NORTH WILLAMETTE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION CENTER

2018 HARVEST DINNER

Oregon State University
North Willamette Research and Extension Center
The gathering of the summer harvest is an opportunity to showcase the work Oregon State University is doing at the North Willamette Research and Extension Center (NWREC), just south of Wilsonville. On a warm early-autumn evening, September 28, about 250 people came together on the fields of NWREC for our 7th annual Harvest Dinner.

“Each year we create a unique farm-to-plate dinner that utilizes produce from our field experimental trials and tells the important story of our work,” said Mike Bondi, NWREC Director. “In addition, our meal and our evening program bring together our campus-based activities that train the next generation of agriculturalists, researchers, teachers, and leaders who will shape the future of the state, our way of life, and our economy.”
Guests, including OSU administrators and staff, elected officials, local farmers and community residents enjoyed specialty cheeses, sausages and experimental beer—all developed by Food Science and Technology programs on campus. A medley of vegetables and quinoa from NWREC field trials and commercial production at the farm created a variety of diverse side dishes followed by a blackberry and hazelnut crumble from the bountiful summer berry crop harvest. The menu was developed by Chef Jason Ball, with OSU’s Food Innovation Center in Portland, and Buffy Rhoades, OSU Extension Service in Clackamas—and prepared and served by OSU Extension Family Food Educator volunteers.
“I just am really grateful for the creative, innovative work that is happening at the Extension Services,” said Oregon Governor Kate Brown, attending for the second year with her husband, Dan Little. “I think it really adds value to our agriculture products and I am really excited about the level of creativity and innovation that is happening in the food sector.”
The Harvest Dinner began as a small garden party in 2012, to welcome Dan Arp, the new OSU Dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences at the time. This year’s Harvest Dinner included a tribute to Arp as he heads into retirement.

The evening also included a presentation of NWREC’s first Agriculture and Community Leader award to Dr. Robert B. Pamplin Jr., farmer, entrepreneur and president and CEO of R.B. Pamplin Corporation.

“The great thank you goes to all of you here tonight who are involved in agriculture,” said Dr. Pamplin, who shared stories of his childhood experiences on his grandmother’s farm in Virginia. “It is your service that really captures the significance of the spirit and commitment that we have here in Oregon in agriculture.”
Agriculture and Community Award

Dr. Robert B. Pamplin, Jr. was presented with the inaugural North Willamette Research and Extension Center’s Agriculture and Community Leader Award. Our NWREC Advisory Council felt the Harvest Dinner should also serve as a place to annually recognize an individual or organization that has made a significant contribution to the practice of agriculture and farming in the area and has been a recognized and respected leader in the community. No one better exemplifies these attributes than Dr. Pamplin.

Most of us recognize the Pamplin name through Dr. Pamplin’s ownership of the Portland Tribune newspaper, plus 24 weekly community newspapers. But the foundation of Dr. Pamplin’s upbringing and life is his involvement in agriculture—including the ownership of Columbia Empire Berries (a fully integrated company growing, processing and making value-added berry food products), two wineries, and a cattle ranch.

Beyond Dr. Pamplin’s successful agricultural businesses, he created a new media market for news and reporting and an alternative to a one-media market in the Portland area. Dr. Pamplin’s weekly community newspapers are the core of where most people in the region receive their local news today and have been a critical force for building healthy and viable communities.

Over the years, the OSU Extension Service has enjoyed a close relationship with the Pamplin Media Group, their editors and reporters. In addition to being a frequent news outlet for sharing Extension education programs and events with local communities, Pamplin Media has published the annual Clackamas Extension Community Report and numerous other publications sharing information about OSU programs and the impact they are having on people’s lives.

How fitting that Dr. Pamplin would be the first recipient of the Agricultural and Community Award, defining and exemplifying it for years to come.

"Congratulations to Dr. Pamplin. Much deserved award and I really enjoyed hearing about his time growing up on the farm."

KATE BROWN, OREGON GOVERNOR
Governor Kate Brown speaks with Dr. Robert B. Pamplin Jr. (left) and Bill Boggess, Interim Dean of the OSU College of Agriculture Sciences, during social hour at the NWREC Harvest Dinner.

Chef Jason Ball, with OSU’s Food Innovation Center in Portland, and Buffy Rhoades, OSU Extension Service in Clackamas are recognized for their work developing and preparing the Harvest Dinner menu.

We are so grateful for the hard work and volunteer efforts Clackamas Extension Family Food Educators (FFEs) contributed to the success of the Harvest Dinner again this year.

This year’s Platinum Harvest Dinner Sponsor was the Oregon Hazelnut Commission and Nut Growers Society, at the Deans Table, and included recently retired Dean of OSU’s College of Agricultural Sciences, Dan Arp, and his wife, Wanda (left).

Fabulous dessert crumble featuring NWREC blackberries and Oregon hazelnuts, compliments of our Oregon hazelnut growers.

NWREC Director, Mike Bondi (right), with Bill Braunworth, Head of OSU’s Department of Horticulture (left), and Sam Angima, OSU Extension Agriculture Program Leader (center).
Dr. Pamplin addressing the crowd and sharing about his life growing up in agriculture, including some entertaining stories on his grandmother's farm in Virginia.

The Harvest Dinner featured an array of fruits and vegetables produced at the North Willamette Research and Extension Center and showcasing the summer's research projects.

Representative Rick Lewis, Silverton, sharing about his efforts to bring funding to NWREC for strawberry and caneberry growers.

Marion and Polk County Extension Horticulturalist, Neil Bell, sharing about new research at NWREC this past year working with olive growers to help build new agricultural industry in the region.

Wheat rolls for the dinner, bread for the appetizer table, and barley crackers were created for the Harvest Dinner by Andrew Ross, Professor working in Food Chemistry, at OSU.

Enjoying the bounty, from right: OSU faculty Neil Bell (Marion County Extension), Bernadine Strik (NWREC), and Heather Stoven (Yamhill County Extension).
Enjoying the moment! A combination of volunteers and staff put in hundreds of hours of work to make this night possible.

Volunteers putting out 5 different varieties of cheeses made made from cows milked by dairy science students at OSU, then turned into cheeses created by food science students.

Lindsey and Carley, graduate students from the hops lab at OSU, explain the two experimental IPA’s served—Cascade and Strata.

Beverages included Christopher Bridge Wines (owner Susanne Carlberg pouring), and OSU students from the Fermentation Sciences program (in background) with their experimental beer pour featuring two hop varieties.

Polk and Yamhill County Extension District including Polk County Commissioner Craig Pope (right) and Yamhill County Commissioner Stan Primovich (left center).

OSU President, Ed Ray (3rd from left), joined the NWREC Harvest Dinner this year.
THANK YOU SPONSORS!

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The Harvest Dinner would not have been possible without the amazing support of Family Food Educator volunteers serving in Clackamas County. Besides helping with food preparations in advance of the Dinner at the Food Innovation Center in Portland—plus traveling to OSU’s campus in Corvallis to learn how to make the sausages for tonight’s dinner—they came early and stayed late to set up, prepare food, serve and manage the registration. We all owe these dedicated volunteers a special THANK YOU!

Sheryl Hall, Oregon City
Elizabeth Howley, Oregon City
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North Willamette Research and Extension Center is Oregon State University's only off-campus agricultural experimental farm in the Willamette Valley conducting research and developing programs that help local farmers solve problems, create new crop opportunities and build skills for success.

We look forward to sharing what’s new and exciting at our 2019 Harvest Dinner

Hope to see you there!