

Country Dance benefits Ruch Library

Food, music and friends, was the recipe for the Country Dance held to benefit Saturday hours at Ruch Library. About a hundred people attended the May 22 event, which was sponsored by the Friends of Ruch Library (FORL) and held at the Upper Applegate Grange. The dance floor filled up to irresistible music from The Oregon Old Time Fiddlers, and dance caller Chuck Simpkins taught the Virginia Reel to young and old. Rachael Martin (President of the Ruch School PTO) had sheriff's badges, bandanas, and cowboy hats for all the kids, as well as sit-down activities for them.

Everybody enjoyed the dinner of pasta (vegetarian or sausage), salad and bread, and tried to save room for Fran Hopkins's Strawberry Cream Cake. A series of raffles, under the direction of raffle impresario Dan Barker, gave away prizes including local honey and wine, free meals and massages, and a genuine gilded Japanese weeder (hand tool). Each of the children who attended got to choose a free kids' book to take home. Later in the evening the second band, David Pinsky and the Rhythm Kings, brought "jump-up and dance blues" to an enthusiastic audience.

The dance was another event in this year's continuing fundraising to pay for Saturday hours at Ruch Library. FORL has raised about \$8000 of the \$12,300 needed. Check FORL's website www.forl.org, or look at the library for our brochure for more information about contributing, including an easy way to make a monthly pledge.

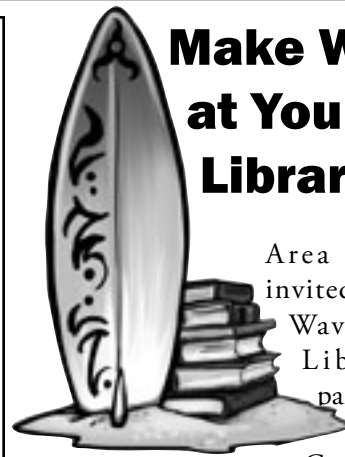
FORL wants to thank all our terrific volunteers who worked so hard to bring this off, and local

merchants—including the Outpost, Ruch Country Store, Ruch Services, and Magnolia Grill—for help and donations.

"There hasn't been a dance like this out here in I can't remember how long," said one person returning from the dance floor. Maybe this should be the "First Annual Country Dance for the Library"... if you'd like to be part of the group to make the second one happen, please call Cynthia Cheney at 541-899-1114.



Make Waves at Your Library



Area teens are invited to "Make Waves at Your Library" by participating in the Jackson County Library's teen summer reading program. The program starts as soon as school is out and continues through August 14.

To earn the chance to win one of fifteen 8G iPod Nanos and other prizes Teens will be asked to write a review of a book, CD, audiobook, DVD, or library program. Special events include free movies, art activities, and gaming days. Contact your local library branch for details.

This year's teen reading program is sponsored by The Million Dollar Club of Jackson County and the Friends of the Jackson County Libraries. For more information, please call Marian Barker at 541-774-6423.

Christopher Leebrick storytelling schedule

Award-winning storyteller, Christopher Leebrick, brings his remarkable storytelling ability to Jackson County libraries as part of the Jackson County Library Services Summer Reading Program. Mr. Leebrick has dazzled audiences since the age of 13 with tales ranging from the hills of Appalachia to the cowboy country of the Oregon high desert. Join in the fun at one of the following branches.

MONDAY JULY 26

11:30 am– 12:30 pm,
Central Point Branch
116 South Third Street, 541-664-3228

2:30 – 3:30 pm,
Jacksonville Branch,
340 West "C" Street, 541-899-1665

TUESDAY JULY 27

10:30 – 11:30 am,
Ashland Branch,
410 Siskiyou Boulevard, 541-774-6980

1:00 – 2:00 pm,
Phoenix Branch, 510 West 1st Street,
541-535-7090

WEDNESDAY JULY 28

10:00 – 11:00 am,
Prospect Branch,
150 Mill Creek Drive, 541-560-3668

1:00 – 2:00 pm,
Shady Cove Branch,
22477 Highway 62, 541-878-2270

3:00 – 4:00 pm,
Eagle Point Branch,
239 West Main Street, 541-826-3313

THURSDAY JULY 29

1:00 – 2:00 pm,
White City Branch,
3143 Avenue C, 541-864-8880

4:00 – 5:00 pm,
Ruch Branch,
7919 Hwy 238, 541-899-7438

FRIDAY JULY 30

10:30 – 11:30 am,
Talent Branch,
101 Home Street, 541-535-4163

For more information, please contact Marian Barker, Jackson County Library Youth Services Manager at 541-774-6423 or mbarker@jcls.org.



Applegate Library

Summer is finally here at the Applegate Library and the summer reading program has already begun. We have water themes this year: "Make a Splash," and "Make Waves at Your Library."

We will have crafts and activities throughout the summer, so come in early and check out the schedule. You won't want to miss your favorite activities.

Artist, Cathy Egelston, will be at the library on Friday, July 23 at 2:30 pm, to put on a water color class for children. She is the artist that did our wonderful animal murals on the walls in the library.

Storytime for young children continues to be at 4:00 pm each Friday afternoon. Come and listen to some wonderful stories!

A series of free beginning computer classes for adults are tentatively scheduled to start in July here at the Applegate Library. The classes will be funded by a bequest from the Kenneth A. and Lucille D. Family Trust. The classes are by reservation only and are limited in size. Watch for the schedule to be posted so you can sign up.

Our Friends of the Applegate Library President, Christopher Shockey, reports from the President's Forum that there is a Library Advocacy Committee that has formed to develop a strategy and talking points to increase library hours, starting with the Medford City Council. The idea is once the city of Medford begins funding the Medford branch, that will free up dollars for extending the hours at the other branches like Applegate and Ruch. The key is to help the city council members understand that they should be sharing in the cost of their library instead of relying on the county to pay for it. Hooray for our President Christopher to be keeping abreast of what's happening on the City and County levels. Wouldn't it be great if the Applegate Library was granted more hours without having to do it with book and bake sales!

The next meeting of the Friends of the Applegate Library will be on July 13 at 5:00 pm at the Applegate Branch Library!

Joan Peterson
541-846-6988

Make a Splash—READ!

"Make a Splash – READ!" is the Summer Reading Program theme this summer at Jackson County Library Services. Children will explore the world of water through stories, songs, games, and other activities about oceans, rivers, lakes, pools, and the creatures that live there.

Registration for the program begins as soon as school is out in June. Children age 3-12 are invited to sign up at their local branch library. All children who read or listen to ten books will receive a special bookmark, a reading certificate, a coupon for a free kid's meal from HomeTown Buffet and a pass to the Kid Time! Discovery Experience. Kids who complete the program will also be eligible to enter local branch library drawings for additional prizes.

Parents of infants and toddlers 0-36 months can read to their children and receive a gift book, a signed certificate, and a bookmark. Everyone is invited to attend special summer reading activities and performances at branch libraries around Jackson County. For more information, contact your local branch library or visit our Web site at www.jcls.org.

The "Make a Splash – READ!" program is sponsored by HomeTown Buffet, Kid Time! Discovery Experience, and Friends of the Library groups throughout Jackson County. For more information, please contact the Medford Branch Library at 541-774-6423.