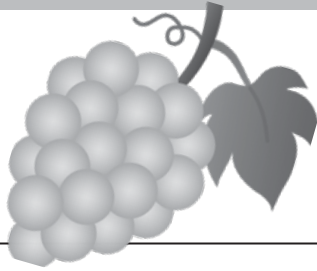


**GRAPE TALK**

# Summer fun at Applegate wineries



BY DEBBIE TOLLEFSON

As a resident of the Applegate Valley, I value its bucolic vistas, rows of grapes, and beautiful Applegate River. You can appreciate the scenery that makes the Applegate so special even more when visiting our local wineries. Not only can you enjoy some top-notch wines along with the view, but many wineries also provide outstanding entertainment options during the summer season. If your idea of recreation is enjoying a great glass of wine, good food or wonderful musical entertainment, there are a number of choices this summer at some of the local valley wineries.

**Schmidt Family Vineyards.** Jocelyn Schmidt let me know about their planned Father's Day (June 21) Classic Car Show, cosponsored by RCMhotrods.com, to support Canine Angels. She also talked about TGIF activities with live music, free admission and great wood-fired pizza, salad and wine by the glass or bottle. During the summer months the winery stays open later on Fridays—from noon to 8 pm—to start your weekend off right.

**Valley View Winery.** There will be a Father's Day celebration on June 20 and 21 with a food truck and wine and beer specials. I was also told about a special luau planned on a Sunday in June with

hula dancers and food by Sunrise Café. The Hearts and Vines Fundraiser will again be held at Valley View on August 15, and a Winemakers Dinner with Jacksonville Inn is planned for August 29.

**Red Lily Vineyards.** A fun and relaxing music series will be held every Thursday from June 4 to September 10. Enjoy a glass of wine or snacks from 6 to 8 pm by the Applegate River while listening to a great collection of musicians.

**Plaisance Ranch.** Joe Ginot, president of the Applegate Valley Vintner Association, checked in with his schedule for events at his Plaisance Ranch. On June 26, he is hosting "Wine Down" with Sonido Allegra as entertainment, and on July 24 with David and Phil. On August 18 through 22, Plaisance Ranch will participate in the Oregon Wine Experience. Vince Herman will entertain at the winery on August 28; Pearl Party will headline on August 29. September 25 will be the last Wine Down of the season.

**Troon Vineyard.** Chris Cunningham, Troon's new general manager, checked in with a long list of entertainment happenings. Starting June 5 through 7, Troon will provide food pairings with their new summer wine releases (pinks and whites). On June 7, there will be

a concert by Adam Knight and the Coyote Club from 5 to 7 pm. Enjoy a Quidditch Tournament hosted by Jared Masters (costumes are encouraged for all you Harry Potter fans) on June 13 and 14. June 21 is a Solstice Party/Father's Day event with a concert by Jeff Kloetzel and his band from 2 to 4 pm. June 28 has an evening summer concert with the Rogue Suspects from 5 to 7 pm, and on July 12 from 5 to 7 pm, Jared Masters returns in concert. On July 26, Relative Soul joins Troon's summer concert series from 5 to 7 pm. August 2 is Troon's Anniversary Celebration with Jive Coulis, and on August 9, Gary Margason plays from 5 to 7 pm. Rogue Rage Duo plays on August 23 from 5 to 7 pm. There will be live music by Acousta Noir for the Cellar Dweller Release parties on September 19 and 20.

**John Michael Champagne Cellars.** For the first time food will be served Thursday through Sunday starting this June through December. So you can sip their local champagne and wine and try some of their gourmet snacks.

**Wild Wines Winery.** There are four "Summer Sundays": June 21 from 4 to 8 pm, music by the Alphadelics and food by Organic Assets; July 26 from 4 to 8 pm; August 30 from 4 to 8 pm; and September 27 from 3 to 7 pm. All events are free and family-friendly.

All the other Applegate Valley wineries will have wine tasting available.

Summer is the best time to enjoy the many varieties of Applegate Valley wines and the beautiful surrounding scenery.

If you are a wine aficionado, don't

## Local winery addresses and hours

- John Michael Champagne Cellars, 1425 Humbug Creek Road, Jacksonville. Open Thursdays through Sundays from 11 am to 5 pm.
- Plaisance Ranch, 16955 Water Gap Road, Williams. Open every day except Tuesdays from 12 to 6 pm.
- Red Lily Vineyards, 11777 Highway 238, Jacksonville. Open daily 12 to 5 pm.
- Schmidt Family Vineyards, 330 Kubli Road, Grants Pass. Open daily 12 to 5 pm.
- Troon Vineyard, 1475 Kubli Road, Grants Pass. Open daily from 11 am to 5 pm (11 am to 6 pm on Labor Day).
- Valley View Winery, 1000 Upper Applegate Road, Ruch. Open daily 11 am to 5 pm.
- Wild Wines Winery, 4550 Little Applegate Road, Jacksonville. Open Fridays through Sundays from 12 to 5 pm.

For information on other local wineries, go to [www.applegatetrail.com](http://www.applegatetrail.com).

miss the Oregon Wine Experience (World of Wine) in Jacksonville on August 18 through 22. And always drink responsibly.

Debbie Tollefson

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