



The Lookout

News of the Tillamook Forest Center

Winter 2020 | Volume 14, Number 1

Tillamook Forest Center

Inspiring people to connect with the Tillamook State Forest.



Staff

Director

Fran McReynolds

Interpretation & Education Coordinator

Denise Berkshire

Lead Educator

Luke Wahl

Visitor Services Coordinator

Jen Warren

Visitor Services Assistants

Megan Fair

Bailey Monteblanco

Facilities Maintenance Coordinator

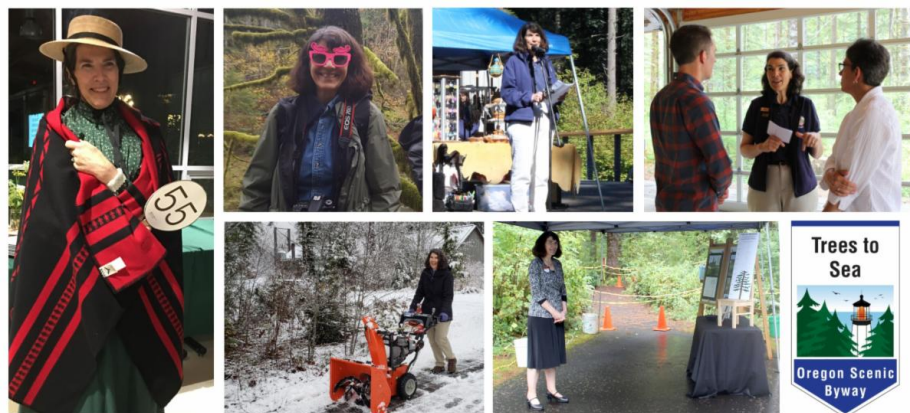
Christian Hargrove

Thank you, Fran, and congratulations on your retirement!

Yes the headline is true, Fran will be retiring in March of 2020. Since the center opened in 2006, it has evolved its programming, grown its support base and connected hundreds of thousands of visitors to the forest. Fran has been a key part of this effort over the last five years. We will miss her genuine and objective approach to all aspects of her work, which have made her so effective as the Tillamook Forest Center Director.

During Fran's tenure, there were many notable accomplishments such as refining our marketing and outreach strategies, celebrating the 10 year Anniversary for the center (including our first "Root Ball") and most recently the construction of the new Forest Education Pavilion. Fran was also the primary catalyst that brought the Trees to Sea Scenic Byway process to fruition in the Hwy 6 corridor. Relationship building was a key part of making this project successful and Fran does this very well. Over the years, Fran has led the center through many challenging situations always with an emphasis on minimizing impacts to the staff and the visitor experience.

On behalf of the Department of Forestry, congratulations Fran on your upcoming retirement and thank you for your tireless efforts to promote the mission of the Tillamook Forest Center and the professionalism with which you and your staff represent the Department. Your presence will be missed.



From the Director

Finding myself in the forest

Many of you have experienced that feeling of awe that sweeps over a person visiting the Tillamook Forest Center--walking into the

Facilities Assistant
Teresa Anderson
Michael Ely

Seasonal Educators
Cam Amabile
Sara Fischer

**Executive Director,
Tillamook Forest
Heritage Trust**
Shawn Morford

Winter Closure

The center is closed to the public through March 3, 2020.

Spring hours:

Wednesday - Sunday,
10 am - 4 pm
*Beginning Wednesday,
March 4, 2020.*

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exhibit hall, climbing the lookout tower for a bird's-eye view of the forest, or seeing the beautiful green waters of the Wilson River from the bridge or the River View trail. That feeling is still with me every day, 5 years after I first opened the doors into the adventure of working here.

Inside of these doors, I have had the privilege of working with and learning from dedicated and talented teams here at the TFC and the larger Oregon Department of Forestry, along with the Tillamook Forest Heritage Trust, and a great variety of partners and community members. Together, we have built upon the efforts of those whose vision and perseverance brought us to where we are today.

I have mixed feelings about retirement—I will miss working with my ODF family. At the same time, I am excited about having more time to devote to my own family and a huge palate of other interests. I imagine that post-ODF life will be busy. As TFC volunteer Jim Reeher recently told me, "The trouble with retirement is that you never get a day off."

I am grateful to all of you who have enriched my life. Thank you for your part in helping me to find myself in the forest.



Remember the Tillamook Forest
Heritage Trust and the Tillamook
Forest Center in your annual giving



Honor a loved one, give a unique gift, or demonstrate your love of forests and rivers with a year-end contribution to the Tillamook Forest Heritage Trust in support of education and recreation on state forests. You can choose to support the Tillamook Forest Center or the new State Forest Recreation Fund, or both!

Tillamook Forest Center (TFC) has three ways to commemorate your gift on art installations:

1. An inscribed tree medallion in the TFC plaza (\$75 gift)
2. An engraved stone on the slate tree in the TFC lobby (\$150-\$350)
3. Add a metal fish to the new Fish Run sculpture adjacent to the Wilson River (\$250-\$1,000)

For a TFC donation form, or to make an online donation, click [here](#).

State Forest Recreation Fund is a new fund established to support outdoor recreation enhancements on Oregon's state forests. Your gift of any amount will help enable the

ability to meet the rapidly growing demand for both motorized and non-motorized recreation use on state forests and improve opportunities and access.

To make a Recreation Fund donation, [click here](#).

Behind the scenes of winter closure

Sometimes you have to make a mess to fix something. Winter closure allows TFC staff to work on projects without impacting visitors.



The gift shop has been turned inside out! Bailey inventories gift shop items in preparation for ordering more items this winter.



What happened to gift shop? To clear space for the marmoluem floors to be replaced, TFC staff and South Fork inmates removed everything from the gift shop, including the counter and jewelry case.



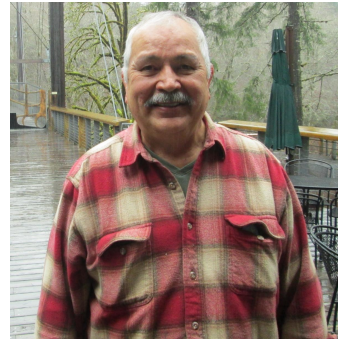
In order to sand, stain, and paint the highway signs at the center and the Smith Homestead, Christian and a team of South Fork inmates had to take them down and bring them into the shop.



Thirteen years of gravity has taken its toll on the exhibit panels. Teresa gives some sagging signs a facelift by installing braces to the bottom of the panels.

Another set of helping hands

As the year comes to a close, we are blessed with another set of helping hands. After retiring from NW Natural as a service technician, David Luna was seeking a place to share his customer service skills and love for the outdoors. He landed at the TFC as a facility assistant volunteer just as the winter projects are in full force! Besides volunteering, David enjoys music, art lessons, and being socially active with his friends and family. We are grateful to have him join the team and lend a helping hand.



mark your calendar

Winter Closure

The center will be closed to the public
December 2, 2019 through
March 3, 2020.

Spring hours begin
Wednesday, March 4, 2020,
Wednesday – Sunday,
10 am to 4 pm



Winter Cleaning Party 2019



Happy Holidays
From the TFC team!



Follow us on Facebook!
Thanks for over 5,000 likes!
[/tillamookforestcenteroregon](https://www.facebook.com/tillamookforestcenteroregon)

Save the date!

Winter cleaning party!
February 29, 2020 (Saturday)
Call (503) 815-6803 to register.
**Deadline is Wednesday,
February 12, 2020.**

2020 Programs Coming Soon!
Watch our website for details

Don't miss an issue!
Please contact us to
update your address.
tfc.newsletter@oregon.gov