



Ruch Library Chautauqua
Magic Carpet Made of Steel:
Songs of America's railroads
Friday, May 1, 7 pm

Jeni Foster grew up on the high plains of Montana listening to the far-off whistles of trains that evoked images of exotic places and people whose lives were very different from hers. The glory days of the great American railway system may be gone, but hundreds of folk and popular songs remain to tell the story of our great romance with the rails. Jeni Foster will discuss the folk music that served as a soundtrack for the golden era of train travel in "Magic Carpet Made of Steel: Songs of America's Railroads."



Jackson County Library Services and the Friends of Ruch Library are pleased to sponsor this Oregon Chautauqua from the Oregon Council for the Humanities. This free, public program will take place on Friday, May 1, 2009, at 7:00pm, in the Community Meeting Room, Ruch Branch Library, 7919 Highway 238, Ruch.

In her interactive presentation, Jeni shows how these songs reflect an American sense of adventure, opportunity, and freedom. History resonates in the songs of the construction gangs who built the transcontinental rail lines, the Gandy dancers who lined the tracks, conductors on the Underground Railroad, Civil Rights workers in the 1950s and '60s, and American composers like Duke Ellington, Aaron Copland, Woody Guthrie, and Steve Goodman. Jeni demonstrates how these songs are emblematic of our nation's development in their vitality, romance, and cultural diversity.

Jeni's been singing since she could talk - early on serenading the cows on the ranch and then entertaining at family gatherings, weddings and funerals. She took up the guitar as a teenager and sang at every opportunity in high school and college. During her time as a grade school music teacher she found that she particularly enjoyed connecting music with history and literature. Jeni's done that in more recent years by developing programs that combine lecture and music with audience participation in singing along on the choruses. She's performed widely across our great state and elsewhere, and we're especially pleased to have her here in the Applegate as a prelude to National Train Day, May 9.

This program is made possible by funding from the Oregon Council for the Humanities (OCH), an independent, non-profit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities that is dedicated to the belief that knowledge and ideas are fundamental to the health of our communities. Details about OCH's programs and publications, which include Oregon Chautauqua, Humanity in Perspective, and Oregon Humanities magazine, can be found at www.oregonhum.org.

For more information, call the Ruch Branch Library at 541-899-7438.
 Pat Gordon • 541-899-7655

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APPLEGATE

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Partnership meetings, yoga classes, men's groups, weaving classes, choir rehearsals, storytelling, special community programs, etc.

And a special activity to look forward to is an upcoming program: Thomas Doty's one-man storytelling of traditional and original native stories to be held at the library on April 19, 2009 at 3:00 pm. Admission is free and refreshments will be served. Come and join us for the special Sunday afternoon and meet your neighbors. People of all ages are invited to attend.

It's not too late to become a member of Friends of the Applegate Library (FOAL)! Some of you have received our newsletter inviting you to renew your membership with the FOAL. Don't forget to send in your \$15 check to Friends of the Applegate Library, Applegate Branch Library, P.O. Box 3308, Applegate, Oregon 97530. If you are not already a member, well, it's time you joined to support your local community library...the one we worked so hard to reopen last year. Remember?

Joan Peterson • 541-846-6988

Thomas Doty to perform his stories from the native west



On April 19, storyteller Thomas Doty will perform "Doty and Coyote: Stories from the Native West." The program will be held at 3:00 pm at the Applegate Branch Library, 18485 North Applegate Road, Applegate, Oregon. It is recommended for ages five and older. Admission is free.

Thomas Doty's latest Doty and Coyote stories will be available to purchase following his one-man storytelling.

Thomas Doty is nationally known for his impassioned performances of traditional and original native stories. He has released several recordings,

including daily and weekly broadcasts on public radio, and has received a number of awards, including a Lifetime Achievement Award from the national American Indian Program. Doty has published many books and is included on the Oregon Literary Map.

"Stories touch us deeply on many levels of truth," says Doty. "They entertain, they teach, they heal. I keep the Old Time stories alive as well as create new ones to keep my art vibrant and healthy." Doty has been called "One of the best of Oregon's storytellers" and "a master of his art."

Doty's performance is sponsored by the Friends of the Applegate Library. For more information, call Joan Peterson at (541)846-6988. For more information about Doty and his art, visit Doty's web site (www.DotyCoyote.com).

Joan Peterson • 541-246-6988

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Don't forget the Applegate Lodge
Applegater Fundraiser BBQ
 Sunday April 26 from 3 to 7 pm!