



# Alpaca Education

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# The Chronicle

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Weekend Edition  
Saturday,  
Sept. 12, 2015



## PWV Prevails

Pe Ell-Willapa Valley Tops Toledo Indians in Meeting of C2BL Powers / **Sports 1**



## Benefits of the Burn

While Devastating for Some, Expert Outlines Upsides of Wildfires in the Cascades / **Main 4**

# 51 Reasons to Take Part in ARTrails



Pete Caster / [pcaster@chronline.com](mailto:pcaster@chronline.com)

While standing beside a "Fox Side-Bender," local luthier Howard Replogle holds the unfinished body of a ukulele that he is working on at his shop behind his Ryderwood home on Wednesday afternoon. The "Fox Side-Bender" is a tool used to bend the wood to form the shape of the body of the instrument.

## BEAUTY: Annual Show to Feature 51 Southwest Washington Artists

By **Natalie Johnson**  
[njohnson@chronline.com](mailto:njohnson@chronline.com)

Howard Replogle wears magnified glasses while painstakingly fitting an end graft — a custom-fit inlaid piece of wood — on the tail end of one of his custom-crafted EBI ukuleles.

In the past four years, Replogle has built 20 ukuleles of various shapes, sizes and sounds. Right now, he's working on

numbers 21 and 22.

"I like making something pretty (that) can also make art," he said. "It's art making art."

Museums and galleries showcase works of art, but the ARTrails Studio Tour gives curious travelers a chance to meet artists in their studios and watch them work. Replogle is one of 51 artists participating in the annual event this month.

ARTrails of Southwest Washington president Richard Roth said he and a few other area artists decided to start the studio

*please see ARTRAILS, page Main 14*



Natalie Johnson / [njohnson@chronline.com](mailto:njohnson@chronline.com)

Faberge-style egg artist Betty Jurey, of Glenoma, shows off one of her signature eggs, which will be featured Friday at the ARTrails Public Gala.

## For Salmon Feeling the Heat, Effects Will Last

**IMPACT:** Warm Water Temperatures Likely Mean Low Salmon Returns in Coming Years

By **Dameon Pesanti**  
[dpesanti@chronline.com](mailto:dpesanti@chronline.com)

It's a tough time to be a young salmon in the Pacific Ocean, and for those that survive, it's not going to be much easier getting to the spawning grounds in the rivers of Southwest Washington.

"Ocean conditions affect juvenile fish populations that migrate out of our rivers," said Mike Scharpf, a District 17 fish biologist for the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. "As warm waters move up into the northern Pacific it pushes out the plankton that would be there if the water wasn't warm. That's going to be a major concern two, three and four years down the road."

*please see SALMON, page Main 7*

## El Nino to Bring Warmer Weather, Less Precipitation

**STILL EVOLVING IN TROPICS:** Experts Say 95 Percent Chance El Nino Will Continue Through Northern Hemisphere This Winter

By **Justyna Tomtas**  
[jtomtas@chronline.com](mailto:jtomtas@chronline.com)

While other areas of the country are preparing for potentially violent weather this winter with the evolving El Nino, Washington is expected to get warmer winter temperatures with near or below average precipitation.

The climate phenomenon influences temperature and precipitation across the globe. Experts said there

*please see PRECIPITATION, page Main 7*

## Early Warning System



**Upgraded System for Earthquake Monitoring Inches to Completion**

/ Main 16

## Open at Last



**After Four Years, New Thurston County Jail Officially Operational**

/ Main 3

## Deaths

**Mathews, Frederick William, 78, Chehalis**  
**Burks, Ella Louise, 94, Centralia**  
**Tompkins, Edmund B., 76, Winlock**

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# Ryderwood Resident Makes Ukuleles for the Love of Woodworking

**ARTIST:** Howard Replogle Has Created 20 Instruments, With Two More on the Way

By Natalie Johnson  
njohnson@chronline.com

For the past four years, Howard Replogle has spent much of his free time perfecting the process of building custom ukuleles at his Ryderwood home.

His workshop shows the evidence of his years of work, containing an assortment of wood scraps, jars of wood dust, various hand-made jigs and molds, bits and pieces of inlay and binding, and a diverse tool collection containing heavy screwdrivers as well as delicate dental tools.

"Every tool I have I use, and I make a lot of my own," he said. "I can take a picture of something and figure out how it's made and build something."

Replogle, now 68, started building ukuleles four years ago after seeing his brother-in-law build a ukulele from a kit. Replogle built a kit as well, then took the plunge to making the instruments from scratch.

"I was doing other kinds of woodworking — I've been handy all my life," he said. "My father was an engineer — I came from a whole family of engineers."

Replogle grew up to be an accountant, but always saved time for his hobby.

"It probably wasn't that great of a career. I wasn't that great of an accountant. I'm probably a better ukulele craftsman than an accountant," he said.

Now he's built 20 complete



Pete Caster / pcaster@chronline.com

Howard Replogle uses a router with a tiny bit to cut out the inlay for the decorative soundhole on one of his hand-crafted ukuleles on Wednesday afternoon at his shop in Ryderwood. Replogle will show at his shop at 507 Monroe St. in Ryderwood.

ukuleles, including his first kit, and is working on numbers 21 and 22.

Although he loves making ukuleles, he isn't a master at playing the instrument. He has, however, played blues harmonica for 30 years.

"It's the process I like," he said.

Replogle usually works on two ukuleles at a time. It takes about 100 hours per ukulele, or two months to build two complete ukuleles.

"It would be even more efficient to make 10 (at a time), but then it would feel like factory work," he said.

Part of the fun for Replogle is working slowly, choosing the right combination of materials to create a unique instrument with character. He works with unique wood, such as ziracote, from Mexico, and spalted maple — a maple infected with a fungus. The black fungus weaves intricately through the light-colored wood and once finished, is both strong and striking.

"I get it from all different places. I buy some of it. People give it to me," he said.

Replogle doesn't part with the smallest scrap and keeps both a library of bits of exotic woods

and a selection of different kinds of wood dust, which he uses to fill pores on lighter woods and to make wood putty to fix mistakes.

"The farther along you get, the more work you put into it, the bigger tragedy it's going to be if you make a mistake," he said. "You get real good at repairing things because you will make mistakes. I haven't given up and started over yet."

When beginning a project, Replogle starts with a shape similar to a Martin ukulele and a template to correctly space the frets on the neck. Beyond that, the instruments are his own design.

He builds several sizes, including super soprano, soprano, concert, tenor, baritone, bass and has also built a steel-stringed instrument similar to a ukulele called a cavaquinho. Ukuleles typically have nylon strings; his bass ukulele has heavy rubber strings.

"A lot of guitar builders build the same guitar over and over again. They get everything figured out," he said.

While that simplifies the building process, Replogle prefers to change things up.

"It keeps it interesting," he said. "... I've always got new problems to solve."

The name of Replogle's company, EBI Ukuleles, comes from the Japanese word for shrimp, "because ukuleles are small, like shrimp," he said. He and his wife Marilyn also have a dog named Ebi.

Replogle has sold three of his ukuleles. The rest hang on the walls of his shop or his house.

"It's not really important to me whether my instruments sell or not. I like my time in the shop. I like problem solving," he said. "I'm really not into it for the money."

However, Replogle said he does want to sell the instruments. The catch, he said, is that playable ukuleles sell for a few hundred dollars, while custom, hand-made instruments sell for a few thousand. His are priced at about \$1,000 each, and are therefore too expensive for the average player, but hard to sell to collectors since his company is still new and not well-known.

"I kind of wish my instruments to be played; that's what they're made for," he said. "It's a can of worms."

# Glenoma Woman's Meticulously-Made Jeweled Eggs on Display in Annual ARTrails

By Natalie Johnson  
njohnson@chronline.com

Near the turn of the 20th century, Peter Carl Faberge became a household name with his intricately decorated and bejeweled eggs, many of which were purchased by Russian royalty.

More than 100 years after Faberge made his famous eggs, Betty Jurey, of Glenoma, labors in her workshop to make unique Faberge-style and carved eggs.

The egg art is highly sought-after and collectible, but for Jurey, it was an acquired taste.

"When I first saw it, I didn't really like it," she said. "It was probably two or three years after I first saw it I actually took a close look at one. I thought, it's unique, not a lot of people do it."

Her first project was a goose egg that she painted and decorated to look like a hot-air balloon.

Now, after 23 years spent perfecting her art form, Jurey said she can't estimate how many eggs she has decorated.

"There is no limit," she said. "The only limit is your imagination ... If you can think of anything you can do it."

Jurey works with 13 types of eggs, from large ostrich eggs — which have one-eighth-inch thick shells — to the tiniest finch eggs.

She buys the large eggs, such



Natalie Johnson / njohnson@chronline.com

Betty Jurey, who makes Faberge-style eggs, uses a 400,000 rpm rotary tool to cut out pieces of an egg covered with applique material at her workshop in Glenoma. Jurey will show her eggs at 801 K St. in Centralia during ARTrails.

as ostrich, emu and rhea eggs, pre-cleaned from suppliers.

"The others I like to buy local, if I can, and blow them out myself," she said.

Turkey, goose, chicken, pea hen, quail, finch and other small eggs are available locally, she said.

To clean out the egg's interior, Jurey drills a hole at one end of the egg, then uses a syringe to blow air into the shell to clear out

the egg. Then she washes the interior with bleach and water. Aside from the occasional egg explosion during this process, Jurey said she doesn't break many eggs.

She makes some eggs Faberge-style, by painting and adding crystals or beads, and carves or pierces holes in others. She often adds lights to the eggs' interiors, or hinges eggs to make boxes and displays.

She uses a 400,000 rpm rotary tool with a diamond bit to carve and pierce eggs.

She makes jewelry boxes, ring boxes, Christmas tree ornaments, dioramas, night lights and a variety of other trinkets with the eggs.

"I don't get bored, but sometimes it takes quite a while to get inspired," she said.

But once inspired, Jurey said, she'll be busy for weeks straight.

The whole process, from start to finish, could take anywhere from eight to 40 hours depending on the egg's design.

Jurey stresses that her eggs are high end — she doesn't skimp on her embellishments, which she orders mostly from specialty egg-art suppliers. She only uses Swarovski or Austrian crystals.

"Nothing from the dime store," she said. "I don't put anything plastic on them."

Jurey's average egg costs between \$95 to about \$200. Her buyers hear about her mostly through word-of-mouth.

"Every one of them's different," she said. "There will never be two identical."

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# Artrails: Tour Continues Through Sept. 26-27

Continued from the front page

tour 13 years ago on a "shoe-string budget," but the first event was successful.

"Then it's just grown since then," he said. "It goes between 50 and 60 (artists) now."

The organization sends out a call to artists each fall for the following year's studio tour. Artists are selected by a jury in March.

Seventeen of this year's artists, including Replogle, are in their first year of the tour.

"I'm a trained guitar-builder. They're just little guitars," said Replogle, who has been making things with wood since he was a child. He said he makes ukuleles partly because their size allows him to use a wider variety of wood than guitars, which require larger amounts of stronger wood.

The 2015 studio tour is scheduled to begin with a gala reception from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Centralia's Historic Train Depot at 210 Railroad Ave. The event include also includes live music and finger food.

After 23 years of making Faberge eggs and other egg art, Glenoma artist Betty Jurey said

**IF YOU GO**

A Public Gala Reception is scheduled for 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 18, at Centralia's Historic Train Depot at 210 Railroad Ave. Artwork will be on display and on sale at the event.

"People keep these guides and they come back other times of the year," Roth said. "Some people come from all over the country, but a lot of them, possibly they're friends of artists or friends of friends who decide to come here during ARTrails."

one of her most recent creations is one of her favorites. This is Jurey's first year participating in ARTrails.

"I think probably the most favorite one I've done is for the train station for ARTrails," she said.

The embellished emu egg is inspired by the Grauman's Chinese Theater in Hollywood and will be showcased at the ARTrails gala.

The tour continues from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 19 and 20, and the following weekend — Sept. 26 and 27.

The online studio tour guide is available at [http://issuu.com/debibodett/docs/2015\\_artrails\\_catalog](http://issuu.com/debibodett/docs/2015_artrails_catalog). Paper copies are available by contacting any ARTrails artist or by emailing [info@artrailsofsw.org](mailto:info@artrailsofsw.org).

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