

Applegater



**New logo
chosen!**
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Murphy violin maker passes the baton—and more

BY BARBARA HOLIDAY

Violin maker Michael Klein is a class act. Not only has he created violins, violas and cellos in the centuries-old Italian method for almost 20 years, but he has been passing the baton to students for eight years. And with the school's proceeds, he sponsors the Grants Pass High School orchestra and has contributed to the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon. There's more: He has won a dozen awards for the highest workmanship and tone from the Arizona Association of Violin Makers International. And he has judged that competition, which "was difficult, but it was nice to be asked by my peers to judge others' works." If that's not enough, he and his wife, Janice, are just plain nice folks.

A somewhat challenging trip to the Klein's 100-acre property high up a rough dirt road in Murphy rewards a visitor with grand vistas, and quaint structures that

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Photos: Above—Michael shows off his most recently made violin for champion fiddler Rudi Booher of Yoncalla, Oregon; Below—Hanging violins represent instruments either made, repaired or restored by Michael.



Fire District opens new station

BY SANDY SHAFFER

Our Applegate Valley Rural Fire District #9 opened a new fire station in June on Griffin Lane near Sterling Creek Road. About 40 people were on hand for the ribbon-cutting ceremony and a tour of "Station 7." Unfortunately, the folks who made Station 7 possible were out of town and unable to attend. John Henderson and his wife Cheryl donated the land to the Fire District way back in 1992. Many thanks to you both!

That's right—District #9 now has seven fire stations in the Applegate! Station 6 on Kubli Road was the last to open in 1997. The others are: Station 1 in Applegate on North Applegate Road, Station 2 on Upper Applegate Road just past Star Ranger Station, Station 3 (Headquarters) on Upper Applegate Road in Ruch, Station 4 on Williams Highway and Water Gap Road, and Station 5 on Hwy. 238 at the top of Jacksonville Hill.

Back in 1992 when my husband and I were looking at property to buy in the Sterling Creek area, the real estate agent told us that a fire station was going to be built on that site "soon." I guess I lost faith for a while until I got involved with the Fire District's Budget Committee a few years back and saw the capital project of building "Station 7" in the Chief's Five-Year Plan.

It's gratifying to see how the Fire District has grown over the years to

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Photos clockwise from top: On June 21, 2008—The grand opening of Station 7; Longtime volunteer firefighter Bob Ettner tries to recruit a new junior firefighter; Board of Director's Chair Ed Temple and Fire Chief Brett Fillis officially cut the ribbon.



Afternoon tea to benefit Applegater

Photo: Patrons of Eve's celebrate during a tea party. Photo courtesy of Eve's Garden Café & Tea Room.

Ladies! Dust off those hats and gloves and join fellow Applegater supporters for Afternoon Tea on Sunday, September 14 at 2:00 pm at Eve's Garden Café & Tearoom in downtown Applegate.

Scones, lemon curd and Devonshire cream, fruit, an assortment of tea sandwiches, quiche and an assortment of desserts will be served.

Between courses, stroll through the garden and view the items for sale in the Silent Auction. More than 60 items have been donated and all items will be sold to the highest bidders. Beautiful ceramics, gift certificates, artwork, plus many other types of merchandise are available for your bidding pleasure.

Prizes for the best hat, the funniest hat and best tea attire will be awarded. This is a perfect time to get your group, girlfriends or family together. What better way to support our local newspaper and have an afternoon of fun!! Entertainment will be provided by the trio of Kristi Cowles with Steve and Clint Driver. They make beautiful music together.

The price for this fun-filled afternoon is \$45 per person. Call 541-846-7673 or 541-846-9019 to reserve your spot today. Credit cards are accepted.

A bare-bones request from the Applegater

It's been a year since we've asked you, our loyal readers, for donations. Yes, we're having to ask again. Without your help we have funding for only a couple of issues. Some observations:

"America's first continuously published newspaper, the *Boston News-Letter*, published its first issue on April 24, 1704. John Campbell, a bookseller and postmaster of Boston, was its first editor, printing the newspaper on what was then referred to as a half-sheet. It originally appeared on a single page, printed on both sides and issued weekly. In the early years of its publication, the *News-Letter* was filled mostly with news from London journals detailing the intrigues of

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