

# Marie Mills Center, Inc.



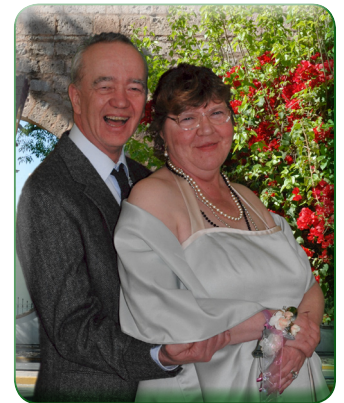
1800 Front Street, Tillamook, OR 97141

Fall 2009

## Senior Project “Prom” - Fun For All

It takes a special person, especially a high school student, to put forth the efforts shown by **Sarah Schneidecker** who chose to put on a special event for developmentally disabled adults as her Senior Project. Her ambitious undertaking resulted in a night that many won't soon forget. A special prom was held for individuals involved with the Marie Mills Center and other community members with special needs. Being the ambitious student she is, with the anticipation that her Senior year was going to be very busy, Sara chose to undertake her Senior Project as a Junior at Tillamook High School. As part of this event Sara coordinated a “Dress Drive” to gather formal attire for the prom attendees to wear.

With the help of her mother, friends and other family members **Sarah succeeded in creating a special memory for all who attended.** While Marie Mills Center was not directly involved with this event several staff members volunteered to help Sara accomplish her goal, giving her guidance and assistance when needed.



Sarah Schneidecker on the right  
received “thank you” from prom attendees

# Marie Mills Foundation

The Marie Mills Foundation Board continues its efforts to assure the future of Marie Mills Center and its services to those with disabilities. This past winter we received a number of donations and we thank the following individuals who made these contributions:

**Reinhold Heckel, Rudy and Ruth Fenk, Capt. David De Cook, RBS Investments/Doug Rosenberg, Jean Bailey, Nehalem Bay United Methodist Women, Evelyn Milner, Rockaway Lions Club, Linda Kay & Tim Marshall.**  
**Thank You!**

## Our Year In Review

The end of 2008/2009 represented the completion of our 39th year of existence. It was a year that was unique and full of challenges ending with **76 individuals in our Residential and Vocational Programs** receiving a variety of services tailored to meet their individual needs. This year we saw an increasingly medically involved and aging population within our program. But, have also seen positive changes for many individuals. For example, one individual left our group home to move into our independent living program; and another individual previously un-served, moved from the community into the group home.

Our Madrona House Group Home was used to capacity during this past year, by providing respite, crisis and other temporary care to disabled individuals in the community.

All are aware that our Nation's economic crisis had severe impacts on many areas and our agency was not exempt. Because of budget issues impacting many entities that we do business with, we saw reductions in our vocational program's community based work program. Particularly hard hit was our Janitorial program.

A significant portion of our income comes through contract services with the State of Oregon to serve

individuals in vocational and residential services. There was fear that funding for these services would be facing severe cuts. By the end of the year, and legislative session, it became evident that reductions impacting services within our program would be mild.

In the past year, we were able to purchase a new bus through **grant support from the Public Transit Division and the Collins Foundation.**

Looking ahead to 2009/2010, a primary focus of ours will be to maintain our program and its services during a challenging economic period. Other things we will focus on include rebuilding our Janitorial Services Program, further development of services for individuals in South Tillamook County, and enhancing our agency's Emergency Preparedness Plan.

In summarizing the past year it was one of our most unique and challenging times, if not the most, that we have ever encountered.

**We are heading full throttle into our 40th year of existence and are very proud of what we have accomplished. The fact that we continue to grow and serve our community is our most remarkable achievement and something we are all extremely proud of.**

## Generator Project

Marie Mills Center is undertaking a special project to acquire funding support to purchase a **whole house generator unit for our largest group home - Madrona House.** We find this necessary in order to create a safe environment for individuals in our program during emergencies. Once this generator is obtained we will be able to house individuals from our other group home in

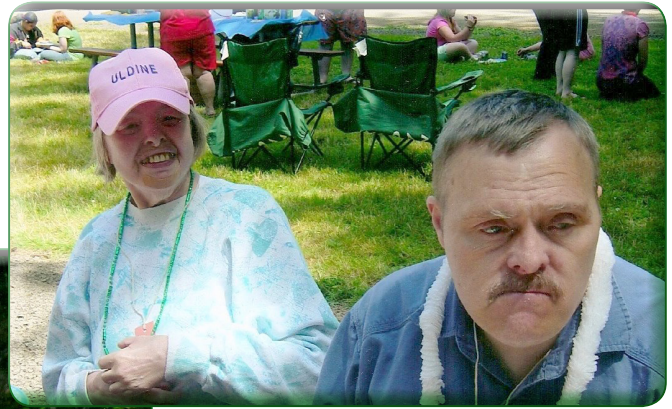
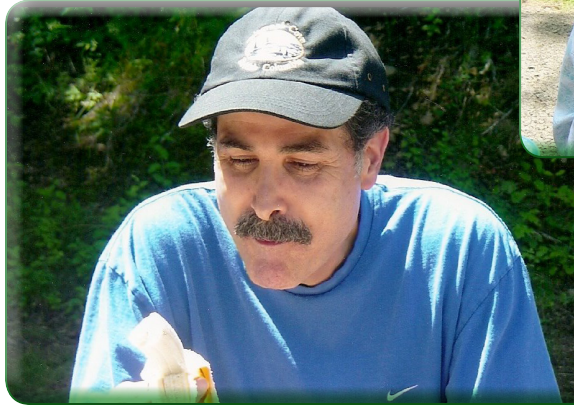
situations of power outages as well as individuals with disabilities from the general community in need of shelter. To date we have raised nearly \$20,000 of the \$23,000 needed for this project to become a reality. Recent contributors include **The Johnson Family Foundation** and the **Tillamook Farm Bureau Association.**

**Thank you both!**



# Marie Mills Center's Summer Time Fun Picnic

Once again this year we held our annual company picnic at the Kilchis River Park. The event took place in July with nice weather and plenty of food and prizes for everyone. Spending their time on the grill, **Ron Rush**, his brother-in-law **Tony Nord**, along with **Linda Kay Marshall** and her dad **Gene Widmer** cooked hot dogs and hamburgers for about 100 people. Other volunteers and staff worked the food line to serve salads, chips, sodas and cookies baked at the Madrona House Group Home. Everyone got to enjoy a nice BBQ picnic, followed by door prizes, raffle give-aways, and to top it all off, was a surprise snack food eating contest won by **Richard Biggs**.



## Winner

## Funding for Tokens to Ride "The Wave"

Marie Mills Center again received grant support from the **Public Transit Division** and the **Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund** for the purchase of a bulk amount of tokens which are in turn, brokered to individuals with disabilities. Individuals wishing to use tokens pay a nominal fee of \$.20 for each \$1.00 token giving them access to Tillamook County Transportation District services. Tokens can be purchased to pay for

monthly bus passes, Dial-A-Ride trips, one way or round trip tickets to the Portland, Cannon Beach or Neskowin areas, as well as the normal in town service area. **If you have a disability and would like to purchase tokens, please contact Kim Armitage at Marie Mills Center at 503-842-2539 x 18 or come to our Front Street Facility at 1800 Front Street Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 4:00 pm.**



## Thanks for our Safety Rail

Recently our Front Street Facility had a safety rail fabricated and installed by **Paul Watt of Watt's Welding** who donated his services. This railing will insure the safety of our program participants and staff while at the Front Street Facility.

**Much thanks to you Paul !**



## Services Begin in South County

Over the past several years we have become increasingly aware of the large population of individuals residing in South Tillamook County that are in need of services. Last year this door was officially opened with individuals becoming eligible for services. These individuals and their families have requested to receive such services in the South County area, in particular, Pacific City.

On July 1, 2009, our agency began providing vocational services to two individuals in space we rented at the **Kiawanda Community Center**, a location that has regularly scheduled activities and events benefitting those in South County communities. At this location we are able to provide work opportunities to these two individuals as well as provide a local service to businesses and community members by performing Confidential Record Destruction services.

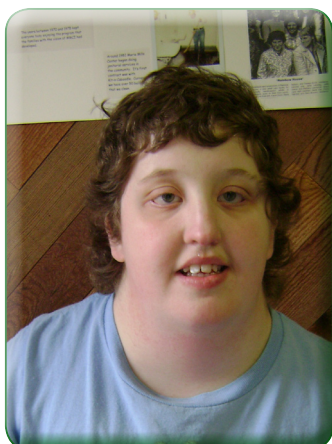
Our goal for this program is to develop employment opportunities for those we serve that will benefit them and the local community. We desire to grow this program so that we can provide support to others with disabilities and to the local communities in the South Tillamook County area.

**For more information on our program or for purchasing Confidential Record Destruction services please contact Cindy Green at 503-842-2539 ext. 14 or by email at [cindy@mariemillscenter.com](mailto:cindy@mariemillscenter.com).**





## Employees of the Month



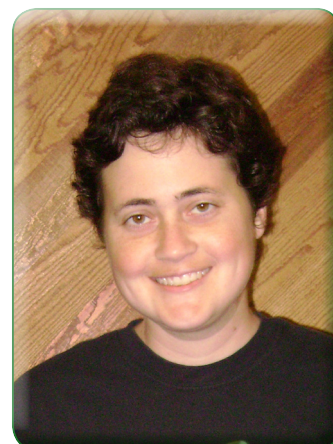
April 2009  
Holly Cheney



May 2009  
Markeeta Morgan



June 2009  
Tory Wheat



July 2009  
Deanna Walker

## Birth Announcements



Lillie Rose Bench  
Born July 9th



Tanner Martin Hahn  
Born August 1st

## Tillamook County United Way

Marie Mills Center encourages support of the Annual Tillamook County United Way Drive in October.

The Tillamook County United Way's Vision for a Better Community includes:

- Caring for Kids
- Strengthening Families
- Assisting People in Crisis
- Promoting Self-Sufficiency
- Promoting Health and Wellness

On average, the United Way touches 16,000 lives in Tillamook County. Giving through the United Way allows your donation to become a helping hand to someone right here in our community!

Visit the Tillamook County United Way at [www.tillamookcountyunitedway.org](http://www.tillamookcountyunitedway.org)

**Marie Mills Center, Inc.**  
1800 Front Street  
Tillamook, OR 97141  
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## Up Coming Events

Annual Open House  
5:00 - 7:00  
October 23rd  
1800 Front Street  
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Halloween Party and Dance  
October 24th  
Swiss Hall  
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Christmas Party  
Noon - 2:00  
December 11th  
Swiss Hall

## Visit Marie Mills Center

We invite you to tour Marie Mills Center. You will observe individuals at work and see our programs in action.  
Call Ron Rush at (503-842-2539 ext. 12 or visit us on the web at [www.mariemillscenter.com](http://www.mariemillscenter.com)

**Executive Director**  
Ron Rush

**Residential Director**  
Bob Ouzounian

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Bob Weitman  
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Bud Gienger  
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Carl Peters  
Susan Pulliam  
Terry Wright  
Jim Martin

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