

Applegater

Photo by Linda Kappen

applegater.org



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Applegate Valley Community Newsmagazine
Serving Jackson and Josephine Counties — Circulation: 11,500

Celebrating
~24~
Years

APPLEGATER'S ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

SAVORY

SHINDIG

SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY OCTOBER 14 2018 4 - 7 PM

SPONSORS

- Valley View Winery
- Ruch Country Store
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- Chris Bratt
- Brodie Dental
- Cowhorn Winery
- Home Comfort Hearth
- Jackson Veterinary Hospital
- Ray's Market
- RiverCrest Ranch
- Whistling Duck
- Evelyn Winningham,
- Ramsay Realty

GATERS GIT IT DONE!

LIVE AUCTION OF LOCAL TALENT AND SERVICES

MC: Jack Duggan

Auction items include:

- Storytellers
- Greek pastry lesson
- Catered dinner for 10
- Tandem paragliding
- AND MANY MORE...



WILD & BLUE BAND

VALLEY VIEW WINERY

LIVE MUSIC BY

WILD & BLUE

GATERS GIT IT DONE! LIVE AUCTION

\$50 PER PERSON: DINNER, 1 GLASS WINE/BEER

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See **SAVORY SHINDIG**, page 5, for more details about this fun fundraiser!

Clear skies ahead?

AVOVA president Joe Ginet foresees opportunities for greatness for our wine region

BY RHONDA NOWAK

Already by late July, smoke had been hanging in the air for weeks, muffling the valley during the day and creating eerily beautiful blood-orange sunsets.

"I never saw this smoke as a kid," said Joe Ginet, who has reason to keep his eye on the smoke. Since 1979 he and his wife, Suzi, have owned Plaisance Ranch and Winery in Williams, producing USDA organic-certified beef and award-winning wines. Wine grapes, Joe knows, are sensitive to smoke.

As one of the founders of the World of Wine event (now the Oregon Wine Experience) in 2003, Joe Ginet is a leader in establishing Applegate Valley wineries as a destination for local and visiting wine enthusiasts. He has served as president of the Applegate Valley Oregon Vintners Association (AVOVA) since 2013.



Joe and Suzie Ginet, owners of Plaisance Ranch and Winery in Williams, ventured out into the smoky summer air. Photo: Rhonda Nowak.

During the 40 years he's been making a living on his ranch, Joe has seen a lot of changes that have presented, he says, "opportunities and challenges" for Applegate Valley viticulture and the 21 wineries and vineyards in the Applegate.

Smoke gets in your eyes

One of the challenges is wildfire smoke, which affects not only the taste of wines but also tourists' taste for the

See **CLEAR SKIES**, page 10.

What's the buzz? Hemp cultivation is growing!

BY CATHY RODGERS

The Applegate Watershed is abuzz—not about the psychotropic aspects of cannabis, but rather about its no-nonsense, not-about-the-high, all-about-the-business family member: hemp. It's the new crop in town!

Although the first American flag was made of hemp, the product's "guilt by association" with its more controversial cousin, Mary Jane, caused a steady decline in US hemp production through the mid-1900s. The 1970 Controlled Substance Act swept hemp into its broad "if it sounds like a duck, looks like a duck, and smells like a duck" zero-tolerance ban, thus ostracizing one of the most versatile, resilient,

and renewable of plants, which fell into public disdain and regulatory oblivion—until recently. A renewed appreciation for the inherent benefits of industrial hemp and a growing acceptance from the public has led to an increase in industrial hemp grows.

Oregon was proactive

Oregon, with its more tolerant views of cannabis, took a proactive legislating position, becoming the first state, in 1973, to decriminalize marijuana possession. Later, Measure 91 legalized nonmedical cultivation and allowed for recreational marijuana sales through licensed dispensaries.

See **HEMP CULTIVATION**, page 11.

Shop at farm stands— it's an Applegate experience

BY DIANA COOGLE

Not all Applegate farmers put our rich farmland in grapes, marijuana, or hemp. Some love to grow food and, equally, to sell food to local customers.

Mike Gallagher, of Gallagher Family Farms, has apples and pears at his farm stand now, even though the farm doesn't flourish with the flowers and vegetables it had during most of the 48 years he has had the farm stand. He speaks with nostalgia of the days when



Harvesting calendula at Oshala Farm.

he had 150 people in his U-pick fields, 500 rabbits, 150 chickens, and baby goats that would ride the tractor with

See **FARM STANDS**, page 16.

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