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A year of firsts

David Pearson

Many of you, including our 500,000th visitor, enjoyed the 2016 season celebrating the Tillamook Forest Center's first 10 years. Are you aware that this was a year of many firsts for the Center?

New monthly revolving exhibits were on display all year, many of which showcased local artists and fostered new partnerships and new relationships. August's history exhibit was created entirely by the Center's interpretive staff.

In April, the first Forest Family Reunion provided a great time to see familiar faces and make new friends. For a number of guests, it was the first time they had returned since the Center opened.

On September 17th the Center hosted the inaugural Root Ball fundraiser benefitting the Education Pavilion project. This illuminated night over the Wilson River was celebrated with great food, company, and music. You won't want to miss the Root Ball in 2017!

The first Day of Celebration with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde took place in September as well. Drumming, dancing, and vendors filled the plaza. The day also included a special film presentation telling the story of the annual canoe journey and opportunities to explore a fantastic exhibit created by the talented staff of the Cultural Resources Department at Grand Ronde. We were proud to host this exhibit throughout the month of September.





Forest Family Reunion



The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde members teach TFC staff the Heron Dance

An entirely new team of seasonal staff—another first for the Center since it opened—worked with permanent staff to accomplish all of this on top of regular duties. In addition, first-time partnerships with community organizations and individuals were established. We plan to foster these and other firsts in the coming years.

Speaking of firsts, if you would like to be one of the first people to visit the Tillamook Forest Center in 2017, check the back page for a volunteer opportunity on February 11. Please contact us for more information.





Winter 2017 Issue Volume 11, Number 1

Tillamook Forest Center

Inspiring people to connect with the Tillamook State Forest.

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Interp & Ed Coordinator
Denise Berkshire

Programming Specialists
Luke Wahl
David Pearson

Visitor Services Coordinator Jen Warren

Visitor Services Assistant Megan Lacy

Facilities Coordinator Darryl Anderson

Pacific University Work Study
Jameson Greenwood
Mackenzie Walgren

Executive Director, Tillamook Forest Heritage Trust Ross Holloway



To regularly receive this free quarterly newsletter, please contact us. We appreciate your comments or questions on this publication or other forest activities.

Director's notes

Gratitude for paddlers

With the fall rains, the Wilson River is on the rise again. Despite the rushing currents, we occasionally see common mergansers moving upstream. Although they look placid and relatively unruffled, they must be paddling furiously to even maintain their position, much less move up river.

If you've been to the TFC during our 10th anniversary celebrations this year, we hope you've seen a serene and polished look to our special events, programs, and changing exhibits. What might have been less visible is the strong team effort behind

On the surface of the

Fran McReynold

On the surface of the rushing Wilson, common mergansers maintain their cool.

Fran McReynolds

the scenes—our version of paddling furiously. The monumental amount of work this year was made possible by this amazing group of TFC staff and volunteers who brought their creativity and dedication to work daily, built upon each other's ideas, and exceeded wildest expectations.

It is hard to describe the energy, passion, and laughter generated during brainstorming sessions, planning details, setting up exhibits and events, and repeating it each month. I am grateful to work with such a committed team. And I am grateful for the community support and relationships we built during this 10th anniversary year. We are eager to nurture these relationships in the coming years as we continue to navigate the current with all of you.

Why we volunteer Judy and John Shilling

"I planted trees here as a child...I can remember the standing dead trees...I'll never forget the smell of ashes...I never thought it would be green again!"

As volunteers, these are comments we have heard from visitors to the Tillamook Forest Center. In turn, we explain to visitors that the forest is managed for many things including hunting, fishing, camping, OHV use and timber harvest. This summer we could hear logging activities from a harvest unit that was across the highway from the TFC, which provided opportunities to answer questions from visitors about the reason for the sounds.

As we interact with visitors, it is rewarding to share the stories of the Tillamook State Forest and help people understand this dynamic forest ecosystem. We derive a lot of personal and professional satisfaction by volunteering. We have enjoyed being part of the community of professional staff, and local volunteers (three are descendants of an original homesteader family). Our sense of service and desire to see that visitors have a high-quality experience brings us back.

We are seeking volunteers to join our incredible team in 2017. Check our website for more information: www.tillamookforestcenter.com/about 05.html.



Judy & John's help was instrumental in making the Root Ball a success. Many thanks to you both!

Celebrating 10th anniversary fun!

Artists, individuals, community groups, and partner organizations helped make this a year to remember at the TFC. We are grateful for the chance to work with many extraordinary people who made our exhibits and special programs possible.

March (Wildflowers and Plants) marked the beginning of blooms and the TFC. Artist

Dorota Haber-Lehigh's exquisite botanical drawings were on exhibit and Dorota led two drawing classes. TFC staff taught paper sculpting and the Seaside Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Oregon led a wildflower walk.



April's Trees and Wood topic brought out photographer and author Russell Young's ethereal photographs accompanied by poetry that perfectly captured the mood. Russell presented a program on his book and insights into his photography skills. Tillamook Bonsai Society held two days of drop-in advice on how to create and maintain bonsai. Rod Van Loh and members of Coastal Carvers demonstrated a variety of carving techniques.

For May, the focus on Forest Homes was a juxtaposition of intricately-detailed bird houses and feeders created by craftsman **Dennis Frame** along with a display of beautifullymade quilts and a bed turning with the Latimer Textile Center. Fiber artists from the Latimer Textile Center demonstrated a variety of crafts on two different weekends.

"In Your Wildest Streams" highlighted our Rivers topic in June. This exhibit featured stunning paintings by artists



Elaine Norberg and Gerald Sticka. On the River View Trail at the TFC, artist Emily Miller created "Beams", an installation of colored cords that invited visitors to look up and appreciate the forest canopy.

Artist **Ann Girard** displayed her striking natural wreaths for our "Found in the Forest" exhibit in July. Ann's wreaths of Douglas-fir cones, horse-chestnut husks, and other materials showcased a wealth of fascinating forest finds.







Chachalu Cultural Center at Grande Ronde staff

created the fascinating exhibit "Our Story", a look at indigenous culture and the forest, for September. As a culminating event, artists, craftspeople, dancers, and other members of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde joined us for a day of cultural celebration.



drawings. Dorota taught "Have Fun Drawing Fungi" and Catherine presented "Zooming in on Mushrooms". In addition, artist Julie Beeler led

a shibori-technique mushroom-dyed scarf workshop.

For our final open month in November, photographer Ciel Downing's inspirational coastal rainforest images helped visitors see the forest through different eyes. State Parks ranger **Dane Osis** led a popular mushroom identification walk.

A huge thank you to all of our new partners and friends who helped make this an incredibly successful 10th anniversary season! We could not have done it without the help of so many talented people.





Deep gratitude to our supporters

We wish to express our deepest gratitude to the many supporters who have made contributions that will make the education pavilion a reality. Your widespread support is appreciated beyond words.

Root Ball Goods and Services Contributors

Pat Abel Guide Service Artistic Bliss Portraits Blue Heron French Cheese Company Jim Brown Dogwood Bee Farm

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Dennis Frame

Friends of Cape Falcon Marine Reserve

Garibaldi Suites Dorota Haber-Lehigh Nicole Austin Horn

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Senator Betsy Johnson Karmadilo Clayworks

Kayak Tillamook Keep Oregon Green

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Fran & Corky McReynolds

Maggie's Buns Emily Miller Tim Moore Elaine Norberg

Oregon Coast Rail Riders

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Ringside Fish House Chrissy Smith Adrienne Stacey

Gerald Sticka

Tillamook Cheese Factory
Tillamook Coast History Alliance

Tillamook County Historical Society

Tillamook County Smoker Visit Tillamook Coast

Willamette Valley Vineyards

Roy Woo Russell Young

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Eric Berkshire
Barbara Casteel
Corky McReynolds
Steve Miller
Jan Pearson
Rick Pearson

John Shilling Judy Shilling Chrissy Smith Don Sohler Mitch Taylor Elise Wahl Roger Warren

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The Forest Education Pavilion at the Tillamook Forest Center will be a gathering place for forest connections. This free-standing pavilion, with stunning forest views, will provide shelter from rain, wind, and sun for visitors.

We need your help to make this pavilion a reality!

Whether here for a field trip, taking part in an interpretive program, or stopping for a picnic, visitors always encounter the dynamic weather of Oregon's north Coast Range. Hot summer days and heavy spring and fall rains leave many people longing for a place to get out of the heat or to dodge raindrops. The pavilion will make that possible.

Designed to be consistent with the main structure's design, the pavilion will be nestled in the trees southwest of the Center for efficient group movement. Portable benches inside will provide seating for over 100 people, while serving as a gathering area for interpretive programs, a lunch space for students and visitors, a place to retreat from the weather, and also a facility for community events and meetings.

Oregon-grown and produced timber products will be showcased in the new structure. Glass walls on three sides ensure that the pavilion will provide shelter from the elements while providing a gateway for learning about the forest.

The new Forest Education Pavilion will help us build capacity to host increasing numbers of visitors and school groups, allowing us to continue our mission of inspiring people to connect with the Tillamook State Forest. Your contribution, whether large or small, will have a great impact and help us keep you covered.







Your gifts to the Tillamook Forest Heritage Trust support the pavilion project.

The Tillamook Forest Heritage Trust is a qualified partner in the Oregon Cultural Trust, an innovative and widely-supported program for strengthening and preserving Oregon's arts, heritage, and culture. Gifts to the Tillamook Forest Heritage Trust, made in concert with a gift to the Oregon Cultural Trust, qualify you for a tax deduction for both gifts and a tax credit, all while supporting important work related to our state's culture and arts.





Primary uses:

- education field trips
- interpretive programs
- covered picnic space
- meetings & events

Anticipated completion: fall 2017

Owner/ operator:

Oregon Department of Forestry through the Tillamook Forest Center

For more information:

(503) 815-6800 www.tillamookforestcenter.org

Tillamook Forest Center

45500 Wilson River Highway Tillamook, OR 97141





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All gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.

The Trust looks forward

Thanks to your generosity and support, the Tillamook Forest Center celebrated its tenth anniversary this past season. Since opening in April of 2006, this nationally-recognized interpretive center has shared information about Oregon's forest resources with over half a million visitors from near and far. We have provided school programs for over 47,000 students from local schools. Supporters like you have made this possible through your donations to the Tillamook Forest Heritage Trust.



Now, your support can further enhance this special place for visitors and student groups by helping us add an outdoor education pavilion adjacent to our main building. Designed by Amy DeDominicis, a member of the original team of architects that created the Center, the pavilion will be an inviting outdoor space and provide an attractive shelter for visitors and for community groups and events.

We have passed the halfway point in raising the funds needed, thanks to participation in the auctions and pledges at the inaugural Root Ball as well as grants and gifts from foundations and private donors.

Your contribution today will help ensure that we can break ground this spring. Please refer to the Forest Education Pavilion insert in this newsletter for further information and a donation form.



Together we have built something great, with lasting value to Oregonians and to our many visitors. With your continued support, we look forward to welcoming visitor number one million in the decade ahead!

Sincerely,

Poss Holloway

Welcome to the team, Megan!

This October we welcomed Megan Lacy to our team. Megan is joining us as our new Visitor Services Assistant. She will be working closely with Jen Warren, Visitor Services Coordinator, keeping the gift shop chock full of great forest-related items, providing visitors with information and assistance at the information desk, and keeping the office running. We are so grateful to have her on our team!

Megan is a native Texan who moved to Bend, Oregon three years ago where she has been working as a legal assistant. She has fallen in love with the Pacific Northwest and enjoys camping, hiking, canoeing, and photography. She also loves to paint and spend time with her two cats, Hedwig and Turk. Megan is thrilled to be a part of the Tillamook Forest Center team and is excited to explore a whole new area of Oregon.

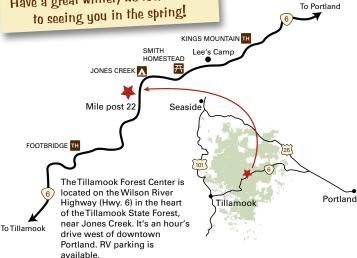




Winter Closure

The Center will be closed to the public November 28, 2016 through February 28, 2017.

Have a great winter; we look forward





mark your calendar

Save the date!

Volunteer cleaning party! February 11, 2017 (Saturday) Call (503) 815-6803 to register

Certified Interpretive Host training (CIH) February 15 & 16, 2017 Details at

tillamookforestcenter.org/events_05.html



Even though the TFC is closed in the winter, the lookout tower will be a beacon of light for travelers along Highway 6 during the holiday season.

Please note! Spring hours start

March 1, 2017 Wednesday - Sunday 10 am to 4 pm



This spring (March - May) enjoy unique forest-related scratchboard style engravings by Mike Watson.



September 16, 2017

"It was a very classy event and Gary and I agree it is our favorite event since we left the East Coast!" - Carla & Gary Albright,

2016 Root Ball guests.

Be sure to join us this year!

Don't miss an issue!

Please contact us to update your address. tfc.newsletter@oregon.gov

