

Marie Mills Center, Inc.



1800 Front Street, Tillamook, OR 97141

Spring 2009

A Busy Fall for All

In the fall of 2008 we were kept very busy with many activities and social events. Marie Mills Center, along with the Marie Mills Foundation, and the Tillamook Chamber of Commerce



Barb McDonald, Carol Pippenger,
& Debbie Flood

held an Open House / Business after Hours on October 26th. The event again put the spotlight on those staff employed by Marie Mills Center for many years. Those recognized included **Barb McDonald (25 years)**, **Carol Pippenger (20 years)** and **Debbie Flood (10 years)**. Marie Mills Center is very fortunate to have long time committed staff working for our agency, and serving those with disabilities in our program. We are grateful to them for their dedication and hard work.

The day after our Open House we hosted our **22nd Annual Halloween Party and Dance** with 250lbs. of food being donated. With 300 participants, the event was the most well attended party to date. Everyone had a great time with plenty of good food and music for all.



In November, fundraising activities began to raise money for Christmas presents for Marie Mills Center program participants. We had so much help on fundrasing with the



Lois Sears-Prince, Sheila DeLoe
& Holly

The Oyster Shooters playing a benefit dance at the **Elks Lodge**, **Gerry Bales Club Manager** assistance raising \$1216; **Lois Sears-**

Prince and Sterling Savings Banks who displayed the quilt, crafted & donated by **Sheila DeLoe**, that was being raffled with both bank branches selling tickets helping to raise \$643; **Shelly Hornbeak** arranging for Tillamook Country Smoker gift baskets for raffle at the dance; **Phyllis Sisco's** help in coordinating; and **Celia Williams'** donating sales of \$509 from Avon fundraising activities; as well as community members donating raffle items and cash in the amount of \$385 raising a total of \$2753. A special thanks goes out to **Heidi McCraw** whose effort made a huge difference from beginning to end.

Marie Mills Center program participants as well as other disabled individuals from our community were delighted when Santa came to deliver Christmas presents at our annual Christmas Dinner Party held at the Swiss Hall. The efforts made by staff and other caring individuals made this holiday season especially bright for all.



Transportation - Our Life Blood

Marie Mills Center drives many miles every year in the provision of services to individuals in our program. On average, we drive close to 90,000 per year, taking people to work, medical appointments, community events, and other local services as well as making special trips to the valley for various needs. In all, Marie Mills Center operates 10 vehicles and puts them to very good use. In fact, the Marie Mills Center shares vehicles with Tillamook County Special Olympics for their out of town events. Having good quality vehicles is very important.

In March we received a brand new Eldorado National Aerotech Bus which will become our primary vehicle for our vocational program transportation services. Funding for this vehicle came from grants from the **Public Transit Division, the Tillamook Association for Retarded Citizens, and the Collins Foundation.**

While Marie Mills Center travels many miles in its mission to provide services and meet the needs of those in our programs, we could not do it without the help of others. Because

of support from the **Public Transit Division, the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund, and Tillamook Association for Retarded Citizens**, these past 6 years we were able to purchase tokens from our local transportation system "The Wave" and distribute them to program participants and others with disabilities within our community so they could use public transit. This is an excellent opportunity for individuals to learn how to use public transit and have their worlds opened up even further through public transportation.



2009 Aerotech

Generator Project

As anyone who lives on the Oregon Coast knows, we have more than our share of weather related emergency situations ranging from high winds to floods. Because of these situations, we took a long hard look at emergency planning and things that we could do to enhance the safety and comfort of those in our programs and others during emergency situations. The main thing that came out of this was that our largest residential facility would be well served by having a **whole house generator.**

Through donations from **State Farm Insurance, Aaron Dunn Insurance, Carl Peters, Jill & Darryl Carter,**

and the **Coon family**, we have raised nearly \$14,000 of the \$23,000 needed to make this project a reality. We are approaching various grant sources to fund the remainder of this project and are keeping our fingers crossed that funding will be in hand by our next winter season.

The accomplishment of this project will assure that the needs of the individuals living at that location are met. This also creates capacity to meet the needs of other individuals with disabilities, not living at that home, who need a place of refuge on a temporary basis during such an emergency.

Consider The Marie Mills Foundation When Planning Your Estate

There are a number of ways to **remember the Marie Mills Foundation in your Estate Planning**. The Foundation is a 501 (c) 3 Organization dedicated to preserving the future of the Marie Mills Center and the services they provide to those with disabilities in our community. Including an entity such as the Marie Mills Foundation in your estate planning allows you to enjoy all of the benefits supported by the US Tax Code when making gifts to the Foundation either in life or on your passing. Probably the most common and simple way to include the Foundation in your last wishes is through a will. If you do not have a will, the State of Oregon will decide who the executor of your estate is and who gets your assets. While the laws strive to be fair, they may not reflect your values. With a will, you have a way to show others what you valued in life, like being generous to people in organizations that matter most to you. Whether you think of yourself as rich or poor or somewhere in between, your gift can and will make a difference. You may leave money to your family and to your favorite charity(s). Some people think that you must choose between leaving a gift to your family or to your favorite non-profit organization, you can do both. In fact, a gift to a favorite non-profit can actually save your family money by decreasing future estate and inheritance taxes. The process is easy; a simple directive in your will can bring welcomed support to an organization such as the Marie Mills Foundation, making a huge difference in the lives of those served. You can start to-

day by contacting your financial advisor and ask for help in establishing a will and including a charitable gift. The Marie Mills Foundation would like to thank the following individuals for their support through contributions made in the past several months:

Elise Bigelow, Linda Kay & Tim Marshall, Richard Rivers, Kiwanis Club, Nancy and Richard Jones, George and Myra Wilson, Cecilia Dwigans, Evelyn Milner, David and Claudia Efurd. Douglas Holman, David and Denise Porter, Pacific Campground and RV Park, Clarks Plumbing and RV, Tillamook Pharmacy, Francis Niemi, Charles Benschiedt, Chuck and Sue Hurliman, Robert Wright and Beth Waldron, Patricia Keser, JL and Judith Irwin, TLC Federal Credit Union, Brian and Sheryl Seahom, Hudson Insurance, James Frank, Carol Thompson, Mark Wittwer and Brenda Wallace, Bud and Helen Gienger, Orella Chadwick, Helen Benschiedt, Vista House Rentals, Eddie and Judy Murray, David Wiegand, Hines Properties, Roy and Claire Peterson, Pat and Mel Dean, Lawrence and Patricia Renne, Walt and Marilyn Rigerink, Donna Smith, Gloria Slusser, Senator Betsy Johnson, Albright and Kittell, Patty Rinehart, Robert and Suzanne Stewart, John and Carol Steele, David and Mary Decook, Pat and Pearl Ireton, Anne Seeger, Hank and Judy Gollon, Dick and Leanne Spence, Henry and Margaret Beard, Nehalem Bay United Methodist Women

Janitorial Program Keeping Busy

The Marie Mills Center Janitorial Program has 6 cleaning crews comprised of 16 workers with developmental disabilities. These crews currently service 36 janitorial contracts throughout Tillamook County. Our janitorial program has been in existence since 1980 and is one of the larger services on the North Oregon Coast, if not the largest. The Marie Mills Center Janitorial Crews are proud to announce that it recently received the contract for the new Tillamook County Transportation District Transit Center. In addition to keeping that brand new building clean, this provides an excellent opportunity for individuals with disabilities to have employment.



Transit Center Building

David Coon - Remembering A Friend

A long time friend, David Coon past away several months ago after a lengthy illness. David worked for Marie Mills Center from the very beginning of its existence in 1969 at our old sheltered workshop on the Port of Tillamook Bay. David's family was among the original founders of Marie Mills Center 40 years ago. He was a fixture in the old woodshop portion of that facility making pallets and grade stakes, and he was well liked by everyone he came into contact with. David will be missed and remembered by many. David enjoyed many things including Special Olympics and was quite a basketball player fashioning his moves after his favorite team the Portland Trail Blazers. Our thoughts and prayers go out to David's Family and his mother, Bertha Coon.



David Coon Bundling Firewood

Karaoke & Ice Cream Social

On Saturday, March 28th, the Developmental Disability Group hosted a karaoke party at the Parish Hall on 5th Street in Tillamook. Those who attended had a great time singing their hearts out with their friends and co-workers. Some people danced while others lended their voices to help their friends belt out a tune.



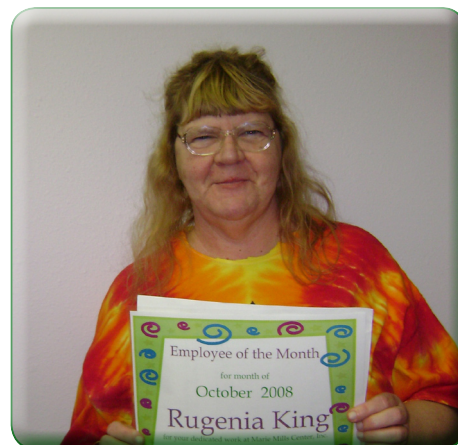
Employees of the Month



August 2008
Gregg Carter



September 2008
Tara Bench



October 2008
Rugenia King



November 2008
Deb Delaney



December 2008
Gabe Welch



January 2009
Ron Rymer



February 2009
Grant Canty



March 2009
Shauna Harrison



Marie Mills Center, Inc.
1800 Front Street
Tillamook, OR 97141
(503)842-2539
Fax (503)842-8028

NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE PAID
TILLAMOOK OR
PERMIT NO 241

Up Coming Events

Torch Run Cruise-In
and Show & Shine
May 16th
Benefitting:
Special Olympics



Prom for the
Developmentally Disabled
Sr. Project - Sara Schneidecker
May 16th - Parish Hall



MMCI Summer Time Fun Picnic
TBA - July 2008

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

Executive Director
Ron Rush

Residential Director
Bob Ouzounian

Marie Mills Center, Inc. Board of Directors

Jill Carter
Judy Gollon
Bob Weitman
Linda Beyer
Mollie Nuppenau
Bud Gienger
Mike Hanback
Dave Hollandsworth
Mark Labhart
Carl Peters
Susan Pulliam
Terry Wright
Jim Martin

Marie Mills Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors

Helen Benschmidt
Carl Peters
Jill Carter
Bob Weitman
Mollie Nuppenau
Tom Thompson
Leigh Mills Wilson
Linda Kay Marshall
Tom Waud
George Widmer
Gary Beyer
George Wilson
Tammy King
Ron Rush