

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

'Good to gather together again'

On behalf of the Williams Community Forest Project (WCFP), I want to extend our deepest thanks to the community for supporting and attending our Earth Day benefit celebration.

It was a glorious day, and after a very long hiatus, it was especially good to gather together again.

Our shared love and concern for the trees and rivers united our voices in songs of gratitude for the earth.

Williams General Store, Takubeh, Rogue Creamery, Shop'n Kart, and Ashland Food Co-op offered goods that helped make the day an epic success. Also, many thanks to the volunteers, performers, and speakers for your generous donations of time, talent, and expertise.

Donations and revenue will benefit our ongoing work to protect our forests and waters, particularly, the WCFP's forest monitoring program, which will help ensure that the forest is managed to keep our ecosystems intact, for the health of our water, wildlife, and community. Endangered species consideration, the honoring of stream buffer zones, and limitations on clear-cut acreage are some of the criteria included in the monitoring.

BLM is currently seeking public input for the Penn Butte/Mungers timber sale, so we encourage you to visit bit.ly.co/CDCO to stay active and informed.

Gratefully,
Sandy Olken, Williams

OPINION PIECES AND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Opinion pieces and letters to the editor represent the opinion of the author, not that of the *Applegater* or the Applegate Valley Community Newspaper, Inc. As a community-based newsmagazine, we receive diverse opinions on different topics. We honor these opinions, but object to personal attacks and reserve the right to edit accordingly. Opinion pieces and letters to the editor **must pertain to and mention the Applegate Watershed. We encourage authors to include verifiable facts to back up their arguments.**

Opinion pieces. Limited to 500 words; no images. Opinion pieces submitted by the same person will not be run consecutively. Responses to previously published opinion pieces will not be published. Must include publishable contact information (phone number and/or email address).

Letters. Limited to 200 words; must be signed, with a full street address or PO Box and phone number. Only the writer's name and hometown will be published.

Anonymous letters and opinion pieces, reprinted articles, press releases, and political campaign articles will not be published. Individual letters and opinion pieces may or may not be published. All submissions will be edited for grammar and length.

Email opinion pieces and letters to gater@applegater.org or mail to *Applegater*, Applegate Valley Community Newspaper, Inc., PO Box 14, Jacksonville, OR 97530.

NEWS FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD

It's the Gater-est Show on Earth

BY DIANA COOGLE

Come one, come all! This fall the *Applegater* is putting on the Gater-est Show on Earth, and we hope you'll be there.

The date is October 1 (venue TBA), so mark it on your calendar.

This event is partly our annual fundraiser, but even more it's a huge thank-you to you our readers for your support and loyalty these past two years. It's a celebration. No ticket charge! Open to the public, everyone is welcome! Your generosity during the NewsMatch fund drive in November and December has eased our financial desperation, so come on down. The fun's on us.

It'll be a carnival-themed event with games, popcorn, and toe-tapping music. Bring a picnic, or buy a box dinner from our caterer. We'll have some terrific raffles and carnival games—dart throwing, apple tossing, cornhole. We'll charge a small amount for playing games and offer

raffle tickets as prizes. There'll be a go-fish booth for the little kids. There'll be a cake walk. There'll be some no-fee, no-win games lying around for people to play—Jenga, for instance. And more. We're still brainstorming.

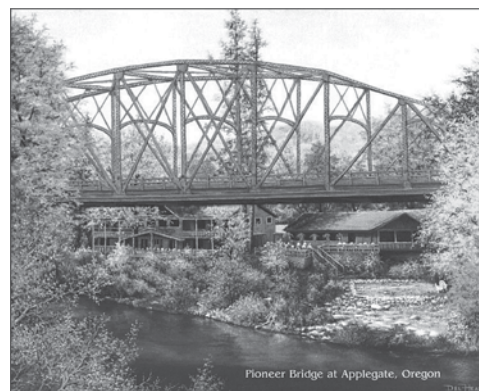
You can double your fun at the event by volunteering to help. Run a game booth? Help set up? Bake a cake for the cake walk? Do you do face painting? Are you a stilt-walker or juggler? Do you know of a carnival game we should include? Let me know what you want to do, and I'll put you on the list.

Look for details of the event in the fall *Applegater*. In the meantime, put the date on your calendar so that every time you look at it, you can get excited. It's going to be the Gater-est show on earth!

Diana Coogle
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We want your letters!
Email to gater@applegater.org.



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