Applegate Valley Community Grange

A new year is here, and Grange members have new and returning officers to plan our events and activities for 2015. The first of these was the Fiber Arts Show and Valentine's Craft Faire, which was a free community-supported event with lots of local artists and vendors. The hall was filled with color, texture, and design from quilts, felted dolls, needle-stitched items, and multimedia art pieces. There was lots of visiting, meeting neighbors, listening to music, enjoying the crafts, and great chocolate fondue delights and beverages. The Grange had a silent auction of locally donated products to support the upkeep of the hall and provide funds for planning future free events for the public.

Current members and officers are seeking more community members interested in joining the Grange to help plan many more wonderful events for our community. We would like to do more craft and farm-market fairs, programs, and classes. There are great local bands that would love to do outdoor music festivals with the Grange. We just need more dedicated members to help us achieve those goals with planning and preparations.

So consider joining us this year.

You can talk to any member about your interest in helping and ideas you have for expanding our community involvement. Join us for a potluck and meeting on the second Sunday of any month at 5 pm October through February, and 6 pm

March through September. To join as a member, be a local supporter for an event, or volunteer, email applegategrange@gmail.com, call president Paul Tipton or secretary Janis Mohr-Tipton at 541-846-7501, or write to AVCG, PO Box 3367, Applegate, Oregon 97530.

To follow Grange activities, visit our website at www.applegategrange.org. You will find the list of current officers, upcoming events and what you can do to help. Soon you will find a new column, "Tidbits of Local History," in which you can learn about the history of our Grange and some local area history tidbits. Evelyn Williams will be assisting Janis Mohr-Tipton with this project. You have probably read Evelyn and her daughter's articles in the Applegater. Evelyn was a long-time Grange member, formally joining when she was eligible at 13 years old, but had been at Grange events and meetings with her family from a very young age.

Our next event supporting both the Grange and Cantrall Buckley Park happens on Mother's Day in May. See the advertisement in this issue of the *Applegater*, and don't miss out on this great event! Hope to see you at a future Grange meeting—come visit and consider joining us to create some great events and happenings in our own community!

Janis Mohr-Tipton applegategrange@gmail.com 541-846-7501

- Ford Institute Leadership Program -

You're invited!

Playscape planning party and open house for Cantrall Buckley Park.

Sunday, March 8, 2 to 4 pm Applegate River Lodge 15100 Highway 238, Applegate

The Jacksonville/Applegate Valley Cohort of the Ford Institute Leadership Program invites you, your family and friends to a presentation of plans for playscape enhancement at beautiful Cantrall Buckley Park.

Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and no-host wine will be available.

Join local community leaders and volunteers from the Ford Institute AppleJack Cohort at the open house to find out about the exciting plans for the Cantrall Buckley Park playscape addition and revitalization. Come see a presentation of plans for a natural, educational, and multigenerational playscape!

This "friend-raiser" event is to share our excitement about the upgrades and additions to the playground. We've been planning and designing for months and have a cool design!

For more information and to spread the word, check out and share the event page on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/events/1604839333086514.

Please come show your interest in and support of the Cantrall Buckley Park Playscape Revitalization.

Voices of the Applegate Spring Concerts

Voices of the Applegate, our local community choir directed by Blake Weller, has begun another session of four-part harmony music with rehearsals being held each Wednesday evening at the Ruch Library at 7 pm from January 14 until April 8.

The first concert will be held at the Old Presbyterian Church on California Street in Jacksonville at 7:30 pm on Friday, April 10.

The second concert will be held at the Applegate River Lodge at 3 pm on Sunday, April 12.

The variety of music will consist of Pergolesi's version of the "The Magnificat." The choir will be accompanied by a small ensemble of string players and vocalists from North Medford High School. Several folk tunes and music from the movie *Working Girl* also will be performed.

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

Applegate Food Pantry —

The turnover for management of the pantry to Charlotte Knott was delayed due to an injury she suffered, but she's on the mend, has assumed most of the responsibilities, and will be in full control by the end of February.

We received many generous individual donations from the Applegate community in 2014, ranging from gifts of food, to just a few dollars, to very substantial amounts. We have sent individual thank-you notes to all who donated and are very appreciative of all of them. We always have to thank our many wonderful hard-working volunteers without whom the pantry couldn't exist, and we would also like to thank a few specific organizations for their generosity.

Thank you to the Ruch School, for continuing to allow us to use their facilities as a home for our pantry, for their annual canned food drive, and for their friendly and helpful staff.

Thank you to Craig and Amber at the Ruch Country Store for their weekly food donations and the many other ways they support our pantry all year long.

Thank you to the Applegate Garden Club for their annual fund drive on the pantry's behalf.

Finally, thank you to all the members of our local community who are participating in the Neighbor Food Project (the green bags).

Drop-off dates for the bags are on the second Saturday, every second month, as follows: February 14, April 11, June 13, August 8, October 10, December 12. The bags can be dropped off at either the Ruch Country Store or the Applegate Store.

Direct any questions or comments about the pantry to Charlotte Knott at 541-899-8381 or charlotteknott74@gmail.com.

Claude and Arlene Aron • 541-951-6707

— For Love of the Applegate —

Paying it back...or forward

Would you believe there are at least 28 not-for-profit-type organizations alive and well in the Applegate? And that they are the primary reason for the existence of For Love of the Applegate? The sheer number of these incredible organizations, working for you, makes our Applegate special! Our mission is to support these organizations, mostly run by volunteers, to get to know each other, and to help you become aware of them and the vibrancy they bring to our rural community!

Here is the first installment of what may become a regular feature in which we identify current needs of several nonprofits. Perhaps you can join in and become part of one or more of these groups.

• Greater Applegate Community Development Corporation (GACDC) provides assistance, coordination and resources necessary for economic and social activities that help sustain the livability of our community. They are responsible for operating Cantrall Buckley Park. GACDC could use two additional board members and donations toward the Cantrall Buckley Park Playground Project. Contact Bonnie Rinaldi at 541-702-2250.

• Ford Institute Leadership Program is working with GACDC to raise support for park playground improvements. See more information on this page about an event they are hosting.

• Applegate Valley Community **Grange** is a place where all Applegaters can

feel welcome, at peace, safe, and included. The Grange is our common ground for embracing diversity and represents a commitment to strengthening rural community. The Grange is a wonderful venue (available for rent) with a complete kitchen, dining area and meeting room with a stage. The Grange needs your support, which can include becoming a member, attending events and/or meetings at the Grange, or providing donations to keep this facility viable for the community. All are welcome to join the monthly potluck and meeting. Contact Paul Tipton at applegategrange@gmail.com or leave a message at 541-846-7501.

• Applegate Partnership and Watershed Council would benefit from more board members. Please consider this opportunity if you have the desire to work collaboratively to improve the well-being of the Applegate watershed from valley to ridgetop. Although they could really use help from individuals with marketing, accounting, and legal backgrounds, just as important is the drive to participate in their mission and, of course, to offer lots of energy. Contact Janelle Dunlevy at coordinator@apwc.info or 541-899-9982.

For more information about these and other Applegate Valley not-for-profit-type organizations, visit www. forloveoftheapplegate.com

Thalia Truesdell • Erika Fey
Audrey Eldridge • Kristi Cowles
forloveoftheapplegate@gmail.com

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For more information, contact:

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