estimated 300,000 participants with email pep talks, a huge and supportive online community, and a host of web-based writing tools. Although actual writing on the novel doesn’t start until November 1, writers participating in NaNoWriMo can use the Plot Planning Party and other time before November to plan plots, characters, and other aspects of their novels so they’re ready to go.

Throughout November, weekly “Write-ins” are offered at Grants Pass branch, 200 NW C Street, from 4:30 to 6:30 pm every Wednesday, and Rogue Coffee Roasters, 610 SW K Street, Grants Pass, from 2 to 5 pm every Saturday

Community Read-Aloud: Pages for all ages

On Sunday, October 22, from 1 to 4 pm, celebrate reading and community during the Community Read-Aloud as readers of all ages compete for prizes by reading aloud from a favorite book. Children in elementary and middle school may read a two-minute passage from a favorite book for the chance to win a \$500 cash prize for their school library and additional prizes. High school students and adults may read the first page from a favorite book for the chance to win prizes donated by local businesses.

Pre-registration is required to compete in this free event. To sign up as a reader by Friday, October 13, send name, age, and book choice to info@josephinelibrary.org or call 541-476-0571 x112. Early registration is encouraged due to the limited space.

For more information about Josephine Community Libraries, contact Brandace Rojo at 541-476-0571 x112.

We would be remiss in not honoring those local businesses who also provide donations and support, including gift certificates and specialty items for our summer and winter reading programs. So thank you to Ruch Country Store, Ruch Hardware, Salon 238, The Honeysuckle Café, Valley View Winery, Red Lily Vineyards, Harry & David, and the *Jacksonville Review*.

The next FORL board meeting is on Thursday, September 7, at 6:30 pm at Ruch Library, 7919 Highway 238. We will be deciding on a change of time for



Check out the new roof on the FORL A-frame Bookstore, next door to Ruch Library.

these meetings in hopes of recruiting more participation. The community is welcome. Join us!

Peggy Mekemson • FORL President
curtandpeg@aol.com

NONPROFIT NEWS AND UPDATES

— New name and direction for GACDC —

Announcing “A Greater Applegate”: a new name and direction for GACDC.

No matter how long you’ve lived in the Applegate, you have probably had some opportunity to enjoy Cantrall Buckley Park: picnicking, family and community celebrations, swimming, fishing, and hiking at this Applegate Valley treasure.

But not everyone knows that the park, owned by Jackson County, is run by community people. Since 1996, a local nonprofit group with the awkward acronym of GACDC (Greater Applegate Community Development Corporation) and its Park Committee have kept the park open, thriving, changing, and getting better all the time. The *Applegater* has reported on many of those improvements in recent issues.

The GACDC and those of us who use the park appreciate everyone who contributes financially beyond the modest \$5 per car parking fee. The need to raise funds to operate and improve the park is constant, and we must use every opportunity to pass the hat—including now! You can contribute to Cantrall Buckley or to the general operation of GACDC by writing a check to GACDC and sending it to PO Box 335, Jacksonville, OR 97530.

But that’s not the full story we want to tell. GACDC was created to operate the park, but its broader mission is to provide assistance, coordination, and resources necessary for economic and social activities that help sustain the livability of our community. Through the years that mission has led us to produce directories, surveys, and local initiatives, and to support other efforts in the valley.

Most recently, we hosted the Applegate Valley Roadmap Project, led by Rural Development Initiatives and supported by the Ford Family Foundation, Applegate Valley Oregon Vintners Association, and

Grants Pass & Josephine County Chamber of Commerce Foundation. A series of six community meetings brought to the surface a number of proposals and issues to address, including promotion of local and home-based businesses, economic opportunities aligned with Applegate Valley values, and challenges facing young people and families.

The roadmap project has led us to a new and exciting opportunity to support the many interests of the Applegate Valley. A smaller group of organizational partners and community members is now meeting with consultants funded by the Ford Family Foundation to create a free community website, with tech support, which would enable public, nonprofit, and local businesses to share and manage their own events, stories, and more.

The GACDC is a volunteer-led organization run by a small board whose members reside or work in the Applegate watershed in both Jackson and Josephine counties. Our board continues to consider new ways to better serve and represent the Applegate Valley. We recently decided to change our unwieldy name to “A Greater Applegate,” and filed the necessary paperwork with the State of Oregon. We believe A Greater Applegate better reflects our vision as we continue to grow beyond our work as stewards of Cantrall Buckley Park. We have also decided to expand our board to incorporate more age and racial diversity, while reflecting the expanding work of community building.

Our role continues to evolve, and we are excited by the new opportunities. If you are interested in joining us as a funder or volunteer, please contact board chair Seth Kaplan at SethKaplanConsulting@gmail.com, board vice chair Paul Tipton at ptipton@frontier.com, or write to us at PO Box 335, Jacksonville, OR 97530.

Paul Tipton • ptipton@frontier.com

— McKee Bridge Centennial Celebration —

The McKee Bridge Centennial Celebration on June 10 was overwhelmingly successful despite the cool, cloudy weather. The Applegate Lions Club provided tasty tri-tip sandwiches and hot dogs for folks to enjoy while listening to the Old Time Fiddlers produce some fine music for a couple of hours. Then Christina Lynn Martin and Butch Martin provided songs and poems with a local flavor, and Merle Ming got in a couple of poems from his repertoire before the rain came in.

On display were vehicles from the Stray Cats Car Club and a local Porsche club, and antique steam and gas engines from the Hit and Miss Club. Local crafters displayed their wares alongside nonprofit groups, writers, and book and bake sales. Several historical displays drew people onto the bridge, where they could also sample local hard cider and children could work on embroidery projects. If you didn’t get your McKee Bridge Centennial t-shirt that day, drop by the bridge on September weekends when t-shirts will be available or keep your eye out at local stores that may be selling them.

Our success overwhelmed the parking area at McKee, and we apologize to anyone who was inconvenienced. But our success was due to the outpouring of support from many local businesses and individuals who donated items for our raffle baskets and silent auction offerings (thank them by shopping local), the great people at Star Ranger Station who take care of the

park, our volunteers and helpers who showed up at just the right time to do what needed doing, whether behind the scenes or right out front, and the dedicated committee members of the McKee Bridge Historical Society who spent so much time and energy preparing for the event. But especially, the success was due to all the wonderful people who came out to enjoy the day and help us celebrate the centennial anniversary of an important piece of local history. We can’t thank you enough.

We plan to continue our annual McKee Bridge Days. In 2018, it will be held on Saturday, June 9, and you can expect to see much of the same lineup of offerings as at this year’s centennial celebration. In the meantime, stop by to enjoy the bridge and the park, and, while listening to the river, imagine all the vehicles and people who have used the bridge over the past century. If only bridges could talk.

Paul Tipton • ptipton@frontier.com
Chair, McKee Bridge Historical Society



Old Time Fiddlers entertained at the McKee Bridge Centennial Celebration in June. Photo: Patty Elliott.

Help support the *Applegater* by purchasing these unique items!

Book. *From the Heart of the Applegate* anthology of original essays, poems, and short stories contributed by Applegate Valley writers in support of the *Applegater*. Available now for \$16 at Amazon.com and applegater.org; Applegate Valley Realty, Jacksonville; Bloomsbury Books, Ashland; Oregon Books, Grants Pass; and Terra Firma, Jacksonville.



Planter. Beautiful planters built with donated local wood and volunteer labor. See these useful and long-lasting “Applecrates” at Applegate Valley Realty, 935 N. Fifth Street, Jacksonville. A stock planter box, 12” wide x 22” long x 14” deep, starts at \$40. For more information, call Chris Bratt at 541-846-6988.



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THE STARRY SIDE

We are landscapes!

BY GREELEY WELLS



Greeley Wells

I had an interesting insight one morning in the shower. Rubbing away at my eyebrows with the washcloth, I remembered there is a particular creature that lives in human eyebrows called a follicle mite. I thought, what are they doing now? Probably holding on for dear life as I scrub away at their home! And what do they do at night when I'm sleeping and they're free to walk about easily?

It suddenly occurred to me: I am a landscape! I am home to that follicle mite. And the follicle mites aren't alone—there are more creatures on the surface of our skin than skin cells themselves! And in our gut and throughout our bodies we host other minute creatures, a myriad of life forms. Most of them are doing wonderful things, like digesting our food for us. We are at one with them. As we walk through our own earthly landscape, they all come along with us, walking around in and on us! And frankly, we humans also walk around like little mites on this planet, doing some good things and some not-so-good things. Fundamentally, we are all simultaneously creatures and landscapes.

We're all neighbors and fellow creatures: gigantic, large, small or infinitesimal...it just depends on your perspective. I've seen one of those electron microscope photos of the small creatures living on our skin. It's hard to believe, but they have even tinier creatures crawling on *them!*

Perhaps we could look at our solar system—and maybe the whole cosmos—in a similar way. This insight made my morning, and I pass it on to you to ponder.

The fall after summer

The Summer Triangle is late in coming to the summer sky, so in early fall it's still up there, moving farther and farther west

as fall goes on. As it works its way down into the west, the Summer Triangle carries with it the beautiful Milky Way, streaming right through it.

Pushing the Summer Triangle westward is Pegasus the horse. A simple large square, Pegasus is the foremost central constellation and one of the biggest in fall.

Off the northern corner (upper left corner on the illustration below) of Pegasus is a widening arch of parallel sets of stars

sweeping toward Perseus, which makes a triangle of constellations with Cassiopeia (the W shape that circumnavigates the North Star opposite the Big Dipper). Starting from that upper corner of Pegasus, three pairs of stars sweep northwest in a curved triangular shape, each pair getting wider apart.

That second pair of stars is very important. Look up from them and slightly to the left, about the same distance as the

space between the two stars. See that little fuzzy spot? That's the Andromeda Galaxy, our closest galactic neighbor and the only galaxy we can see with our naked eyes. It's actually moving towards us, and in some billions of years we're destined to collide with it! (I previously described this incredible collision in "Never touch each other" in the winter 2013 issue of the *Applegater*.)

Of note

Venus is now the sentinel of the sunrise, brighter than anything but the moon. Venus, because of her sun-centric orbit, is always either in our dawn before sunrise or in our dusk after sunset. Only Mercury lives closer to the sun than Venus, which is why we don't get to see either of these planets for long.

Jupiter is high in the southwest at dusk in late summer, and he's steadily falling into the west as fall begins. The other planets are no longer very bright.

The event of a lifetime was on August 21, when the total solar eclipse of the sun came to our state and across our whole country. I did an expedition with a few artists, photographers, friends, and family to the totality zone more than an hour northeast of Bend. I'll share thoughts and images in an upcoming movie I am filming, directing, and producing—as well as on greeleyandfriends.com. If you like my articles, you may want to check out this website.


Here's to clear, dark night skies and bright stars for you,

Greeley Wells
Greeley@greeley.me

Illustration from stellarium.org.



Are you looking to sell? Our family is looking to buy & start an organic farm (no CBD) in the area of Applegate, Ruch, Jacksonville or Central Point. We need 15+ Acres (mostly flat), must have water available, below 1600 ft in elevation, with or without house, established road, no easement roads. We have a realtor but want to reach out to the community. Please contact us at Farm2table4us@gmail.com Thank you!



THANK YOU!

The APWC would like to thank the Applegate businesses and volunteers that have graciously donated to our programs through cash or in-kind contributions.

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Keyhole gardening

BY SIOUX ROGERS



Sioux Rogers

This article is dedicated to Scott Owbridge, a wonderful new friend and garden helper. He amazingly and impressively helps me in my garden despite his physical challenges. Scott is interested in keyhole gardens because he says he will most likely be in a wheelchair sometime in the future. Keyhole gardening will be his “ticket” to continue pursuing his passion for gardening. In fact, Scott and I are building a “practice” keyhole garden now.

All of us are challenged at times in our everyday existence, but that is all it is, a challenge. Survivors figure out how to overcome a challenge with a positive outcome. I, at barely five feet tall, am vertically challenged. I overcame this inconvenience by having numerous step stools everywhere and marrying a guy who is 6’ 4” tall.

Keyhole gardening was actually developed in southern Africa to address the challenge of sparse resources and unforgiving heat. When a keyhole garden is built to the height of three feet or a little taller and three feet across, it will accommodate a wheelchair or an aching back. The three-foot reach is very easy from inside the notch or from around the outside. Three keyhole gardens are “more than enough to supply” a family of ten “with all the vegetables they need,” reported BBC (news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/africa/7432972.stm).

A demonstration of a keyhole garden in the US was built at, of all places, a hardware store in Texas. The wall structure for the planter was built with native Texas rock and clay. The “soil” was started using 129 shredded phone books, a large load of cardboard from the store’s dumpster, and some manure. Can you believe that in four weeks they had good useable soil?

To visualize keyhole gardening, picture a donut. Okay, a really *big* donut. Now take a big bite out of that donut, but not all the way to the center hole. The “donut bite” is the keyhole.

After looking at many pictures of keyhole gardens, I realized that not all of them are in the shape of a partially eaten donut. Some are actually square or another shape, but whatever the shape, the principle is the same: a notch in the middle of the structure provides easy access. And get this: in the middle is a vertical compost tower. This compost tower is so clever and saves an extraordinary amount of time by not having to be turned and tossed, as required by a traditional compost bin.

The compost basket in the center of the keyhole notch functions best, it seems, when it is wire. This is the clever part: Everything you use for composting goes in the long wire basket. Layer it just as you would your regular compost pile. Compostable material, including grey water, is added to the tower throughout

the growing season. When the bed gets watered, the compost tower will also get watered. Remember, compost needs water to break down to the prized organic matter that gardeners sometimes refer to as “black gold,” which makes plants so very happy. In a matter of weeks, the compost will start to break down and leak out the wire frame, gently infusing lovely liquid composted fertilizer. Sounds interesting, right?

The keyhole garden actually uses some of the principles of biodynamic gardening: don’t step on the soil so as not to compact it, plant close together, and never rototill. Eventually the closely spaced plants will form a canopy over the bed, thus reducing water evaporation.

Traditionally keyhole gardens are constructed with stone. The stone wall not only gives the garden its form, but helps trap moisture within the bed. But

keyhole gardens can be made from other materials too. (Google “keyhole gardening,” click on “Images,” and activate your creative brain.)

Keyhole gardening is *not* just for us country folks. City slickers can benefit as much or more due to frequent lack of garden space in urban areas. The structure can be placed anywhere: the rooftop, the driveway, or in the middle of the sidewalk. Just kidding, but you get the idea.

Dirty fingernails and all,
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Keyhole gardens in various stages of completion. (Right photo: irenegrimes.files.wordpress.com. Bottom right photo: ihptz.org/?q=gallery&page=1. Bottom left photo: txmg.org/williamson/2015/06/15/week-ending-6142015/.)



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Cantrall Buckley Park news

BY JANIS MOHR-TIPTON



Rick Barclay, park manager, makes good use of the park's new tractor.

The park has a new tractor to help tackle all the hard-to-do jobs that park manager, Rick Barclay, needs done to maintain the park. Rick said, "It moves tables, barbecues, and downed trees and can do the digging for the water leaks. And I'm not at the mercy of other people for resources." Daryl Miller, owner of Runaway Tractors in Grants Pass, offered a very good deal and arranged for a no-interest loan for the Greater Applegate Community Development Corporation (GACDC), overseers of the park. Said Daryl, "You've got to take good care of resources like Cantrall Buckley Park."

More news and events

The newly developed Monarch Wayside garden is in bloom and growing nicely. Plant identification lists of the plants are available, and the plants have markers with numbers to correspond with those on the list.

The second cleanup of the year, on July 5, was a SOLVE event. (SOLVE "mobilizes over 35,000 volunteers and organizes over 1,000 cleanup and restoration projects throughout the state. Visit solveoregon.org for more information.) A crew of six volunteers, four of them new volunteers for cleanup, collected 310 pounds of trash in less than two hours! A very big thank you to all of them!

Now *you* have a chance to help us with our next cleanup event. We are participating in the SOLVE beach and riverside cleanup statewide event on Saturday, September 23, 2017. See the accompanying notice to sign up to help at Cantrall Buckley.

Fundraising efforts continue to support the goal of \$180,000 for the final phase of the campground project. Anyone can help by making a tax-deductible donation. You can mail a check to GACDC Campground Fund, PO Box 335, Jacksonville, OR 97530, or drop off a donation at Ruch Country Store at 7350 Highway 238 or at

Ruch Hardware at 181 Upper Applegate Road. Or see instructions for online donations at our website at gacdc.org.

Plans call for adding new sites with water and power in 2019, as well as new restrooms in the group camping area, a dumping station for RVs, a new water storage and pumping system, and improvements to the roadway. This will make our park more sustainable and allow the park to host more RV travelers and community members camping for extended stays. Once we reach the \$180,000 goal, the Oregon State Parks County Opportunity Program is expected to match that total by the end of 2018.

Late-breaking news

On August 4, monarch caterpillars at various stages of growth were seen munching away on the new plantings of milkweed (their *only* food source) in the park's new waystation.

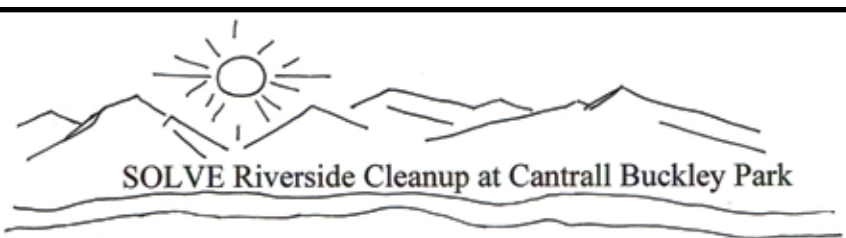
Eggs were found on both milkweed species that were planted in the park, but, because the plants are young, they will not be able to provide enough food this year. So the caterpillars were moved into rearing cages to be raised locally and returned to the local environment as tagged adults from the Applegate Valley.

This type of controlled rearing is done when the conditions or predators interfere with successful metamorphosis from eggs to adult butterflies. When released as adults, they will feed heavily on nectar plants and then begin their migration south in September.

Congratulations to all the students and volunteers who helped make this project a success for the monarchs!

If you or any organization would like more detailed information or a presentation of our project, please contact the park committee through the website at gacdc.org.

Janis Mohr-Tipton
janismohrtipton48@frontier.com



Saturday, September 23, from 9 - 11:30 am
Volunteers are needed—all ages welcome!



Park cleanup with an emphasis on the Wayside Area for removal of invasive plant species.



Bring work boots or sturdy shoes, work gloves, and digging implements.

Snacks and water provided.

Your help is vital to keep our community park enjoyable for all, and you will be a part of a statewide event with SOLVE!

Register now
at solveoregon.org/get-involved/event-registration
or contact Janis Mohr-Tipton at 541-846-7501
or janismohr-tipton48@frontier.com.

Coming soon at Cantrall Buckley Park

Bathroom Restoration Project

If you've been waiting to see progress on the park's Bathroom Restoration Project, the long-delayed venture is about to start! Jackson County Parks, who is responsible for the work, has had its own delays, but work is slated to begin this fall and should be completed by the end of the year. This is a crucial step since the old facility has deteriorated to the point of being unpleasant. Our thanks to the county for completing this necessary work.

Airline ticket raffle

Here's a way to support your park and have a chance to win two airline tickets to fly anywhere in the US or two nights at the MGM Grand Signature Hotel in Las Vegas. Visit Ruch Country Market, where raffle tickets will be on sale beginning in September. The drawing will be held on Sunday, November 19, at the Applegate Wine Trail Uncorked event. Raffle tickets are \$10 each with discounts for multiples. Airline tickets for the first-place winner are good from December 2017 until November 2018, with some restrictions. The Las Vegas stay is for the second-place winner.

Everyone who supports the park is a winner. Tax-deductible donations can be made online at gacdc.org or by mail to GACDC, PO Box 335, Jacksonville, OR 97530.

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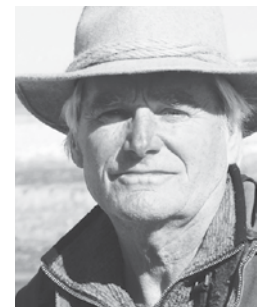
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BIRD EXPLORER

Birding and digiscoping

BY PETER J. THIEMANN



Peter J. Thiemann

During late summer and early fall, birds are not very visible and an abundance of young birds makes for tough identification. But come autumn, birds are again on the move preparing for the season ahead.

For better bird identification, many birders use spotting scopes, which allow intimate views often at great distances. However, under the tension of a field sighting, often of short duration, misidentification is very common.

Here is one solution: Record your field sighting to be later identified on a computer screen using a spotting scope adapter that works with a smartphone camera. Not only can you record your bird sighting, but you can also share with friends. Also, if you're on a field trip and there is a great sighting, you can share that view with others.

Believe me, it is much better to look at a smartphone screen than through

the spotting scope eyepiece. Birders have knocked the bird completely out of view by trying to peer through the eyepiece of my spotting scope!

I did some phone scoping recently to capture wild wolves in Yellowstone National Park, and I can report that it works well under even extreme conditions—like minus 20 degrees F and snow. Fellow wolf watchers were really appreciative when they were able to look at my iPhone screen.

For fast-action wildlife shots, use the camera "burst" mode to capture the perfect frame, and also make videos with spotting scopes and smartphone adapters. Then, using inexpensive apps, a single frame can be captured for that perfect shot.

Happy birding phone scoping.

Peter J. Thiemann

peterjthieman@yahoo.com



Using a spotting scope adapter on a smart phone, Peter Thiemann captured shots of owls and a golden eagle delivering a ground squirrel to its nest (bottom right photo). Photos courtesy of Peter J. Thiemann flickr photo stream.

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Notes from a Rogue entomologist**From orchards to vineyards:
Treehoppers follow the trend**

BY RICHARD J. HILTON

I have previously noted how my work has evolved over the last 30 years here in southern Oregon—from focusing almost entirely on pears to more of a mix of crops, including considerable time spent in vineyards during the past decade.

In my *Applegater* article two years ago, I talked about a new virus, red blotch, that we were finding in grapevines. The identity of an insect vector was, at that time, a key topic of research. Some sort of sucking insect that feeds on grapes was the most likely suspect, and one published study showed that a leafhopper had transmitted the red blotch virus in a greenhouse experiment. However, those findings were never duplicated despite repeated attempts by multiple laboratories. And, to my knowledge, that study was never defended by any of the original researchers.

So other sucking insects were tested, and, about a year and half ago, a group at University of California-Davis announced that they had identified a treehopper, the threecornered alfalfa hopper, as a vector of red blotch. Those findings were recently verified by work done at Cornell University. Let me note that “threecornered alfalfa” is a bit of a misnomer as this insect can attack many plants besides alfalfa, including shrubs.

In light of this new information, starting last year treehoppers became the

primary focus of our attention. We already knew that the threecornered alfalfa hopper can attack wine grapes—in the 2003 *Oregon Viticulture*, it was included as a pest, albeit a minor one. However, while the direct damage from the treehopper to the grapevine is negligible, when the insect is transmitting a virus like red blotch, suddenly the injury caused by its feeding is magnified. Now it is potentially a major pest.

Another wrinkle in this story is that the treehopper we found feeding on grapevines was not the threecornered alfalfa hopper but a closely related species which, unfortunately, has no common name. One of the best articles we discovered while searching for information on this treehopper concerned its attack on tree fruit in the Pacific Northwest and contained data from the late 1920s and early 1930s.

One resource that proved very helpful for our study on our “new” treehopper pest was past insect collections made in pear orchards. Peter Westgard, my predecessor, had done a fantastic job documenting the insects that inhabit pear orchards. He left two extensive collections of insects, one from the 1960s, when he was looking at a pear orchard here at the research center where no insecticides were applied for a ten-year period. Peter hired his predecessor,



Treehoppers on a pear tree.
Photo: Phil VanBuskirk.

Louis Gentner (of fritillaria fame), then in his 70s, to make this collection. This was a perfect job for Louis, a highly accomplished insect collector.

The other collection was amassed in 1980 by Larry Gut, Peter’s graduate student who was studying the insect community in pear orchards and how it was affected by surrounding habitat. Larry is now a top tree fruit entomologist at Michigan State University.

Examining these two collections, I found over 125 treehopper specimens. While there were some threecornered alfalfa hoppers, the vast majority were the same species of treehopper that we are now finding in wine grapes. By looking at the dates when the treehoppers were collected, I could discern the general pattern of adult emergence and determine that there is only a single generation per year. It was quite valuable to have this source of information,

demonstrating that old data can still be very relevant.

It seems clear that our native treehopper species was able to inhabit orchards when they were first planted here over a hundred years ago, and now they seem to have successfully moved to vineyards and

are feeding on this new crop as well.

And the feeding that these treehoppers do is rather unusual. With their sucking mouthparts, they will feed around a shoot or leaf stem, often resulting in a girdle. In red grape cultivars this girdling causes the distal portion of the plant to turn bright red, making it stand out—often very dramatically. When we’re searching for these treehoppers, this is one of the signs we look for.

While new problems create the need for new research, the first step is always to check the past and learn from it.

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**Lorquin’s Admirals are
abundant this season**

BY LINDA KAPPEN

The Lorquin’s Admiral (*Lorquini limenitis*) is a butterfly of the Nymphalidae family. It can be up to three inches on open wing. The dorsal (open wings) view shows black with white bands along the median of the wing. Wingtips are orange and narrow and run on the top margin of the forewing. The ventral (underside) view shows patterns of reddish-brown with white bands and a grayish-blue band. This describes the butterfly in our area, but there can be some variations in appearance throughout the Pacific Northwest.

Males perch in their habitats looking for females. The female will lay a single egg on the tip of a host plant, which is mainly willows, but also orchard trees, shrubs, and trees of the prunus or poplar family. Larvae will feed on the leaves of plants and will overwinter in a hibernaculum (bud or underground stem) of rolled leaf shelters.

Adults will nectar on a variety of flowers such as yerba santa, yarrow, dogbane, coyote mint, thistles, and many others. For most butterfly species, only males use seeps from roadside ditches or wet mountain streams that create wet spots for their nutrients. It has been reported that the female Lorquin’s Admiral will also use

these wet spots. Maybe that is why so many of these butterflies can be seen at once in this type of spot.

Lorquin’s Admirals can be seen in flight on warm days in late February then through October. Their habitats are streams, rivers, forest edges, canyons, parks, or gardens. These types of places provide some of their host plants. The butterfly ranges from coast to inland and west in the Pacific Northwest.

Lorquin’s Admirals are in good numbers this season, and we could see up to three broods. Look for them as you travel country and mountain roads. I have seen them nectar on excrement of animals or dead reptiles, a great place to observe them up

close. As they land on a tip of a branch, they will turn around and face the sun, displaying their beauty even more.

Quick butterfly fact: Pierre Joseph Michel Lorquin was a French entomologist who collected lepidoptera in the mid-1800s in California and Oregon during the gold rush. He also made great discoveries in the natural history of the terrain and collected for Jean Baptiste Boisduval, one of the most celebrated lepidopterists in France. Pierre Lorquin is honored with two butterflies in his name: Lorquin’s Admiral and *Papilio lorquinianus*, a sea-green swallowtail found in Indonesia, Sulawesi, Borneo, Java, Sumatra, and the Philippines.

Linda Kappen
humbukkapps@hotmail.com

Photo credits: Lorquin’s Admiral butterfly (bottom left and right) by Linda Kappen. *Papilio lorquinianus* (below) by Dana Ross, Oregon State Anthropol Collection.



Papilio lorquinianus



Lorquin’s Admiral dorsal view



Lorquin’s Admiral ventral view

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The winemaker's process: An interview with Herb Quady

BY DEBBIE TOLLEFSON

Herb Quady grew up on his family's winery in central California, which specializes in sweet and aperitif wines, with a "compulsory" love for muscat. But after a chance exposure to the world of Rhone varieties through Randall Graham, founder of Bonny Doon Vineyard in California, he got hooked on making table wines. After completing a viticulture and enology degree at California State University-Fresno, he found his way to southern Oregon. While working as the winemaker at Troon Vineyard, Herb and his wife, Meloney, founded Quady North in 2006.

We asked Herb a variety of questions about wine, including the effects of climate change on grapes. Here are his answers.

When do you start developing a plan for a particular wine you are going to make? After the grapes are picked or before?

Ideally, we want to start developing the plan very early. After spending a few vintages in the Applegate, I had made some observations that I could use to develop my vineyard. I used trellis systems and orientation in order to grow fruit that would make wine in a particular style. That was a great way to go. However, there have been a few times when we've come up with a plan as the fruit was heading to the winery. That stuff happens, and you just have to roll with it.

If your plan evolves, what information do you use for development of a particular wine? What information affects the final outcome?

I like to talk a lot to different people who work out in the marketplace. My most popular wine was first made at the suggestion of what was then my Portland area representative. He thought he could sell a reasonably priced alternative white from Rhone grape varieties. From that suggestion, I tried to imagine what people might like in a white wine, in a general sense. From my experience, people seem to really gravitate toward bright, balanced, fruit-driven white wines, no matter the variety. That meant picking grapes on the earlier side to retain acidity, fermenting in stainless to emphasize the fruit, fermenting cold to retain aromatics, and bottling early to capture esters. [Description of "esters" from Wikipedia: "Some of the aromas

perceived in wine are from esters created by the reaction of acids and alcohol in the wine."]

Do you use the same general plan year to year or does it change?

We make both terroir-driven wines and concept-driven wines. With a terroir-driven wine, we want the wine to show the character of the place and the vintage, so we try to keep the wine making as simple and consistent as possible. This is how we make our single-vineyard varietal wines. With concept wines, like our Rosé and Pistoleta, we adjust the plan in order to stay true to the concept so that the wine stays consistent from year to year.

You grew up in the wine business, so how has your wine style evolved from earlier wines or wines that your family made?

When I first moved to southern Oregon in 2003, I had a sort of "California-esque" mentality. I had learned that vines needed to be stressed in order to produce wines of concentration. I didn't realize that our area has a lot of natural stresses: cold winters, shallow soils, low-nutrient soils, and dry, arid summers. This is different from most parts of California. I changed pretty quickly to focus more on vine health after observing that the best wines in the cellar came from the most balanced, healthy vines. My family in California specializes in dessert and aperitif wines, which is a unique specialty. However, making sweet wines is all about balance. You have to balance sweetness with acidity; otherwise the wine is cloying. In table wines, even though the wine might not have any residual sugar, you still need to pay attention to balance. In this case, the sweetness comes from fruit and oak, while the drying effects come from tannin and acid. These need to be kept in balance for a table wine to be enjoyable.

You have been doing this a long time. What still excites you about creating a wine? Is there a particular variety of grape or blend that you are looking forward to creating?

One thing that's exciting for me is selling my fruit to other talented winemakers. The more winemakers we can get excited about southern Oregon fruit, the better. It's really fun to see what they do

with it. Even though it's not particularly a great business strategy, I love experimenting with different varieties or wine styles. Lately we've had a lot of fun making sparkling wines. The whole reason to do this is for the fun and challenge of creating. If we stop letting ourselves have fun, it's not worth it.

What is your insight about climate change and the Applegate Valley?

This is a great question. I've only been here for 13 years, so some of my understanding comes from the growers who have been here longer than that. I know that a lot of the older vineyards were established without irrigation because there was more rain during the summer. In my first few vintages, I had to become an expert on deacidulation because our acids were much higher than they are now. I think this is because even in "warm" vintages, like 2004, night temperatures were cooler than they had been in recent vintages; hence, acid wasn't respiring as quickly as it is now.

The years from 2012 to 2016 were very warm and characterized by early bud break, which made vines more susceptible to spring frost, which continues to be an issue in the valley despite the warming weather.

It's really hard to say what this means for growing wine grapes in the valley. Wine grapes can perform well in a relatively broad range of temperatures. What changes is the style of wine that's made from them. I tried some beautiful old merlots made from the Layne Vineyard in the 1980s, and what



Herb Quady, owner and winemaker at Quady North, grew up in central California with a "compulsory" love for muscat.

struck me was how delicate they were at 12.5 percent alcohol, which is reminiscent of older Bordeaux wines. These days, that same fruit makes a lovely, but much richer, red wine, which usually finishes in the upper 14 percent range. The changing climate certainly allows us to keep pushing the envelope. We certainly wouldn't have considered grenache and tannat to be good bets a decade ago, but now they make solid wines every year.

What is scary is the unpredictability. In other regions of the wine world, especially in Europe, they have been experiencing very extreme weather events like frost and hail during the growing season. California, as we know, has just emerged from a serious drought. For us, it could be more forest fires, spring frost, and drought that could prove to be serious challenges.

Debbie Tollefson

debbie.avreality@gmail.com

The Quady North tasting room is located at 255 East California Street in Jacksonville. For more information, call 541-702-2123, email info@quadynorth.com, or visit their website at quadynorth.com.

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Hope Harrison, choir director for Voices of the Applegate, offered a summer session of singing with choir members and anyone who might be interested in getting together once a week to sing during the months of July and August. We had a great turnout and enjoyed a variety of songs, including "I Will Sing My Song," "The Bare Necessities," and "Sixteen Tons" in two-part harmony, as well as a wide range of music from the handbook, *Get America Singing Again*, which contains about 50 of the favorite American songs we learned in school. Our grand finale was to sing in local nursing homes.

Our regular fall rehearsal session will begin on Wednesday, September 6, and we will rehearse every Wednesday evening until November 15. Our concerts will be held on Friday, December 1, at 7 pm at the Old Presbyterian Church, 405 East California Street, Jacksonville, and Sunday, December 3, at 3 pm, at Applegate River Lodge, 15100 Highway 238, Applegate.

For more information, call Joan Peterson at 541-846-6988.

Discover Stories on the Land

Below is the second excerpt from the unpublished 1996 book, Stories on the Land: An Environmental History of the Applegate and Upper Illinois Valley, by George McKinley and Doug Frank. The Applegate Valley Community Newspaper, Inc., will be publishing the book in its entirety in 2018.

Early in 1827 a party of Hudson's Bay Company trappers from Fort Vancouver—around 40 French-Canadian and Indian trappers, led by Peter Skene Ogden, with their native wives and over a hundred horses—became the first known whites to enter the Applegate watershed. They traveled west along the Klamath River, then turned north over the crest of the Siskiyou into the Rogue drainage, skirting the southern and eastern edges of the Applegate drainage to pass north and then south again along Bear Creek. On April 7, 1827, Ogden and his men descended Onion Creek, south of present-day Grants Pass, into the lower Applegate.

The party explored and trapped the Applegate area for about a week. Ogden's trappers split up, presumably ranging widely across the landscape. There are no expansive descriptions of the Applegate region, nor of the activities of the trappers. It seems likely that Ogden himself ranged into the middle stretches of the Applegate watershed, where a camp was established near the mouth of Thompson Creek.

Ogden's journal laments the lack of beaver available for easy trapping in the Applegate and shows his preoccupation with traveling on: "I now feel more than ever anxious to leave this Country being now more than ever fairly of opinion it is not a Beaver one nor was it ever intended it should be one." The trappers moved from the Applegate back into the Rogue, where they established a camp in the vicinity of Evans Creek.

Ogden's observations provide a glimpse into the ecosystem of this country at that time. There were wolves: Ogden says they ran off fifty of his horses. There were impressive oaks along Bear Creek: "Nearly double the size of any I have seen this season." There was good pasturage: "In all my travels, I have not yet seen a finer country for pasture." Along the Siskiyou Crest above Cottonwood Creek Ogden noticed that "in many parts wood appears scarce and in other parts abundant Oak and Pine." He called the Rogue River "a bold stream and also a very strong one

and both sides of the River well lin'd with Rocks and Stones." He remarked on the mildness of the winter, writing on February 9-10, 1827:

"The Indians inform us the winter is now over and I am almost inclined to believe them from the singing of Birds of all kinds, grass green and at its full growth. Flowers in blossom certainly entitles them to be credited but we are yet in February."

Ogden's main goal in the Applegate region was to further the Hudson's Bay Company's resolve to create a vast "fur desert" surrounding the Company's lands along the Columbia River. Logic presumed that if there were no beavers to trap, there would be no American trappers to compete with the British in the expanding northwest, and the region would remain British. Since 1821, when the English Parliament stepped in to consolidate the feuding North West and Hudson's Bay companies under a single title, the Company had helped further British goals. Although Ogden seemed sometimes less than happy with the beaver opportunities in the Applegate, he does record taking well over 1,500 pelts, the stated harvest goal for the trip. At the peak of the trade, between 1834-1837, "nearly half a million skins were handled by the Hudson's Bay Company at Fort Vancouver."

During the next two decades, the only Euro-Americans to visit the area were the several parties who entered the periphery and a yearly flow of fur trappers from the Hudson's Bay Company. The environmental impact of these groups seems minimal, except in two regards: the removal of beaver from riparian communities and the resultant channelization of streambeds and alteration of streamside environments. Probably the impact of beaver decimation ceased in the latter part of the 1840s, when the saturation of the beaver hat market, combined with reports of trapped-out beaver throughout the range of the Hudson's Bay Company, caused the British and European fad for beaver hats to plummet, and fashionable people began to look elsewhere for their headwear. It is quite likely, however, that this impact from beaver trapping was soon over-laid by a similar consequence of mining, whose impact lay just around the corner.

Note: Excerpted by Diana Coogle from pages 18-19 of Stories on the Land: An Environmental History by George McKinley and Doug Frank.

Back in Time: Watkins School now under water

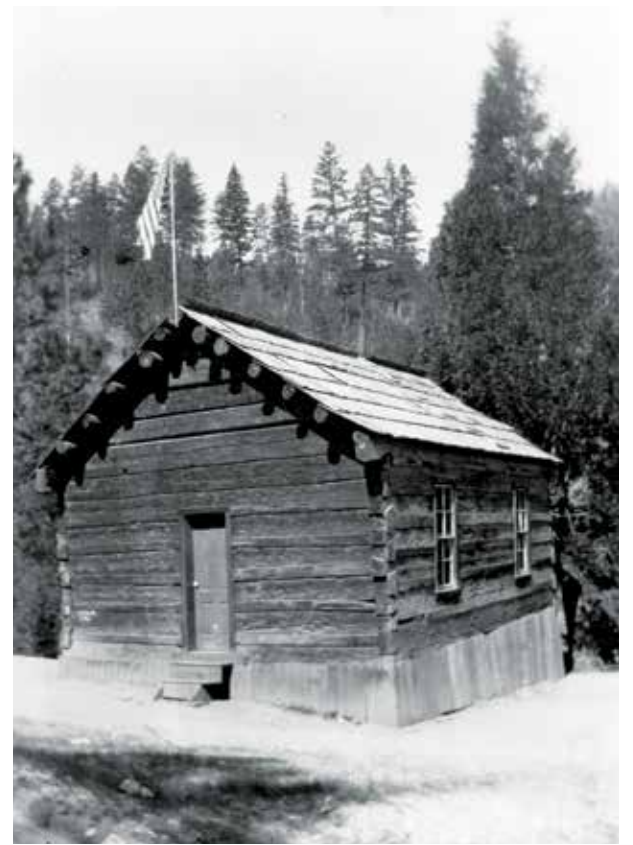
BY EVELYN BYRNE WILLIAMS WITH JANEEN SATHRE

Some of Applegate Valley's early one-room schools were made from logs harvested from a nearby forest. The Watkins School, which was built on a bluff high above the Applegate River and very close to the road, was one such school.

The children played games of baseball, races, marbles, and touch tag in the roadway, as the teacher was always worried about a pupil falling off the cliff behind the school. Seldom did a vehicle pass by on the road, but when a copper ore wagon from the Blue Ledge Mine went by, play would stop for an exchange of greetings, especially if the children knew the driver.

Our family was quite involved with this school. Aunt Katie, my dad's youngest sister, attended the later grades, and her older sister, my Aunt Margaret, taught there. When my brother, Morris, was six in 1922, he attended first grade there. His teacher was Ina Stoker (later Pursel), a dear friend who boarded at my family's home during the school year.

This photo is of special interest because of the flag flying above the doorway. There does not appear to be a pulley system, so the flag must have stayed up during the entire school year and some brave soul had to climb a ladder to remove the flag at the end of the school season.



Watkins School was built on a bluff above the Applegate River, but is now under Applegate Lake.

A new school was later built on the Bert Harr property to accommodate the growing population, and the logs from the old school were hauled several miles down the road by Cary Culy to build a garage. So many years have gone by, and the old Watkins School is now only a memory beneath Applegate Lake.

Evelyn Byrne Williams
with Janeen Sathre
541-899-1443

Applegate School welcomes two new teachers

Grade K/1

Karen Hirschmugl is the new K/1 teacher at Applegate School. She brings 16 years of experience gained in the Gresham-Barlow School District, where she taught first, third, and fourth grades.

"I am very excited to be joining the staff at Applegate Elementary School," Karen said, "because I love the Applegate Valley and am looking forward to living, working, and being involved in the community."

Karen has been married to husband Alan for 32 years, and has three children: Paul, Nellie, and Kyle. She also calls herself the "proud owner" of three dogs: Bella, Tucker, and Zane. Karen's favorite free-time activities, which include hiking, camping, and running, are all well suited for the Applegate.

"I can't wait to meet my students and am looking forward to watching them as they learn and grow this school year," Karen said.

Karen attended college at Concordia University and Lewis and Clark College, and replaces Vicki DiStefano, who accepted the role of Title One Coordinator at Manzanita Elementary.



Karen Hirschmugl



Brad Studebaker

Grade 6-8

Brad Studebaker will be teaching core classes in math and science to Applegate students in grades 6-8.

This new teacher will be busy—in addition to core classes, he will teach other courses and take a leadership role in co-curricular activities such as the National Junior Honor Society.

Brad's background has provided multiple opportunities for him to teach. Not only has he taught at the college level, but he has also worked in the medical industry producing and delivering training to doctors, nurses, and other health professionals.

Brad's background also includes 12 years as a ski instructor in Aspen, Colorado!

He grew up in Ashland and attended college at Southern Oregon University, Claremont College, and the University of Nevada, Reno, earning degrees in mathematics, nursing, and business.

Now Brad has returned to his roots to enter the teaching profession. "I am looking forward to guiding students to understand the world around them and to begin to imagine their place as adults," Brad said.



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Personalizing Ready, Set, Go!

BY SANDY SHAFFER

You wouldn't think that late summer would be the best time to discuss the Ready, Set, Go! (RSG!) program—we're still in fire season! But after going through a lot of educational materials on RSG! and not finding any that seemed complete, I began listing the tasks I'd personally want to consider under each of the three steps to prepare our rural household for an emergency or an evacuation.

After reviewing my list, I soon realized that it would take some serious time to *really* get **Ready**. So I thought that if we all started thinking and planning for the possibility of emergency evacuation *now*, and then worked through the fall, winter, and spring, we could all be **Ready** for *next* summer!

No surprise, it's my **Ready** list—preparing your home, property, and family for a wildfire threat—that had the most items to consider.

Ready covers everything from basic defensible space, installing fine metal mesh over vent openings; cleaning off the roof, gutters, and underneath the deck; sweeping leaves off the front porch; moving a wood pile away from the house; signing up for Citizen's Alert or reverse 9-1-1; having a water supply available; and having reflective address signs leading to your home. Also, your driveway must meet local slope, width, and vegetation clearance regulations—so that you can leave and firefighters can arrive safely!

Ready also covers thinning and cleaning up your yard and forested acres. Two concepts to address: (1) any continuous line of fuels leading (like a wick) to your home, and (2) those dry fine fuels that can easily build up and ignite from blowing embers ahead of a wildfire. (As I'm writing this article, I have another *two inches* of madrone leaves on the front lawn that fell *overnight!* Ugh!)

Working to meet these two fuels challenges will vary, depending on your property's elevation, slope, aspect, winds, vegetation types, tree health, and also neighboring properties (private and government). Every property's neighbors are different. Perhaps your elderly neighbors can't mow their portion of the shared driveway, but they could bake you a yummy berry pie as thanks for helping?

Being **Ready** also includes family planning for emergencies and must include *all* family members. Family plans should address the possibility of being without utilities and should include plans for evacuating (determine at least two ways out and a family meeting place), for not having all family members at home at the time of the emergency, and for communicating with relatives out of the area. Hint: Get those relatives to agree to *one* main contact, who then calls everyone else with *your* message.

Timing is everything: Who's at home? How much time will you have? How will your family communicate with each other? Think of all the possibilities and issues, and discuss them with your family members. Designate duties! Who does what?

Family **Ready** planning includes identifying important documents, licenses, keys, insurance contact information, medications for all family members and also for pets and livestock! Everyone makes their short list of "must takes," and this is included in the larger family list. Consider having packs ready at the start of fire season, with a short list of final essentials to add. Don't forget food for your animals!

A final **Ready** item: If pet and livestock evacuation is necessary, plan how to do this and arrange where you'd take them. Practice emergency crating or trailer loading so that you'll know how long this might take (see photo).



Sandy Shaffer's dog, Maggie, needs more practice crating on command—not to mention an attitude adjustment!

Set starts when there is a possible emergency situation such as a wildfire in the area. Be alert—listen to scanners or radios to find out what is happening while you collect your (and your pet's) emergency packs. Start laying out hose, pack the car, and hitch up the horse trailer. Communicate with family members, school, work, etc. Monitor the fire's behavior and be in contact with local authorities for road access and closures. Call your out-of-town family contact to explain your situation, and agree that *you* will update *them* again when it's safe for you to do so.

Finally, if there is a wildfire in your area, put on appropriate clothing and shoes, and monitor your home for flying embers that could ignite the home. Use that water supply!

Go! is when you are either instructed to evacuate or personally decide to. Don't wait until the last minute! Choose the safest route, inform family members, and meet at your designated location. Remain alert, cooperate with local authorities, and be safe.

Most importantly: Stick to your plan!
Sandy Shaffer
sassyoneor@gmail.com



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CLIMATE AFFECTS GRAPES

Continued from page 1

Applegate Valley does not have any long-term climate stations, its statistics were included in the Rogue Valley AVA.

The study showed that trends of the climate parameters important for grape growing and wine production were consistent with those of the north-south regions of AVAs: less frost and longer growing season in California and shorter growing season and greater frost risk in Oregon and Washington. Elevation and proximity to the coast determine heat accumulation and risk of frost. Thus the Rogue Valley, which is inland and at a higher elevation than most AVA growing regions, has a greater risk of frost and a shorter growing season than other AVAs included in the study.

The overall data analysis shows that the average temperatures during the growing season have warmed by 0.6 - 1.3 degrees F. However, Greg warns that "trends always have underlying variability. Our trends in climate, like those elsewhere, are not a perfect linear increase every year, but incremental, as cool and late years do still occur. They just occur not as cool or late as they did decades ago.

"For example, this year the winter was cooler than any year in the last ten years or so, but it was still warmer than any winter in the 1970s. The cool and wet winter led to a coolish spring this year and delayed vine growth, but only relative to the last five years. Vine growth was average

compared to the last 15 years, but still earlier than anything in the 1970s."

This trend toward longer growing seasons is a worldwide phenomenon, which, combined with the higher maximum and minimum temperatures, has helped some areas increase the range of cultivars. But it has also increased the range of pests and diseases. Additional warming, if it continues as the study suggests, will affect the types of grapes grown, the timing of all aspects of cultivation, the alteration of regional wine styles. It will even cause changes to the locations of traditional grape-growing regions.

This study and others like it lead to a prediction of more grape growers moving into the Applegate and Rogue valleys. Climate change is already pushing the prime growing area for premium wines north from their Napa and Sonoma strongholds. However, this trend is offset by the humidity of the more northerly climates that brings with it pests, mold, and mildew. In addition, water and water usage will continue to be an issue for all agricultural endeavors. According to NPR, citing a paper published in 2013 in the journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, "Grape growers may need to move their vineyards to higher latitudes and higher elevations to beat the heat of global warming." That is why many California grape growers are buying property in Oregon and Washington.

Debbie Tollefson

debbie.avrealty@gmail.com

Greg Jones takes new position in McMinnville

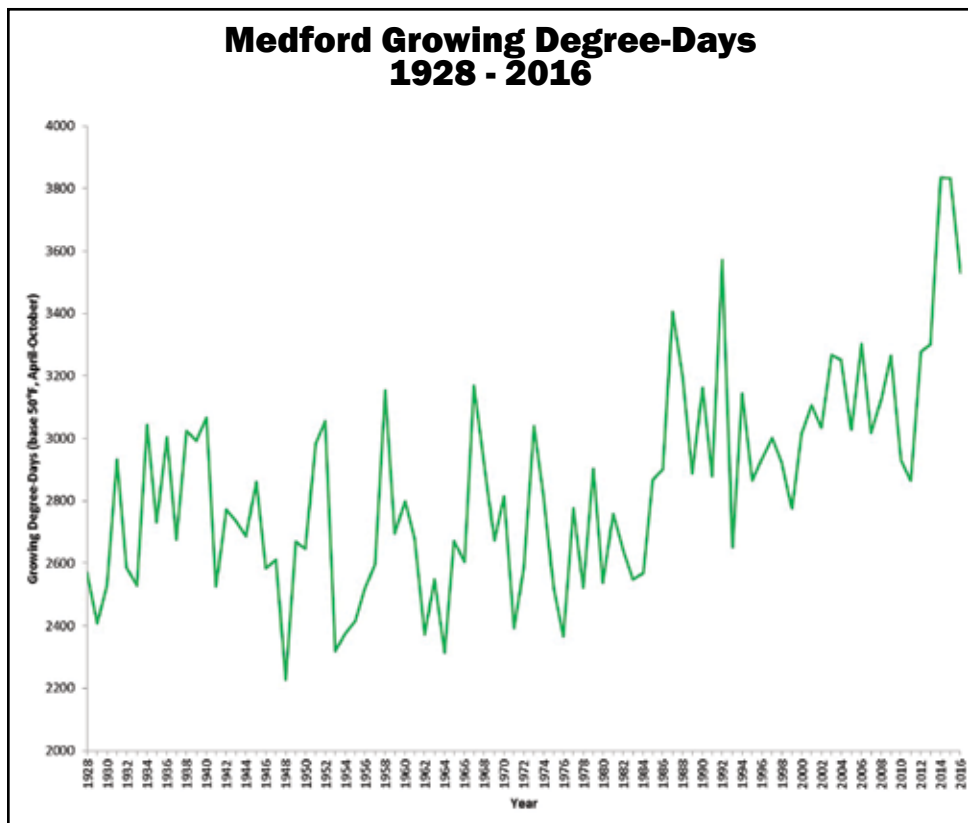
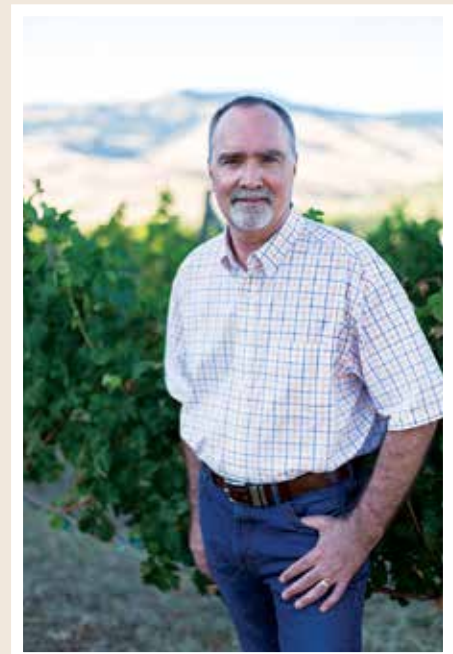
After 20 years at Southern Oregon University (SOU), Greg Jones has moved on—to Linfield College in the Willamette Valley as director of wine education.

"I'm excited to come to a small, private liberal arts college that is student-centered and regionally engaged and in the heart of the Oregon wine industry. While at Linfield, I plan to continue my research and outreach throughout Oregon, California, and the Pacific Northwest, while maintaining a strong presence as a leader of numerous national and international research teams and organizations devoted to studying viticulture and wine production," Greg said.

At SOU, in addition to being a professor and research climatologist in environmental science and policy, Greg served as director of the Division of Business, Communication and the Environment.

Greg was a contributing author to the 2008 Nobel Peace Prize-winning Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report. He earned a bachelor's degree and a PhD in environmental sciences with a concentration in atmospheric sciences from the University of Virginia. His research while at Virginia led his father, Earl Jones, to plant the Spanish grape variety tempranillo in Roseburg, Oregon, in 1995 and to create Abacela Winery. His stepmother, Hilda, serves on the board of directors for the Oregon Wine Board.

Last year, *Wine Business Monthly* included Greg among its top 50 wine industry leaders for his work as one of the wine world's leading climate researchers.



This graph shows the variation from year to year and the trend over the time period. 2016 was cooler than the two previous years, but still the fourth warmest overall. The 1981 - 2010 average is 3005, while the 1928 - 1980 average is 2725. Note: The Applegate Valley does not have any long-term climate stations to plot the same kind of diagram; however, "what happens in Medford happens in the Applegate, just a little lower in the absolute numbers," said Greg.

Climatic parameters used in study by Greg Jones

The daily maximum and minimum temperatures used were from the USHCN data covering 11 climatic parameters for grape growing. Five of the growing-season parameters represented temperature: (1) average temperature, (2) average maximum temperature, (3) average minimum temperature, (4) average temperature of the ripening period (August 15 - October 15), and (5) growing days of 50 degrees F or higher. The other six parameters were on frost and the critical minimum temperature with occurrence below 32 degrees F, and included the number of days below 32 degrees F, both annually and during spring (March - May) and fall (September - November). Also important to the data parameters are the dates of the last spring frost and the first fall frost. Finally, the length of the frost-free period was also studied.

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If you're willing and able, email gater@applegater.org.

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OPINIONS

Finding the connection to our ag roots

BY ANDREW SCHWARZ

I started farming in my mid-twenties. Until then there hadn't been a farmer in my family for two generations. My mother's grandfather had a farm in the New Jersey countryside, and my dad's grandfather started an avocado ranch in southern California after he emigrated from Europe during World War II. I know if most of you look back at your family lineage, there is a farmer not that far back down the line.

Today we eat without knowing how food is grown or where it comes from. Eight years ago that existential rift, between the eater and the farmer, led me down the rabbit hole to start farming, a life-changing endeavor that I could have never imagined. It has been like stepping back in time with modern twists and turns around each and every corner.

Historically, agriculture was a way of life that allowed generations to pass on intimate techniques to their next of kin. In my generation, most farmers are starting from scratch. I still have more questions about farming than I have answers to, a situation that probably won't change for as long as I live. Though I have learned an immense amount about farming and land stewardship, the truth is that the modern agricultural landscape is much different from the one my great grandfathers knew. With mechanization, chemical inputs, seed consolidation, topsoil degradation, monoculture production, and globalization, our agricultural system has become more fragile, less resilient, and more dependent on outside inputs than ever.

Through tapping into my agriculture roots, I have discovered many areas of concern and also many people and places that are revitalizing their local food systems. With farmers' markets, CSAs (Community Supported Agriculture), regional seed companies, and community education expanding, so, too, does regional food resiliency.

I have spent time working on numerous farms with wonderful people. Throughout the ups and downs of the strenuous season, the highlight is when it comes time to sow seeds. These hold the greatest truths and powers for a farmer to understand. If you have never sowed a vegetable seed, do it as soon as possible. Yes, we have lost an

immense amount of information from our ancestors, but luckily for us, seeds carry with them knowledge and lessons that are activated as soon as you pick them up and plant them. It has been transformative for me to plant seeds every year, and I know this experience is relatable to every other human who eats food. Don't find an excuse—just pick one of your favorite vegetables or fruits, buy seeds, plant them in the garden or a container, and care for them until you enjoy your edible bounty. Not everyone is going to be a farmer, but every person who eats should start a vegetable or fruit from seed that they want to eat. Just get on with it, because it will influence your life for the better, too.

Once you have gotten that tradition growing in your yard, the next question is, where does seed come from? Seasons, weather, soil, and inputs, e.g., lime, mineral calcium, and compost, are part of the variables that influence farming's feedback loop. When you step into the realm of seed saving, you begin to realize that you can have influences on the seeds you save, from how they grow to how they look to how they taste. Over a lifetime, you can create new varieties that are adapted to local conditions and local tastes.

Spend only a couple of years saving your own seeds and you will feel a connectedness to food that will bridge that modern rift between one who eats unaware of the origins of his food and one who knows the miracle of seed to fruit. Saving my own seed has truly brought me full circle in my young agricultural career. I feel humbled to understand what it has taken to create the food oasis we all cherish. I am apprehensive, though, about how quickly so much diversity could be lost through industrialization of agriculture. We all have the ability to make an impact by growing food and saving seeds, even if it is just one plant at a time.

Andrew Schwarz

schwarz.andrew@gmail.com

Andrew owns Ridgeline Meadows Farm in the Applegate and is on the board of Our Family Farms and the Southern Oregon Seed Growers Association. Both organizations work to help educate the public and farmers about local food production and to support and expand seed production in our region.

'Growing' concerns: Locals act

BY JENIFER NOBLE

Is progress always positive?

Robert Williams was most likely under the impression that fighting the Native Americans in 1853 was ushering in progress for the future mining community of Williamsburg, now Williams. Likewise, large marijuana operations moving into Williams today might think they are ushering in "progress." But many residents see the recent influx of industrial-scale corporate marijuana operations not as progress, but as a negative spiral for this rural community.

In light of growing concerns, in January a group of Williams residents formed the Concerned Citizens group, a diverse group of young and mature residents, cannabis growers and non-growers. The group's purpose is to seek reasonable regulations for industrial-sized recreational marijuana operations in order to protect the community's small-town rural lifestyle. Most of these operations—some potentially immense—are or will be operating on "resource zoned" properties (farmland or forestland) in Williams.

Besides their large and impersonal presence, such enterprises could have serious and unwanted impacts on this small rural farming community, such as increased water consumption and the paving or graveling-over of native soils to install mega-greenhouses. In addition, competition for land on which to grow this high-income product puts the cost of land out of reach for the average food farmer.

Other concerns include traffic and safety on residential country roads, the impacts of lights at night, greenhouse fan noise, and increased fire danger.

Heavy trucks and equipment haulers cause wear on roads not built for industrial use. Local residents report higher volumes of construction vehicle traffic. And in one Williams neighborhood, residents report more careless driving—speeding, crossing the center line, and even cars racing each other to work—by drivers who then turn into one of the large marijuana growing operations nearby.

Light from large greenhouses obscures the night sky. Noise from greenhouse fans disrupts natural sounds and rural quiet. Employees have been seen illegally camping in areas with high fire danger and slim firefighting resources.

The Concerned Citizens group has taken several steps. It produced a pamphlet of best practices for maintaining harmony among neighbors, the environment,

and growers. It formed an Approach Committee to encourage dialogue with the corporations moving in to grow marijuana. It drafted a petition to solicit Josephine County to create reasonable regulations for recreational marijuana projects on resource lands.

The group's most recent effort is to create protective standards to address concerns of noise, setbacks, greenhouse square footage, light, and destruction of high-value farmland. The Williams Town Council / Citizens Advisory Committee has been working with the community to draft these standards, which will go through a rigorous process requiring a 66 percent majority vote at both the second of two community input meetings and a Williams district-wide September election before they can be submitted to the county for the county's process.

The best way to ensure the passage of these standards is by exercising your right to vote! If you live in Williams and want to support these efforts, *you must be registered to vote locally*. If you are not already, it's not too late. You can register either in person at the Josephine County Clerk's office, online at oregonvotes.com, or through forms available at Concerned Citizens meetings. If you registered after July 25, you must bring proof of that registration to the September 25 election.

Watch Jo's List, Facebook, and flyers around Williams for reminders of important dates. Tuesday, September 19, will be a "CAC Candidates Night and Protective Standards Q & A" Town Meeting. On Monday, September 25, both the CAC election and the vote on the protective standards will take place from 5 to 8 pm at the Williams Grange. Voters must bring identification, and new voters must bring proof of registration.

Another way to help is to contact Josephine County commissioners and specifically ask them to support the Williams Town Council / Citizens Advisory Committee as they create reasonable regulations for recreational marijuana projects on farmlands and forestlands. You can contact the commissioners individually: Dan De Young at ddeyoung@co.josephine.or.us, Simon Hare at share@co.josephine.or.us, and Lily Morgan at lmorgan@co.josephine.or.us.

Williams welcomes true, positive progress that will maintain our rural community's cherished way of life.

Jenifer Noble • jenifer_noble@yahoo.com

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OPINIONS

River Right | Yukon musings

BY TOM CARSTENS

"I love Nature, I just don't want to get any of it on me."
—Woody Allen

Sometimes it's good to get away. It's summer, and I find myself deep in the far north Yukon Territory. My wife and I are on a long camping trip by way of the Alaska-Canada (Alcan) Highway. We're on our way to Alaska to see friends and do some canoeing north of the Arctic Circle.

The Alcan was quite a project. Right after Pearl Harbor, the 1,522-mile road was surveyed, engineered, and constructed through harsh wilderness in a little over eight months. President Roosevelt wanted to ensure that we had a military supply line to Alaska in case it was attacked—which, of course, it was, in 1942. After the army engineers dug out the road, a highway corps was hired to clean up the muck so larger civilian trucks could also make the journey.

Roads are a big deal up here. There seem to be only two professions in the Yukon: road grading and tire repair. I'm not sure if they're related.

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Do Not Apply.

Our own roads will soon be doing better: the Oregon legislature has at long last passed a transportation bill. Fortunately, our climate is a bit milder than the Yukon's so the work won't be quite as challenging for our road crews. And I'll bet they'll get more than eight months to finish up.

The Alcan is a lonely highway. There just aren't many people here. We picked up a tourist brochure that states: "In the Yukon, you'll find 48,000 square kilometers and

20 communities." Twenty. Wow. The folks we do run into are friendly and relaxed outdoorsy people.

This got me thinking about why the Applegate is such a pleasant community. We also live in a peaceful, outdoorsy, rural setting with light traffic, gorgeous scenery, abundant wildlife, and fresh, fir-scented air. Aside from a few clashes with government, not much jaw-clenching goes on here. It's kind of like the Yukon—without the three-hour drive to the grocery store. How lucky we are.

Recent science research demonstrates how nature quantifiably improves our cognitive function and nourishes our brains. If you'd like to read more about this phenomenon, Florence Williams has written an interesting book, *The Nature Fix*. Evolution, it seems, has yet to take us very far from the savannah. If your brain could use some soothing, here are some easy Applegate options. They're better than a martini!

- Turn right 100 feet past mile marker 4 on Sterling Creek Road and take a stroll along the new East Applegate Ridge Trail. This spring, Applegate volunteers carved



Tom Carstens

this path along the bluff next to Woodrat Mountain. It's a nice level stroll with a lovely view of our valley above Ruch. The trail is 5.6 miles long, but feel free to turn around at any point. I promise you'll feel rejuvenated and inspired!

- For really accessible nature, visit our two community river parks: Cantrall Buckley on Highway 238 near Ruch, and Fish Hatchery at 1980 Weatherbee Drive in Grants Pass. In the fall, you can even watch salmon spawn and bald eagles dine. It's good for the spirit, and you don't need to travel all the way to the Yukon River.

Speaking of the Yukon, I paddled for ten days on this river 16 years ago. It was a nice, brain-massaging trip. This June, I watched several hundred canoeists and kayakers launch from Whitehorse on the "Yukon River Quest," a 420-mile journey to Dawson City. In the land of the midnight sun, they paddle for almost three days and nights. Most are hallucinating toward the end. I'm not sure the brain appreciates this kind of torture.

See you on the river.

Tom Carstens • 541-846-1025

**Douglas fir loss:
Harbinger of an Applegate future?**

BY ALAN JOURNET

The yellow and orange leaves of late summer tell us the seasons are changing. But trees turning these shades in May and June deliver a different message.

Before this summer we already had half a dozen dead Douglas firs in need of removal on our 20-acre patch of forest in the Applegate. But by the time we added this summer's orange firs, the number reached double figures. The upside is that we have plenty of wood for our winter fires. The downside is that these dead and dying trees are a harbinger of worse to come.

As co-facilitator of Southern Oregon Climate Action Now, I spend much of my time informing southern Oregonians about climate science. I urge them to take individual and collective action to reduce our emissions of the pollution causing climate change and to prepare for the changes in our region and our lives that climate change inevitably will bring.

But now, the problem is more direct and personal. Now the climate weirding is killing the trees on our small plot in the paradise of the Applegate Valley.

Since relocating to the Applegate, I have spent time exploring the natural history of the area. Coming from southeast Missouri, I was aware that many North American forests are much younger than many locals think. In southern Missouri, for example, the oak-hickory forests of the Ozarks moved into the region from more southerly Ice Age refuges some 12 to 15 thousand years ago, about the same time as or shortly after the Native Americans arrived. Those forests have never existed without human management, most notably the use of fire to maintain vast expanses of open forest habitat for deer and elk.

I was intrigued, though unsurprised, to learn that a similar history applies to southern Oregon. The evidence suggests

that our forests, particularly the Douglas fir component, are equally recent. Indeed, the Douglas firs probably arrived from southerly west coast Ice Age refuges after the Native Americans arrived and so, like the forests of Missouri, have been subjected to human management since their arrival.

The evidence also suggests that Douglas firs have expanded their range since the immensely successful, yet potentially disastrous, fire suppression campaigns—including Smokey Bear—developed in the last century, which allowed Douglas fir to invade our oak-pine chaparral.

Now, we find that climate changes induced by global warming are redressing the imbalance that fire suppression imposed. Climatic conditions are becoming less favorable to Douglas fir. The result is what we are experiencing on our 20 acres of paradise: premature Douglas fir death.

No doubt we are not alone. Anyone in the Applegate Valley who is experiencing Douglas fir dieback is also experiencing the impact of climate change.

While Douglas fir seems generally the most profoundly affected by this climatic trend, other conifers are also susceptible. Among the *least* susceptible so far are

ponderosa pines since these conifers are adapted to dryer conditions.

But read on.

Before complacency sets in, it is worth noting that studies initiated by Gerald Rehfeld at the Pacific Northwest Forest Research Station in Idaho (available at charcoal.cnre.vt.edu/climate/species) suggest that future climatic conditions will severely compromise many of the forest species that Applegate Valley residents cherish. Even the ponderosa pine and our drought-tolerant chaparral species will not be immune.

If we fail to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions driving these climatic trends, there's no telling what our forests will look like by the end of the century.

Those of us in the Applegate Valley who make our living off local agriculture and forestry, or who simply enjoy the natural environment that surrounds us, would be well advised to learn about the threats that the changing climate promises.

We should also encourage state and federal action to address the root cause lest our livelihood evaporate.

Alan Journet

alanjournet@gmail.com**A different kind of footprint**

BY KATHY CONWAY

We've all made footprints in the sand or snow or mud, and we've seen them quickly washed or blown away. But our carbon (climate pollution) footprint doesn't disappear so quickly. It impacts the climate and our weather. We can no longer claim nobody does anything about the weather. Wittingly or unwittingly, we are now all doing something about it.

Of course, climate and weather aren't the same thing. The day-to-day local temperature and precipitation patterns we know as weather are quite variable. But the long-term pattern in conditions that we call climate is exhibiting an alarming trend that could bring great disruption to our lives—even here in the Applegate. The trend is largely a result of the footprints of climate pollution we are all creating in our day-to-day living.

For area residents interested in learning about their carbon footprint and about global and local climate trends, their causes, and what we can do to address them, Southern Oregon Climate Action Now has developed a Master Climate Protector (MCP) course. This course is similar to the locally popular and successful Master Recycler and Master Gardener programs.

This course was successfully piloted in spring 2017. The first MCP public offering will start on Monday, September 11. It will meet for ten weeks from 6 to 9 pm at the New Community Center at 104 East Main Street (just behind City Hall) in Talent, Oregon. The \$100 registration fee covers the venue, refreshments, course, and reference materials. Scholarships to help defray registration costs are available.

- The course will cover such topics as:
- Current climate change issues at the global, national, state, and regional levels
 - The influence of our carbon footprint
 - The role of population growth and energy use
 - The effects of climate trends on weather patterns and storm frequency and severity
 - The effect of climate change on human health, our fragile natural systems, our water resources, our agriculture, and our forestry.

Master Climate Protector course participants will learn how to share climate change information clearly with others and receive support for implementing a service project of their choice.

For more information, visit socanmcp.eco or contact Eric Dittmer at eric@socan.eco or 541-941-1572.

Kathy Conway, Co-facilitator
Southern Oregon Climate Action Now
kathleendconway@gmail.com

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OPINIONS

Behind the Green Door | Community outrage

BY CHRIS BRATT

One of our daughters recently sent us a news article about the work of a central Oregon forest activist, Carol Van Strum, the author of a 1983 book titled *A Bitter Fog*. The article was about preserving and making public her 40-year collection of research documents on pesticide spraying on public and private forestlands around her and her neighbors' homes in the forest.

For decades Carol and her small rural community have been battling the chemical industry, timber companies, and the US Forest Service (USFS) over spraying herbicides throughout their local forests. Her collected documents (200,000 pages of information) will now be available to the public through a project called the "Poison Papers." These documents are a "history of deceit and collusion involving the chemical industry and regulatory agencies that were supposed to be protecting human health and the environment," said Peter von Stackelberg, a journalist who helped put the collection online.

I know and revere the work of Carol Van Strum and her community group. Their research efforts and commitment helped bring an end to pesticide spraying on all public forestlands nationwide in 1983. They continue to work locally to

end aerial pesticide spraying on private timber company forestland. (Yes, the Oregon Department of Forestry still allows pesticide spraying on private forestlands.)

The efforts of this small group of central Oregon forest activists epitomize the huge challenges faced by rural forest communities like ours here in the Applegate. Many of us have come here to live a simpler life in or near our public forestlands, which make up 50 to 60 percent of the community land base.

I know I came to Applegate with the expectation that public agencies like the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the US Forest Service would be managing our forests in a sustainable way and protecting all of our natural resources.

But I soon found out there was constant extensive political interference and pressure to cut more trees for increasing county revenues and jobs. I found the same problems that Carol Van Strum found in her forest—that our community bears the environmental, as well as the social and economic, impacts of agency decisions. I also found that if concerned community members band together, we could improve the environmental quality of our forests by improving federal agency decision making.

In many cases, our community is shut out of policy and specific project decisions because we don't have the knowledge or the necessary access to scientific or technical information or expertise. Public participation is one of the National Environmental Policy Act's (NEPA's) fundamental objectives—the NEPA calls for full public disclosure and open decision making—but because the law's details are left to each federal agency, any particular agency may choose not to emphasize that detail of the law, forcing a battle with communities wanting information.

Presently, the BLM is preventing concerned Applegate and adjacent area citizens from fully participating in their Pickett West (PW) Forest Management Project by not allowing a citizen-drafted alternative. This PW Project uses a new BLM strategy designed to reduce tree canopy cover: taking the mostly closed canopy of the PW forests down to only 30 to 60 percent coverage. Lots of old-growth trees will be cut. Many community people and groups do not support cutting old-growth trees, nor do they support this action because the "main purpose and need for the Pickett West Project is the production of a sustainable supply of timber" (PW

Environmental Assessment, page 33). Further, this new logging strategy is lacking a monitoring plan and a more complete evaluation by peer reviewers and a wide range of stakeholders.

In the PW project's environmental assessment, the BLM claims that the management strategy is based on forest restoration, yet the prime impetus for this strategy is timber production. BLM is pretending to heal the forest by cutting it down. Historically, this is the same management smugness that has led the BLM and others to the overcutting that has resulted in our present state of regional and local compromised forest ecosystems.

I know Carol Van Strum would want us to band together in our outrage to eliminate these overcutting practices and repair these public forests that are so out of balance. She wants us to play the Lorax, like her, and "speak for the trees." I hope you will, too.

For more, read about the PW Project at Luke Ruediger's blog at thesiskiyoucrest.blogspot.com.

Chris Bratt
541-846-6988



Chris Bratt

Pickett West Timber Sale: Old-growth logging disguised as 'restoration'

BY LUKE RUEDIGER

The Pickett West Timber Sale is perhaps the worst old-growth logging project proposed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in southern Oregon for many years. The massive project proposes to log some of the last remnants of old forest surrounding the communities of Selma, Merlin, Galice, Wilderville, Murphy, and north Applegate. The Pickett West Timber Sale also proposes significant logging in tributaries of the Wild and Scenic Rogue River between Grants Pass and Graves Creek.

Although these last intact forests, now targeted by the BLM for logging, stand above our homes and communities, very few of us have visited them. They are not the iconic wilderness landscapes of the West, but they are the backdrops to our communities and represent the charm and beauty that bring people to our region. They are the last fragments of natural, fire-resilient old forest. They provide

streams for salmon and strongholds for the northern spotted owl. They are the last small corridors of intact forest threading our low-elevation habitats together, and they are islands of habitat in otherwise fragmented landscapes. The fact that they are the last makes them disproportionately important to our communities, our fisheries, and our wildlife.

The Pickett West Timber Sale proposes 5,251 acres of commercial logging and 14 miles of newly constructed roads. In total, the project identified 145 units spread across 200,000 acres of southwest Oregon.

A broad-based coalition of conservation organizations, recreation enthusiasts, businesses, fishing organizations, rural residents, and citizens across the region will be joining together to protect these last intact stands and oppose the Pickett West Timber Sale. We will not watch these last stands fall to the whine of the chainsaw. Instead, we will work to preserve, respect,

and enjoy them, as they define who we are as southern Oregonians.

The Pickett West Timber Sale targets old-growth stands throughout southern Oregon for heavy industrial logging. Half of the units in the timber sale are in old-growth stands between 150 and 240 years old. These old, complex forests are highly fire-resistant, provide important forest habitat, and are increasingly rare, especially at low elevations and adjacent to local communities. These stands protect our watersheds, our clean water, and our wildlife habitat. They buffer our communities from the effects of uncharacteristic wildfire and provide accessible and important recreation opportunities like Hellgate Canyon on the Wild and Scenic Rogue River and the proposed Applegate Ridge Trail.

Ironically, the BLM claims these highly industrial logging treatments are "restorative" in nature. Somehow, reducing canopy cover to 30 percent, rendering important northern spotted owl habitat "unsuitable," building new roads, logging large old-growth trees, and drastically increasing fuel loads in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) is being promoted as "restoration." In reality, it is a timber grab intended to mislead the public into thinking that old-forest logging is necessary to increase forest resilience and restore the natural role of fire.

The manipulation of science and the misrepresentation of proposed industrial logging treatments as "restoration" constitute a new low.

The Pickett West project proposes to convert closed-canopy, late-seral, and old-growth forests to open-canopied, low-density stands. By logging old closed-canopy stands, the BLM says it will create relatively stable and more fire-resilient forests. However, the outcome of logging old-growth forest to 30 percent canopy cover will dramatically degrade habitat values and increase fuel loads.

With each large old tree removed, resilience to wildfire is reduced. The drastic canopy cover reduction proposed in the "restoration thinning" prescriptions will have a number of consequences: highly flammable, young vegetation will proliferate and replace large fire-resistant trees; habitat connectivity for species like the Pacific fisher and spotted owl will be lessened; and the views across our valley and from our homes will be degraded by new roads and logged-off hillsides.

The Pickett West Timber Sale is an outdated industrial model that many thought we had left behind. It targets the very old-growth forests that many believe had been "saved." Unfortunately, the BLM has responded to the shift in public opinion regarding public land management by changing their rhetoric, but not changing their practices. The days of old-growth logging are back, and they are called Pickett West. For more information, visit thesiskiyoucrest.blogspot.com.

Luke Ruediger • 541-890-8974
Program Coordinator
Applegate Neighborhood Network

OPINION PIECES AND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Opinion pieces and letters to the editor represent the opinion of the author, not that of the *Applegater* or the Applegate Valley Community Newspaper, Inc. As a community-based newsmagazine, we receive diverse opinions on different topics. We honor these opinions, but object to personal attacks and reserve the right to edit accordingly. Opinion pieces and letters to the editor **must focus on the Applegate Valley**.

Opinion pieces are limited to 700 words; letters are limited 450 words. Submissions will be edited for grammar and length. Opinion pieces **must** include publishable contact information (phone number and/or email address). All letters **must** be signed, with a full street address or PO Box and phone number. **Anonymous letters and opinion pieces will not be published.** Individual letters and opinion pieces may or may not be published.

•••

Email opinion pieces and letters to the editor to gater@applegater.org or mail to *Applegater*, Applegate Valley Community Newspaper, Inc., PO Box 14, Jacksonville, OR 97530.



OPINIONS

Rare plant protection and invasive species quarantine needed on BLM OHV trails

BY SUZIE SAVOIE

For 22 years, local landowners, conservationists, and concerned citizens have appealed and resisted the Medford District Bureau of Land Management's (BLM's) plans to authorize extensive off highway vehicle (OHV) use in the Middle Applegate area between Jacksonville, Ruch, and Humbug Creek. Many rural landowners are concerned about the associated trash, trespass, noise, invasive species spread, and soil erosion that occur and spread due to OHV use.

This spring the Medford District BLM gave OHV trails in the (unofficially named) Timber Mountain/John's Peak OHV Area a categorical exclusion (CX) ("categories of action that have been determined to not have a significant effect on the environment and therefore do not need to be analyzed through an EA [environmental assessment] or an EIS [environmental impact statement]": from the BLM participant guide for the National Environmental Policy Act). This CX would allow maintenance of unauthorized, user-created OHV trails in the Middle Applegate. In May 2017, four local groups—Applegate Trails Association, Applegate Neighborhood Network, Forest Creek Community Association, and the Siskiyou Chapter Native Plant Society of Oregon—appealed this ruling.

Circumventing an EA and an EIS, a CX denies public comment and does not allow for public review or input except through an appeal of the decision and a legal challenge.

Sometimes CXs are used for small projects that don't have significant environmental impacts. However, use of a CX in this case shows a blatant disregard for the significant cumulative environmental and social impacts. In

the CX document under "Categorical Exclusion Review," BLM claims that the issue is not controversial, *despite heated local controversy surrounding the issue since 1995.* (See "Note" below for link to CX.)

The CX specifically authorizes BLM to "maintain" 65 miles of OHV trails over two years. The OHV trails they seek to maintain, however, were never authorized to begin with and they were illegally created. The OHV trail creators did not seek BLM approval to build the trails, they did not build them to sustainable trail standards, and they built them without environmental review.

Continued OHV use of unauthorized, user-created trails in the CX area will irrevocably alter terrestrial habitats, hydrology, native plant communities, rare plants, wildlife habitat, and soil resources and will lead to further erosion and the spread of invasive plant species.

In some areas OHV ruts are over three feet deep, creating extensive erosion and impacts to soils and hydrology. No matter how much "maintenance" these user-created OHV trails get through the CX project, they will have lasting environmental impacts due to the inadequate design and lack of trail standards. Trail rutting and braiding will continue to occur unless BLM closes damaging trails altogether.

Because the CX avoids thorough environmental review, it is likely that adverse impacts to Gentner's fritillary (*Fritillaria gentneri*) will occur. This beautiful spring wildflower is the Applegate's favorite rare plant species and a symbol of our region. The center of the world's population of Gentner's fritillary overlaps with the CX planning area to a large extent. The flower is found in numerous locations within the CX planning area, and it is currently being

adversely impacted by unauthorized OHV trails.

BLM has not performed extensive surveys for Gentner's fritillary along the 65 miles of OHV trails they have approved for maintenance in the CX. Without knowing where these rare plants occur, BLM will be increasing the likelihood that they will be harmed by OHV use. OHVs inevitably go off-trail and create new trails, activities that will continue to impact this important species. OHV trails that currently intersect areas with populations of Gentner's fritillary have already significantly affected individual plants, population dynamics, and occupied habitat. How can BLM claim to be working to recover the rare Gentner's fritillary, but approve this CX with its likely adverse impacts?

Many noxious and invasive plant species occur within the CX area. Of acute and particular concern, however, is the recently discovered 40-acre population of shiny geranium (*Geranium lucidum*) in Forest Creek centered around Bunny Meadows. This is a new invasive species to southern Oregon. If the BLM doesn't take drastic measures to curtail the spread of shiny geranium now, this new invasive species could spread incredibly fast.

OHV trails currently pass right through shiny geranium populations within the CX area, contributing to its continued spread into other areas of the Applegate Valley. The plant has already spread to the main stem of the Applegate River. Local botanists, the Siskiyou Chapter Native Plant Society of Oregon, invasive species



Trail ruts, some over three feet deep, have been created by OHVs on unauthorized, user-created trails.

Photo: Luke Ruediger.

managers, and local Applegate community members are *all calling on the BLM to institute an immediate quarantine of the area in order to stop the spread of shiny geranium.* There should be no OHV use of any kind in this area.

The CX does not address this new noxious weed, its removal, its spread, or the implications of trail maintenance for its continued spread in the Applegate Valley.

Suzie Savoie

Conservation Chair, Siskiyou Chapter
Native Plant Society of Oregon
klamath@siskiyou@gmail.com

Note: Find the complete CX at https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/projects/nepa/77516/103691/127093/20170414_Middle_Applegate_ERMA_OHV_Trail_Maintenance_CX_FINAL.pdf

Your input is needed on industrial cannabis development

BY ALEXIS WOODRUFF

Blackberry season has finally come. The anticipation is over, and our waiting has come to an end. After a season of wrestling with branches and pulling thorns out of our feet, we are at last rewarded with delicious berries.

Such a sweet gift comes at a cost. Once blackberries have taken root, they're unlikely to leave. Ignore them, and they will dominate your garden. If you prune and plan for their growth, you and your berries can live in peace. This delicate balance between new growth and the established environment is taking place not only in our gardens, but in our greater community as well.

We are currently facing important decisions regarding the future of marijuana farming in southern Oregon. I think we can all agree that cannabis is here to stay and that our environmental, economic, and social landscapes continue to transform as a result of its presence.

I keep hearing the phrase, "things just aren't what they used to be." And while it's easy to focus on remembering what was, it is also important that we concentrate our energy on designing our future for the better. One of the biggest shifts we're witnessing right now is the integration of industrial-scale cannabis farming into our rural communities.

This discussion isn't just about marijuana. It's also about responsible farming practices within close-knit, rural communities. What concerns do you have about large-scale farms moving in near you? Pesticide use, noise, light leak? It is essential that we let our voices be heard quickly. Your concerns can be part of the solution. Write your county commissioners and your county planning commission to let them know what you think.

In Williams, recreational-marijuana farms on resource lands is an issue of specific concern. If you live in Williams, you can attend important upcoming town meetings organized by the Williams Town Council and Citizens' Advisory Committee (WTC/CAC). These meetings will play a key role in instituting protective standards concerning new recreational-marijuana projects on resource lands. The WTC/CAC wants your feedback. What more could we ask for?

And, if you are a Williams resident and a registered voter, you can vote in the Williams election scheduled for Monday, September 25, at the Williams Grange. Keep an eye out for more information on Jo's List, Facebook, and bulletin boards around town.

We are currently standing in our window of opportunity to contribute to the unfolding of industrial development in our community, and it is essential that we make the effort to co-create a future of which we want to be a part.

We all know that blackberry bush that teeters between friend and foe. It is purely our effort that determines the nature of our relationship with our gardens.


So let us put on our garden gloves, dust off our pruning shears, and put our gardening skills to work. It seems there is some work to be done.

Alexis Woodruff
alexis.m.woodruff@gmail.com



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'We see it as a win-win-win for farmland preservation, farm succession, and access to land.'

■ AGRICULTURAL HERITAGE

Continued from page 1

Luckily, there are many in the state who recognize the urgency of these issues. Born from a two-year collaborative effort that brought together groups like the Oregon Farm Bureau, the Oregon Cattlemen's Association, the Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts, and others, the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program (HB 3249) gained widespread bipartisan support in passing the House and Senate and is now headed to Governor Brown's office for signature in September.

The Oregon Agricultural Heritage program creates a voluntary suite of tools that aims to help mitigate the stress and impact of succession planning while addressing two key issues farmers and ranchers face: the development and fragmentation of farmland and the challenge of passing farmland on to the next generation.

To that end, this program will fund a study of Oregon's estate tax, offer farm succession workshops, and provide grants for three kinds of voluntary conservation programs: conservation management plans, permanent working lands easements, and 20- to 50-year working lands covenants.

Working lands easements and covenants allow landowners to sell or lease their development rights. This preserves the land for agricultural use, gives the farmer cash to help pay for succession planning, and makes the land more affordable to beginning farmers and ranchers by lowering the tax burden.

"We see it as a win-win-win for farmland preservation, farm succession, and access to land," said Nellie McAdams, Farm Preservation Program director at Rogue Farm Corps Farm, an Oregon nonprofit that began in the Applegate Valley that trains and prepares the next generation of Oregon farmers and ranchers.

Rogue Farm Corps' Internship and Apprenticeship programs are looking at the other side of the succession spectrum—how do we train young farmers to begin and take over existing farms and farmland? Now in central Oregon, Eugene, and Portland, as well as southern Oregon, Rogue Farm Corps has been offering hands-on training to the next generation of farmers and ranchers since 2005. Local



Rogue Farm Corps farm interns learn about fruit-tree cultivation at Thompson Creek Organics in the Applegate Valley.



With 18-acres of certified organic produce, flowers, and seeds, Dancing Bear Farm in Williams is host to Rogue Farm Corps farm interns.

host farms include Thompson Creek Organics and Dancing Bear Farm.

With two-thirds of Oregon's 16.3 million acres of agricultural land set to change hands in the next 20 years, we have a long road ahead to answer the question of who the next land stewards will be.

The passing of HB 3249 and Rogue Farm Corps' on-farm learning experiences for this next generation are important first steps down that road.

Nellie McAdams

Program Director, Rogue Farm Corps
nellie@roguefarmcorps.org

Williams School welcomes new teacher

Starting this fall, Ruth Dapkus will teach second- and third-grade students at Williams Elementary, replacing the beloved Joanne Wardle, who retired.

Ruth has an interesting background, including an international teaching experience in Prague, capital of the Czech Republic.

"I'm excited to be part of a community school," Ruth said. "I look forward to building strong school-to-home partnerships!"

Ruth grew up in the Grants Pass area and attended schools in both Three

Rivers School District and Grants Pass School District. She attended the University of Oregon for her bachelor's degree, then Southern Oregon

University to gain her master's degree and teaching license.



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**Next deadline:
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NEXT GENERATION

Next Generation features the talents of our local students and school news and updates. All schools in the Applegate Valley are encouraged to submit news, art, writing, photography, and any other creative pieces to gater@applegater.org.

Ruch School celebrates communities

#ittakesacomunity

This year Ruch Community School will celebrate the communities that have so graciously supported their small, rural K-8 school. One important way is to provide healthy produce to our community members. Ruch Community School prides itself on the community garden that it has sustained for the last six years. Unlike typical school gardens, Ruch School's garden is planned, maintained, and sustained by students, staff, volunteers, and community members. They are all actively engaged!

In addition to producing fruits and vegetables for our kids, their families, and our community at large, our community garden has many other benefits. The broad support we receive means that the garden is maintained through the summer months when the school is closed for vacation. Because many people benefit from our garden, vandalism, crime, and littering are nonexistent. In addition, the open garden provides positive interactions among individuals of all ages who share a common passion for spending time in the garden.

Our community garden offers our students many opportunities to learn, enjoy nature, and gain valuable life skills outside the classroom. By engaging in the entire process, our students are connecting to their natural world and formulating meaningful questions that facilitate the inquiry process. And, because they actually enjoy the garden activities, they are showing greater achievement in science and math!

"I feel calm and happy when I am in the garden," shared a third-grade student. It is not uncommon for a student who is having behavioral issues in the classroom and is sent to the garden for a short time to come back ready and more willing to follow directions and act appropriately. In fact, studies show an increase in self-understanding, interpersonal skills, and cooperative skills in those students participating in garden programs.

Recycling, composting, energy conservation, reusing, and reducing are



Ruch School community garden helpers.

all behaviors taught at Ruch Community School. In our efforts to reduce all of our environmental footprints and become more sustainable, we feel these lessons are very important! We are very excited to be involved in installing solar panels at the school during its seismic rehabilitation so that the students are able to track energy savings in real time. In addition, they will identify our small, rural school as pioneers in energy conservation.

Why do we do all this? As a community school, we feel obligated to teach our students to act as stewards of this beautiful valley. They will be our future community leaders, and we are all in this together. We live together, we learn together, we thrive together!

Join us by posting your favorite pictures that demonstrate community involvement to #ittakesacomunity.

Williams Elementary fundraiser to be held in September



Williams Elementary will conduct a bottle and can drive at the school on Friday and Saturday, September 15 and 16, from 8 am to 3 pm.

Organizers ask that people bring bottles and cans to the gym where receptacles will be set up.

Success of an earlier bottle and can drive spurred this event, which is organized by the Williams Viability Committee and supported by the Williams Parent-Teacher-Student Group and the school's staff members. The last drive resulted in over 3,000 cans and bottles collected, which totaled more than \$300 for the school in just a single day.

"We have decided to hold another bottle and can drive, and this time for two days in hopes that we can collect even more than we did last time!" said Bryel Nowack, event coordinator.

The proceeds from this bottle and can fundraiser will benefit after-school programs currently under development at the school. Williams School is located at 20691 Williams Highway, Williams, OR.

Ruch School information provided by
Julie Barry, Principal
541-842-3850 • julie.barry@medford.k12.or.us

Grants Pass volunteers at Applegate and Williams schools



At Williams Elementary School, project coordinator Kevin Brown (above) takes down a school sign to prepare for painting, and Monica Brown (right) sands the handrail.



At Applegate School, Megan Powers (right) and James Powers (not pictured) pitch in.



Both Applegate School and Williams Elementary School were recipients of community goodwill in June when volunteers arrived to spruce up our local schools.

At Applegate, volunteers painted a highlight strip in the Cougar gym, while volunteers at Williams painted the entryway and front steps of the historic school.

SERVE Grants Pass, a nonprofit, organizes the volunteer groups and sets aside one day each year for people from Grants Pass and the greater community to provide support for various projects around Josephine County.

"It was humbling to see so many come out to help our schools," said Darrell

Erb Jr., principal of both Applegate and Williams schools. "We are very thankful to all of the volunteers who served that day!"



Artist Jeremy Criswell (far right) and Applegate School students and staff who helped create the tree mural. Photo: Courtney Zimmerman of Carrying Wonder Photography.

Tree mural depicts Applegate life

Applegate School staff and students worked with local artist Jeremy Criswell to create an amazing mural that celebrates the abundant life we enjoy in the Applegate Valley. (See photo on page 23.)

As part of the Artist in Residence program, Jeremy helped students and staff from grades K-8 to create various images to adorn an outdoor mural featuring a tree full of life.

Under Jeremy's tutelage, artists diligently sketched their images, transferred their sketches to clay, then painted their images in glaze. Tree parts were crafted, as well as various animals—fish and four-legged creatures, birds and insects—to adorn the tree. Jeremy baked the ceramic pieces and came back to school for several days to glue and grout the mural.

"This was a great project for our school," said Darrell Erb Jr., principal. "Everyone who wanted to participate had a hand in making this wonderful mural. I envision our kids of tomorrow bringing their kids of tomorrow to our school to show them the wonderful work they did!"

Funds for this program were raised the previous year at a barn event at Fred and Jean Hall's farm, where the Family Carr and Applegate students played music, students read poetry, and art pieces by professionals, enthusiasts, and students were auctioned off.

Many thanks go to Fred and Jean Hall, Jeremy Criswell, and Applegate School's incredible staff members who teamed up to help organize and schedule this very cool project!

Applegate and Williams school information provided by
Darrell Erb Jr., Principal
541-846-7224 • darrell.erb@threerivers.k12.or.us

Enchanted Forest Wine Run is September 23

Pay no attention to the various gnomes, pixies, elves, and other mythical forest creatures who will soon make an appearance in the Applegate Valley!

They will be participating in the second annual Enchanted Forest Wine Run scheduled for Saturday, September 23. This exciting event is a fundraiser for the Applegate School Strings Program.

Race routes begin and end at the beautiful vineyards of Wooldridge Creek Winery at 818 Slagle Creek Road, Grants Pass, Oregon. Runners will weave through vines of ripening grapes on their way to

the Enchanted Forest, which will reveal amazing views of the valley below.

There are various races offered to enthusiasts: a 24K, 12K, 5K, and Kids' Run. The 24K and 12K start at 10 am, the 5K starts at 10:15 am, and the Kids' Run starts at 12:30 pm.

Register to run at [facebook.com/thewinerun](https://www.facebook.com/thewinerun).

Volunteers are needed for this very important day! If you're willing, please call Applegate School at 541-846-6280 and leave a message with your contact information.

Pollinator gardens are complete

Applegate School students in grades six through eight completed their science field study this June with the development of pollinator gardens in Cantrall Buckley Park.

A strong community effort made this project a success. Before the June fieldwork, guest speakers explained to students the important role that pollinators play in ecosystems as well as the critical role that soil, water, and plants play in providing habitat for these pollinators.

Guest speakers included Tom Landis, retired US Forest Service (USFS) nursery expert, who discussed native plants specific to pollinators; and Jakob Shockey, riparian manager at Applegate Partnership and Watershed Council, who shared information about the local watershed and the impacts that humans have had on it.

Joni Brazier, a forest soil scientist with the USFS, also joined students, as did Bonni Criswell, a landscape designer and community educator, who helped students with a garden design and habitat requirements for monarch butterflies.

Special thanks go to Janis Mohr-Tipton, who was instrumental in designing and coordinating the project, and Linda Kappen, who worked closely with the school and with Janis to make it all work. This project expands on Linda's work at



Linda Kappen demonstrated proper planting technique with advice from Janis Tipton as Applegate students looked on. Students then went to work planting their gardens at Cantrall Buckley Park.

Applegate School in conjunction with the Southern Oregon Monarch Society and Washington State University.

"This project was a great opportunity for kids to get their hands dirty doing science," said Darrell Erb, principal of Applegate School. "We know that students doing work that is beneficial to the community and the Earth builds citizenship and character. This is a win-win—for our kids, our community, and pollinators!"



Applegate School students and staff helped create this tree mural depicting Applegate life. See story on page 22. Photo: Courtney Zimmerman, Carrying Wonder Photography.



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Photos, clockwise from top left:

—**Savenaca Navo** of Lautoka, Fiji, finds new Meke dance moves on the Applegater's entertainment page.

—**Dave Taylor**, sister-in-law **Lori**, and brothers **Ray** and **Alan**, at Anfield, home of the Liverpool Football Club, smile over their team's front-page coverage in the Gater.

—**Tom and Kathy Carstens** peruse the Applegater to learn about the history and symbolism of the Tlingit clan eagle totem pole near Teslin Lake in the Yukon Territory.

—**Linda Yates**, in Apia, Samoa, looks up the meaning of the name of Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in the comprehensive reference section of the Gater.

—**Mike Kohn, Diana Coogle, and Greeley Wells** were surprised to find ISO glasses in the Applegater when viewing the solar eclipse on top of Ritter Butte at about 4,000 feet near John Day, Oregon.

—**Sang Montage and Kasey Schweickert** search the Gater for elevator locations at Machu Picchu, Peru.

—**Bob and Denise Scheel** relax with the Applegater after finishing Wainright's Coast-to-Coast hike in northern England.



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