

# Art and learning at Pacifica

BY PEG PRAG

It was a great summer of fun, learning, and bonding with 10 weeks of summer camp adventures at Pacifica! We hosted a wide range of camps from nature to art to sewing to bookmaking and even dance. Thank you to all of the amazing teachers, and thank you to Pacifica's board for allocating funding so that everyone who requested scholarship funding for camp received it.

Pacifica will be offering a variety of K-12th grade classes on Mondays throughout the 2022-23 school year. We will open each day with optional yoga, art, Lego engineering, or games to build relationships between students and instructors. After lunch, we will dive into standards-based academics, collaborative learning, and hands-on exploration. Pacifica is working in partnership with Teach Northwest (TNW) Charter School to make this full day of in-person classes available. TNW students will be able to register for one or all of our Monday classes for free, and we are able to offer these classes at low tuition rates to all of our Southern Oregon home-based learners. See Pacifica's website or Facebook for individual class descriptions and tuition rates. Pacifica is a vendor for Teach Northwest, Logos Charter School, and River's Edge Academy Charter School (REACH).

In the last issue of the *Applegater* (which was mostly about horses at Pacifica), we mentioned our new Art Nature Trail designed for walkers, wheelchairs, and strollers, as well as everyone else. This trail continues to be a delight to all and continues to be in the market for a new sculpture.

This month we have more exciting news about art at Pacifica: Our ceramics studio is ready for its inauguration! Nolan, a professional potter and professional teacher, is ready to help get you started, whatever your level of expertise.



Above: A new pavilion at Pacifica is made with locally sourced, ecologically harvested wood.

Right: A close-up shows some of the handiwork by Peter Gauss of Waylon Woodworks on the new Pacifica pavilion. Photos: Ray Prag.

There are five wheels and a brand-new top-of-the-line kiln—which no one can touch except Nolan! For the time being, for the sake of the kiln, we ask that you use only our clay, which we will sell to you at wholesale cost. This first class will be held over three days, from 9 am - noon Monday through Wednesday, September 5, 6, and 7. To sign up for ceramics classes, please call Nolan at 530-339-5670.

Soon to join the ceramics studio will be a woodshop equipped for teaching children and adults how to work with wood and use a variety of equipment for building or carving.

"Fine woodwork" brings up the last note for this "Art at Pacifica" article: the new pavilion (photo above)—framed with locally sourced, ecologically harvested wood, built to stand for generations to come and provide shelter from sun and rain for community and events—is an incredible example of fine woodwork.

Many thanks to Evelyn Roether and Spencer Lennard for the logs, to Rodger Miller for the prolonged use of his barn, and to Peter Gauss (Waylon Woodworks, 541-660-6163) for his amazingly beautiful creation.

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## MAKING HAY

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hemp when it became legal. Now, though, Spencer says, homeowners want to return their land to hay and pasture. "The hemp money was nice," he says, "but there is nothing worse than annihilating a beautiful field, filling it with rot, going away, and leaving it for someone like me to clean up." This year he has had the satisfaction of returning hemp fields to hay pastures.

"The cost of hay has easily doubled," Nancy says. "It's the cost of fertilizer, the cost of gas, problems getting parts..."

Weather is always a factor. "You can only put hay up as good as the weather will

allow," says Tim Hunter, adding with a sly smile, "if you have the knowledge." Tim usually gets three or even four cuttings a season, but the late rain last spring made it difficult to put up hay this summer. Usually, the first hay cutting is on June 15. This year it wasn't till July 15.

Applegate farmers have always put up hay for horses, cattle, and sheep. Methods have changed since they used pitchforks and horse-drawn carts, but the concept is the same: Give your livestock the best feed possible throughout the year.

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Left: Hauling hay in the Applegate the way it's done today. Photo: Diana Coogle. Right: Putting up hay in the Applegate, the way it used to be done (from the collection of Evelyn Williams).



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