•••BIZBITS•••

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.

Advanced Installations. Started two years ago by Tenaia Chavez, Advanced Installations is an authorized retailer of satellite Internet service Excede. Many of Tenaia's clients are residential customers who live outside the service area of other high-speed Internet providers. Advanced Installations also offers nonstop video surveillance of legal recreational marijuana grow sites, as state law requires. Owners of recreational grows who live off-site can check in remotely, and seasonal employees are happier because they have Wi-Fi access. Wineries are also benefiting from Excede Internet's video surveillance. 5113 Table Rock Road, Central Point • 541-879-0473

• • •

Apple Outlaw. Blair Smith and Marcey Kelley's eight-acre organic apple orchard

supplies most of the apples for production of their Apple Outlaw hard cider, which is distributed in Washington, Oregon, and California. Apple Outlaw is focused on strengthening its local presence and sponsored a community project where people donated their backyard apples for a Community Cider that Apple Outlaw produced. Establishments that served this cider donated their profits to the Ashland Food Project. Blair gives classes in pruning and cider making, and Apple Outlaw collaborated with Wooldridge Creek Winery to make a cider-wine hybrid. A tasting room at Whistling Duck Farm Store will open this spring. appleoutlaw.com

• • •

Applegate River Lodge. Happy anniversary to the Applegate River Lodge Restaurant! Opened on January 21,1992, the restaurant has been family-run for 25 years. After a hiatus in January 2017, the restaurant reopened on Valentine's Day, February 14, and offers a seasonal, locally sourced menu featuring favorites like red oak-grilled mushrooms, Gorgonzola shrimp, and rib-eye steak. Entrees range from $16 to $29. Open Wednesday - Sunday, 5 - 9 pm (later on music nights) • 15100 Highway 238, Applegate • 541-846-6082 • applegateriverlodge.com

• • •

Dye Hearts. Tie-dye artist Michelle Ava offers a sure way to brighten your day—

vibrant, colorful tie-dyed clothing! After relocating last fall from Cleveland, Ohio, Michelle now calls Williams home. She brings her artist's background and 30 years of tie-dying experience to her creations. Her clothing prices are between $12 and $65, and she guarantees her apparel not to shrink or fade. Michelle is also open to custom tie-dying items like furniture slipcovers and duvet covers. Find Dye Hearts in stock in Williams at Takubeh, 20690 Williams Highway, or the Dye Hearts booth at the Monday Farmers' Market. Visit dyehearts.etsy.com to shop online. For custom orders, contact Michelle at mitch@dyehearts.com or 216-406-7037.

• • •

Forage and Plow Farm. Formerly Black Dog Ranch, Forage and Plow Farm has

moved to the Little Applegate and is excited to announce its 2017 Free Share CSA (Community Supported Agriculture). By investing in the season, you share in the harvest just like with a traditional CSA. The difference with a free share is that you get to choose what goes into your basket. Once a week, you visit Forage and Plow Farm's produce stand to fill up your basket with fresh, organically grown veggies. This model saves on time and labor, which provides more affordable prices to CSA members. The 30-week season costs are: (1) quarter share for $15 per week, (2) half share for $26 per week, and (3) full share for $45 per week. Visit forageandplowfarm.com or call Cheyenne and Brock at 541-899-3121.

• • •

Pollinator People. Owned by Rebeca Ramm, Pollinator People offers goods and services related to pollinators and pollinator gardens and specializes in ethical honey bee swarm relocation and organic pollinator garden development. Pollinator People rescues and relocates unwanted honey bees to the Southern Oregon Pollinator Sanctuary, a remote Applegate forest dwelling that is being developed to provide safe pesticide- and GMO-free pollinator plant food and organic dwellings for all of Oregon's local pollinators. Plans are to open the sanctuary to the public for events and workshops related to plants, pollinators, and people. Milkweed starts and Mason Bee cocoons and housing will be for sale to the community this spring. Currently located at Pickers Paradise, booth No. 329, in Medford, with plans to expand to a larger retail shop. 541-240-8124 • info@pollinatorpeople.com • pollinatorpeople.com

• • •

Silver Springs Nursery. All plants are grown from seeds and cuttings at this wholesale nursery specializing in native species. Wanting to promote the use of native plants in the landscape, James Kraemer, president of Silver Springs Nursery, recently added nectar plants to his inventory. Because these plants attract pollinators, they are a great addition to gardens as well as landscapes. Silver Springs Nursery is open to the public by appointment only for orders of $50 or more. James is passionate about native plants and will share his enthusiasm and expertise as he helps you select plants for your project. If you, too, are a native-plant enthusiast and your dream is native plant propagation, call James at 541-899-1065. You just might find a mentor. 700 Hamilton Road, Applegate • silversprings@q.com • silverspringsnursery.com

From the Editor

Our unsung heroes

"It takes a village." The *Applegater* would not exist if it weren't for the generosity of our volunteers. Every quarter, they donate their time and energy to everything from copy editing and proofing to bookkeeping and "webmastering." They deal with multiple deadlines, deadline revisions, last-minute submissions, etc., and they remain cool, calm, and collected in doing what needs to be done. As a gesture of gratitude, we would like to acknowledge this extraordinary team of dedicated volunteers.

Also part of this village, but not included below, are Karan Dump, our bookkeeper, and, of course, the Board of Directors. They copy edit, proofread, write articles, deliver the *Applegater* to numerous drop-off locations, plan and organize fundraisers—whatever it takes to produce this newsmagazine every quarter.

Tom Carstens. When Kathy and I moved from Atlanta, Georgia, to the Applegate Valley in 2004, we discovered the *Applegater* and read every issue cover to cover. It was a fun way to catch up with what was going on in the community. I enjoy writing and decided to see if I could contribute. As a volunteer with several Applegate organizations over the years, I came to know many of our wonderful residents. This enabled me to gain a pretty good perspective of what was going on in the valley. Almost four years ago, I thought the paper could use more of a balance in the opinion pages, and J.D. Rogers, who was the editor at that time, agreed to try out my column, which is designed to illuminate a more traditional perspective and, I hope, offer some solace to fellow conservatives. Later, I was asked to join the Editorial Committee, which is one of my favorite volunteer jobs—what wonderful people to work with.

Margaret Perrow della Santina. I live in the Applegate with my husband, my son, and a flock of chickens. I am associate professor of English and education at Southern Oregon University and director of the Oregon Writing Project at SOU. My favorite writing courses to teach emphasize grammar as rhetorical choices, rather than rules that must be followed. I appreciate my long and beautiful commute to work and am always happy to come home to the view of the Red Buttes. I love the *Applegater* because it is a vehicle for bringing together many voices as part of one community.

Kathy Kliewer. I am married with three children and live in Williams. I have a BA degree in theater and film and also hold an elementary school teaching credential. I enjoy volunteering at my children's school as a SMART reader, a PTSG member, and a classroom volunteer. I have been a volunteer for the *Applegater* for two years—it keeps me active in the community, and I find it fun, fulfilling, and quite interesting! I like the wide variety of articles based on local happenings and events—the *Applegater* is an excellent resource for letting the community know about new businesses, sharing current events, and connecting the community as a whole! I especially appreciate that the people directly involved in the production of this paper are our neighbors and understand our community the best!

Joe Lavine. My wife, Suzanne, and I moved to Oregon nearly a decade ago after I retired from a career working with computers in the San Francisco Bay Area. We found a home on a hill, with great views, near the northern end of the Applegate Valley. I took over webmaster duties for the *Applegater* in 2009, and I have also served on the Board of Directors. I make sure that the *Applegater* is available on our website every quarter.

Ni Aodagain. I have been volunteering with the *Applegater* as a copy editor since this past summer. I think the *Applegater* rocks, and I love that I can do a small part in making it the high-quality newspaper that informs our community. I so appreciate that the *Applegater* brings together so many diverse voices and celebrates all the amazing aspects of our valley.

Mikell Nielsen. Having lived in Williams off and on for a collective 29 years, I really love this beautiful place. I spent my summers swimming in the Applegate River and Williams Creek and riding my horse all over East Fork Road and surrounding areas. And although I swore I would never live here again, my husband and I returned to the valley to raise our family because of my idyllic childhood experiences—we wanted nothing less for our kids. Now I am a professional photographer and appreciate the beauty of our valley more than ever. By volunteering as a proofer for the *Applegater* for the past two years, I am able to give back to this beautiful community and area that has given so much to me.

Sandy Shaffer. My husband, Don, and I retired to the Applegate Valley in 1999 and built our dream house in the forest. However, two wildfires in our area quickly got me working with local agencies to obtain grants to help spread the message of why and how to mitigate hazardous fuels on private properties. I recognized that the Applegate's rural setting across three county jurisdictions made consistent and effective communications a real challenge, especially in an emergency situation. I

See UNSUNG HEROES, page 5