

Water security event planned in June in the Applegate

BY JIM REILAND

Summers have been getting warmer and winters a little less cold and wet. Many of us worry about how this could impact life here in the Applegate. We're already seeing the changes. Most of us know someone who can't rely on their well like they used to. For several years now, people with water rights have had their supply turned off earlier than usual—all while we watch less drought-tolerant and heat-stress-resistant trees die in our orchards and on the hillsides surrounding us.

This is a complex problem, and some solutions will require long-term planning and coordination among agency regulators and larger water users like farmers and ranchers. (See "Calling all Applegate irrigators" by Nathan Gehres, Applegate Partnership & Watershed Council, on page 20.) Other solutions could be implemented more quickly—things people can do now, or plan to do in the coming years, to reduce their water needs,

conserve what they have, or even obtain water from a new source.

A Greater Applegate and Applegate Partnership and Watershed Council are planning a "Water Security Day" at the Ruch Outdoor Community School on Saturday, June 17. Participants will learn about water rights, water-efficient gardening, farming and forest management practices, household and landscape water conservation measures, rainwater catchment systems, pond building, and more.

The cost for this all-day event is \$15 per participant, which includes lunch. Details and registration will be available on A Greater Applegate's website at agreaterapplegate.org. For more information, contact Jim Reiland at jim@manyhandsbuilders.com or 541-899-1166.

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opinions and letters!**
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Opinion pieces. Limited to 500 words; no images. Opinion pieces submitted by the same person will not be run consecutively. Responses to previously published opinion pieces will not be published. Must include publishable contact information (phone number and/or email address).

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Anonymous letters and opinion pieces, reprinted articles, press releases, and political campaign articles will not be published. Individual letters and opinion pieces may or may not be published. All submissions will be edited for grammar and length.

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

NEWS FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD

The Applegater board is thriving with two new members

BY DIANA COOGLE

The *Applegater* board extends warm thanks and enthusiastic welcomes to Margaret Patterson and Jennifer Petersen, who were voted onto the board at the January meeting.

Margaret brings an extensive background of work with nonprofits in education, healthcare, community outreach, and church ministry. She and her husband, Tom—with their son, Colin, as sommelier and winemaker—launched Cascadia Vineyards and Winery in Wilderville shortly after moving there in 2018. Besides those two benefits to the board (experience with nonprofits and winemaking), she sings! Following her passion for music, she has served as director of numerous choirs and ensembles and now sings with the Rogue Chorus.

Jennifer Petersen has lived just outside Ruch since she moved there from the Monterey Bay area with her husband, Jason, in 2017. She brings to the board a grounded sense of detail (the board's chair appreciates her practicality), and—extra bonus—she also sings! After we adjourned the first board meeting she attended, she treated us to an a capella version of a ballad she wrote. She is also an avid gardener and a semiretired massage therapist.

Last fall, when two board members retired from the board and a third, David Dobbs, announced his resignation as soon as we found a replacement treasurer, it felt like a crisis. But almost before we had time to feel glum, Barbara Holiday rejoined the board (see winter issue, 2022) and Margaret and Jennifer stepped up to fill two of the vacancies. As for the third—David Dobbs will continue as treasurer until we find a replacement.

If you can be that person, please let me know right away.

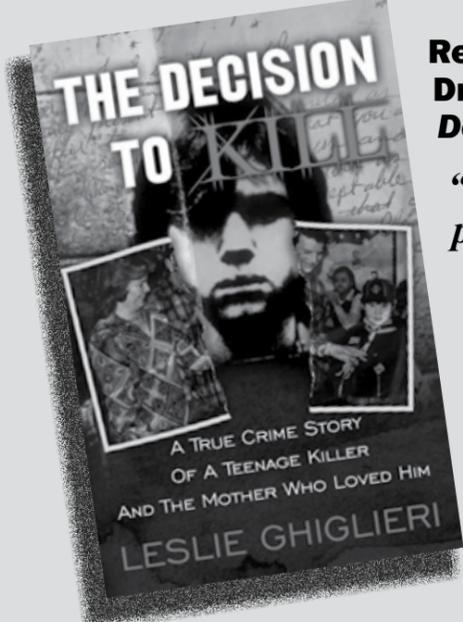
The *Applegater's* board is buoyant and thriving. Thanks to all the board members, who keep the *Applegater* running and who make the organization both fun and vital: Lisa Baldwin, secretary; Dave Dobbs, treasurer; Barbara Holiday, ad manager (and besides being a board member, our layout editor); and members-at-large Margaret Patterson, Jennifer Petersen, and Bert Etling, editor.

I would like to add thanks to another group of people who help keep the *Applegater* a vital part of the community. The editorial committee members—Sandy Shaffer, Aaron Krikava, Greeley Wells, and Bert Etling—read every article before it is published and give invaluable input during the editing process.

Diana Coogle
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