

Applegater

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Photo by Barbara Holiday

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Meet your local care farmers

BY ROBERT CASSERLY

As executive director of Sanctuary One, I often field questions from Applegaters who are curious as to what kind of people live and work at our community's first "care farm." Sometimes people have no conception of who we are and are genuinely curious; sometimes people have heard a fantastic rumor and wonder if it's true. Questions may be along the lines of: "Are you a bunch of hippies running around under the full moon hugging trees in naught but your moccasins?" (No, but here's a helpful hint for all you nudists out there: stick to the oaks and madrones—pine sap is awful sticky stuff.) "Are you some new-age woo-woos building a Noah's Ark in anticipation of the return of the Lemurian overlords from outer space?" In other words, "Are you from California?" (No, most of us are from worse places, like Wisconsin, Hawaii, Georgia, and Williams.) "Are you secret government agents sent here to observe and report on my activities?" (That's the Sheriff's Department flying that pesky helicopter over your property, not us.)

Seriously though, here's the real

deal on the people who choose to spend their time at the Sanctuary, farming peace, love, and understanding like other farmers grow corn, beans and squash.

Sansa and Joe Collins are the Sanctuary Manager and Operations Assistant, respectively. They live on the farm with their two young children and a small herd of rescued house pets. Sansa grew up on a macadamia nut farm on the Big Island of Hawaii with three brothers and two sisters. She attended Southern Oregon University, graduating Magna Cum Laude with a BA in english and writing. When growing up she raised a variety of animals including cats, dogs, birds, chickens, rabbits, cattle and a hedgehog. Sansa runs the Sanctuary's always-busy front office and trains community volunteers who help us care for the Sanctuary's 50-plus rescued farm animals. Joe was born in New Jersey, but moved to Hawaii with his family when he was a teenager. Joe is the Sanctuary's technology manager but he also helps with irrigation, fencing, animal care,

general maintenance and whatever else needs to get done.

Gene Griffith is the Sanctuary's Permaculture Coordinator. Gene was born in Augusta, Georgia and has spent much of his life in the southeastern region of the U.S., including the hills of South Carolina and the mountains of Tennessee. For over 20 years Gene worked as an industrial engineer specializing in controls, hydraulics and pneumatics. His job involved looking for ways to use innovations to increase efficiency in systems and machines. He attended Tulane University in New Orleans and has a degree in Electromechanical Engineering Technology from Augusta Technical College. Gene studies permaculture and then teaches the rest of us how to farm as affordably and sustainably as possible.

Della Merrill is the Sanctuary's Education Consultant. Della has been teaching natural horsemanship and organic gardening skills to youth and adults for years. Della's education includes a BA in Communications and an MA in Teaching from Southern

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APPLEGATER DONATIONS

The Applegater needs YOU! Each time an issue of the Applegater is published, I have people tell me that they were planning to make a donation but just forgot.

Well, the enclosed envelope is to make it easier for you to make a tax-deductible donation to the Applegater newspaper. Put this envelope with your bills and when you are writing your checks include one to the Applegater. Or better yet, write your check NOW and drop this envelope right into the mail.

Help raise the \$30,000 yearly operational budget that keeps the Applegater coming to your mailbox.

Please take a few minutes to write a donation check. This could not be easier—use the white envelope on page 12.

Thank you for
your donation,

The Applegater

Photos clockwise from top left: Volunteer Carrie Lee brushing a rescued horse; Lisa, a 700-pound Yorkshire pig with Sansa Collins (Photo by Bob Pennel of the Medford Mail Tribune); Visitor admiring Lola, a rescued Appolosa; Friday, one of the farm's "ambassadors" greeting a young visitor; Lady and Duchess, a pair of rescued burros, nibbling apples offered by a guest; and Wilbur, a Nubian goat who enjoys being the center of attention.

Community Calendar

Applegate Valley Garden Club meets at 1:30 pm on the third Wednesday of the month from September through May. For meeting locations and programs, call Sandra King at 541-899-9027 or Betty Lou Smith at 541-846-6817.

Applegate 4-H Swine Club meets on Tuesday following the third Wednesday of every month at 7 pm. For more information contact Charles Elmore at 541-846-6528 or Barbara Niedermeyer at 541-846-7635.

Applegate Christian Fellowship. For service times, call 541-899-8732, 24 hours/day.

Applegate Friends of Fire District #9 meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the Fire Station—1095 Upper Applegate Road—at 6:00 pm. New members are welcome. For more information, call Bob Fischer 541-846-6218.

T.O.P.S. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meets every Monday morning at Applegate Church, 18960 North Applegate Road (at the corner of Hwy. 238 and N. Applegate Road). Weigh-in starts at 8:30 am; the meeting starts at 9:00 am. Come join us!

Josephine County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) meets Thursdays at 6 pm. For meeting information, call Connie Young at 541-846-6051.

Applegate Valley Community Forum (AVCF) meets the third Thursday of each month, location alternating between Applegate and Ruch. For more information, call Pat Gordon at 541-899-7655.

Greater Applegate Community Development Corporation meets the second Wednesday of each month at 6:00 pm at the Applegate Library on North Applegate Road in downtown Applegate. For more information, call toll-free at 866-289-1638.

American Association of University Women (AAUW) Grants Pass Branch meets monthly from September through June. Days, times, and locations vary. All those who hold an associate of arts, a baccalaureate or higher degree from an accredited college or university are welcome to join. Contact Sylvia Rose at srrjrose2@charter.net or 541-479-0277 or Georgia Applegate at gkapple@apbb.net or 541-787-7175.

AA Meeting Tuesday nights at 7 pm in Williams. Upstairs at the American Legion Hall. Contact Stan at 541-846-0734.

Applegate Library Hours
 Sunday.....closed
 Monday.....closed
 Tuesday.....2 pm - 6 pm
 Wednesday.....closed
 Thursday.....closed
 Friday.....2 pm - 6 pm
 Saturday.....10 am - 2 pm
 (Storytime will be held Tuesdays at 2:30 pm.)

Ruch Branch Library Hours
 Sunday.....closed
 Monday.....closed
 Tuesday.....11 am - 5 pm
 Wednesday.....closed
 Thursday.....1 pm - 7 pm
 Friday.....closed
 Saturday.....12 pm - 4 pm
 (Storytime will be held Tuesdays at 11 am.)

Friends of Ruch Library Board of Directors meets monthly. Check with the Ruch Library for schedule. 541-899-7438.

Food & Friends Senior Nutrition Program invites local 60+ seniors to enjoy a nutritious, hot meal served at 11:30 am Monday through Friday at the Jacksonville IOOF Hall located at the corner of Main and Oregon Streets. A donation is suggested and appreciated. Volunteers help serve meals or deliver meals to homebound seniors.

Email calendar information to gater@applegater.org.

For information about volunteering (it takes 40 volunteers to keep the Jacksonville program going) or receiving meals, call Food & Friends at 541-664-6674, x246 or x208.

Williams Library Hours
 Sunday.....closed
 Monday.....closed
 Tuesday.....1:30 pm - 4 pm
 Wednesday.....1:30 pm - 4 pm
 Thursday.....closed
 Friday.....closed
 Saturday.....12 pm - 4 pm

Josephine County Farm Bureau. For meeting information, call Connie Young at 541-846-6051.

Upper Applegate Grange #239 Business meetings: second Thursday at 7:30 pm. Potluck/Social meetings: fourth Friday at 7:30 pm, open to the public. Join us for informative meetings, fun and involvement in community service. Sponsors of Cub Scout Pack Troop #18. Call 541-899-6987.

Williams Rural Fire Protection District Meetings: fourth Wednesday of the month at 7 pm at the Williams Fire Department.

Williams Creek Watershed Council Meetings: fourth Wednesday of the month at 7 pm at the Williams Creek Fire Station. The Public is welcome. For more information, call 541-846-9175.

Williams Grange Pancake Breakfast: second Sunday of each month, 8:30 am to 11:00 am. Closed July and August. Bring the whole family! 20100 Williams Hwy, corner of Tetherow Road near the Williams General Store. For more information, call 541-846-6844.

Wonder Neighborhood Watch Meetings: second Tuesday of each month, 6:30 pm, Wonder Bible Chapel.

Applegate Fire District Board of Directors meets on the third Wednesday of each month at Station 1 - 18489 N. Applegate Rd. at 7:30 pm. Except for the months of March, April and May, which are held at Headquarters - 1095 Upper Applegate Rd. For more information, call 541-899-1050.

Applegate Neighborhood Network (ANN) meets on the last Wednesday of every month at the Ruch Library. All interested persons are welcome to attend. ANN is a community organization dedicated to protecting, preserving, and restoring the Applegate watershed. For more information about ANN, call Duane Bowman, 541-899-7264.

Women Helping Other Women (WHOW) meets the second Thursday of the month at 10036 Hwy 238 (Gyda Lane) at 6:30 pm for a potluck meeting to plan work parties at each other's homes. New members are welcome. For more information, call Thalia Truesdell at 541-899-8741 or Sioux Rogers at 541-846-7736.

Applegate Lake Cub Scouts Pack #18 (Ruch Region) Outdoor activity (fishing, rafting, hikes, etc) the first Friday of each month; regular meeting the third Friday of each month. Upper Applegate Grange from 10 am to 1 pm. All boys in grades first through fifth including homeschoolers, Ruch students, and non-Ruch students are welcome. For more information, contact Cub Leader Vic Agnifili at 541-899-1717.

Applegate Partnership and Watershed Council meets the 4th Thursday of the month at the Applegate Library. For more information call 541-899-9982.

The Southern Oregon Beekeepers Association meet the first Monday of each month, 7:30 pm, at the OSU extension. For more information, please contact sobeekeepers@gmail.com

Tour and Taste Applegate Valley Wines

Map and Winery Descriptions: www.applegatewinetrail.com



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Find your new favorite wine!



Discover why food goes better with Applegate Valley Wines!

Nov 21 · 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
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 Presented by
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Oregon University. She is also certified as a therapeutic riding instructor and a Master Gardener. Her diverse career has included teaching in public schools, nonprofit administration, development and public relations and educational film making.

Jerry Henning is the Sanctuary's Caretaker. Jerry has over 50 years of animal care and ranch experience. If it needs to be done, Jerry can do it. He has vast experience in skilled trades such as farm equipment repair and maintenance, carpentry, fence mending, welding, horse hoof care, irrigation and a myriad of other skills. Jerry has volunteered with many organizations over the years, including the Josephine County Sheriff's Posse.

As for yours truly, I'm one of the Sanctuary's co-founders and currently volunteer as Executive Director. I grew up on a farm in rural Wisconsin where I learned how to milk a cow before I learned how to read and write. As an adult I have lived and worked all over the U.S. Since moving to Oregon in 2001, I have dedicated myself to nonprofit work with a special interest in

promoting community volunteerism. I attended Southern Oregon University where I earned a B.S. in English and Writing, a Master in Management, and a Nonprofit Management Certificate. Before coming to work for the Sanctuary, I previously held local management positions with Friends of the Animal Shelter and the Gordon Elwood Foundation.

The Sanctuary's volunteers, currently numbering about 50 hardy souls, come from all walks of life, and all over the world. It is not unusual to visit us and see fifth-generation Applegaters working alongside an intern from the East Coast who is spending his or her vacation at the Sanctuary because their idea of a good time is taking care of rescued farm animals and planting an organic garden to help feed the poor.

We invite you to make an appointment to stop by and meet us in person, so you can see for yourself that we are decent, hard-working people who strive to be role models for how people, animals, and the earth can work together for mutual healing.

Robert Casserly • 541-899-8627

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Intoxication: Euphoria at getting a tax refund, which lasts until you realize it was your money to start with.