

FOCUS on Extension

Serving Clackamas County Citizens

Clackamas County Extension Office
August 2019 – October 2019

200 Warner Milne Road, Oregon City, OR 97045

503-655-8631

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Hopkins Demonstration Forest becomes homeschool classroom

More than 400 home-school students and their families gathered for a free day of outdoor learning and exploration at Hopkins Demonstration Forest on May 16. "This is our first-ever Homeschool Day, where students from across the region get to come out to Hopkins and enjoy 140 acres of self-guided exploration and inquiry," said Peter Matzka, OSU forestry educator.



Youth learning about leaves.

Volunteers manned 15 stations offering hands-on educational activities for grades 2-12, including map and compass reading, native plant identification, sawmill production, healthy snack-making, tree measurement, aquatic invertebrates, animal track identification, forest art, and more. "My favorite part was identifying all the different plants and seeing the creatures in the water," said Natalie, a 14 year-old homeschool student from Portland. "I had no idea there were so many creatures in a pond!"

"It feels like Outdoor School in a day," said Jennifer, a home-school parent from Boring. "It's nice to be able to school outdoors and get them into the environment. It's a little different than a textbook." As a pilot program, organizers were stunned when the registration numbers hit 400 and made a last minute push to recruit enough volunteers to meet the demand. OSU Master Gardeners, food and nutrition educators, foresters and many more rallied to help with the forest field day. "It was a surprising success," according to Matzka, who coordinated the event. "I think we will do this again next spring for sure!"

Peter Matzka
Forestry Faculty

What an amazing kid

Congratulations to Clackamas County 4-Her Mikaela Bjorn, one of Pamplin Media Group's Amazing Kids for 2019. Mikaela's 4-H leaders aren't surprised by her success. The 4-H program is known for growing leaders that make positive impacts on their communities.

Mikaela Bjorn of Colton has been a 4-H member for nine years in the Dog and Leadership projects. As a Junior Leader in the Diggity Dogs 4-H Club, Mikaela is always encouraging younger youth who are struggling to train their dogs. She is a young woman who sets challenging goals and knows how to follow through on them. When her four year-old sister died tragically in a drowning accident, Mikaela channeled her emotions into a project that would honor her sister's memory while improving the lives of others in her community. In February of 2019, Mikaela organized a Daddy-Daughter dance as a positive community activity and to raise funds for her cause. This spring, every child in her community received free swimming lessons. Mikaela is keenly aware that accidents can always happen, but hopes that the swimming lessons will encourage water safety.



Mikaela and her sisters.

Wendy Hein
4-H Youth Development Faculty

Coming to a local library near you - The Library of Things

Have you ever wanted to try water bath canning, pressure canning, or dehydrating locally grown foods without having to incur the initial expense of purchasing the equipment? Maybe you've written off home canning because you don't have room to store equipment that you use only a few months out of the year. What if there was a resource available that allowed you to try it before you buy it and/or borrow seldom used equipment on an as needed basis?

Starting this fall, eight Clackamas County Libraries are opening their own Library of Things, a collection of non-standard, useful items, including games, kitchenware, musical instruments, and recreational equipment that will be available for check-out. Items will vary from library to library, as each is developing its own unique inventory based on a county-wide public survey conducted at the beginning of the year. Initial funding for the project is being provided by Clackamas County Sustainability and Solid Waste Program.

The OSU Extension Service Family & Community Health Program is also participating by equipping the Estacada, Lake Oswego, Milwaukie, Oregon City, and Sandy libraries with basic canning equipment and utensils - water bath canners, pressure canners, and dehydrators, along with the instructions for their proper use and care. In addition, tested recipe resources including cooperative Extension Services publications are available for download.

The goals of the Library of Things are to promote lifelong learning by supporting new experiences, bring people together, promote sustainability, and reduce waste. The Family & Community Health Program will participate in the Evaluation process in an effort to better understand the community's interest and need for home canning resources. For more information on the Library of Things visit www.lincc.org.



Dehydrator loaded with grapes.

*Kelly Streit
Family & Community Health Faculty*

Where to find Clackamas Extension in the news

Clackamas Extension welcomes veteran as office manager: Oregon National Guard retiree Leah Sundquist brings extensive strategic planning and leadership experience to her role as the new office manager for OSU Extension in Clackamas. Read more: <http://bit.ly/extensionleah>

PE program helps schools meet state standards: The statistics are clear. Kids who don't get enough physical activity are at increased risk of obesity. OSU Extension created a classroom-based physical activity program that aligns with Oregon health and physical education standards. Read more: <http://bit.ly/classpe>
Watch video: <https://youtu.be/7MkL4ZYwhz4>

Milwaukie Center class participants Walk With Ease: Walk With Ease is a free 18-session program developed by the Arthritis Foundation for arthritis prevention and relief. For the past six years, the Milwaukie Center has partnered with the Oregon State University Extension Service's Family and Community Health program in Clackamas County. Read more: <http://bit.ly/osuwalk> Watch video: <https://youtu.be/VEmr1X9d1zg>

Hopkins Demonstration Forest Becomes Homeschool Classroom: More than 400 home-school students and families gathered for a free day of outdoor learning and exploration at Hopkins Demonstration Forest for the first annual home school day. Read more: <http://bit.ly/Hopkin1>
Watch video: <https://youtu.be/VEmr1X9d1zg>

Family tragedy strengthens volunteer's focus: As a 4-H member for nine years, Mikeala Bjorn has long been recognized as an emerging community leader. Read more: <http://bit.ly/pampkids>

Extension Education Center Update

HUGE NEWS... The City of Oregon City approved the land use application for the Extension Education Center on July 1. That process began with the City in May, 2018. The approval included 37 conditions with 22 of these needing to be addressed prior to building permits can be approved. The other 15 conditions have to be met prior to occupancy. But, we are definitely ROLLING!



Here's where we are at right now. The bid set for advertising contracts went to the County the first week of August for their review and any modification prior to approval by the Clackamas County Commissioners. We are hoping the Commissioners approves them at a meeting in early September just after Labor Day. Public advertising and bidding on our project could begin in mid-September and would likely extend until mid-October. Bid screening, review, and contractor selection would come next, plus all of the associated paperwork. Likely, much of this work will take us up through the holidays. Ground breaking is now anticipated in early 2020. Be watching for more information and timeline adjustments as we get closer. And, WE ARE GETTING CLOSER!

Michael Bondi
Clackamas County Liaison

New Oregon State Wildland Fire Extension Program

In late June, the Oregon Legislature approved the establishment of a new Oregon State Wildland Fire Extension Program, to be led by Forestry & Natural Resources Extension and the College of Forestry at Oregon State University. The ultimate goal is to build wildfire resistance and resilience into our rural landscapes and wildland urban interface areas. This initiative was inspired by the work of Extension Agent Daniel Leavell with the Klamath and Lake County Forest Health Partnership as a model for expanded effort statewide. The budget for this new program is one million dollars per year. This will add up to six new OSU Extension Wildfire Specialists to work with agency and industry partners, communities, landowners, and land managers. The work to be done is too big for any one organization, but by leading partnerships and working together we plan to make a real impact on the ground, spreading land management, and fuel reduction projects over the Oregon landscape.

Glenn Ahrens
Forestry Faculty

Welcome Catalina!

I would like to introduce you to Catalina Santamaria, our new Office specialist. Catalina will be working with our 4H and Master Gardner programs as well as helping with work in the front office. Catalina was born in Quito, Ecuador and then moved to New York. She has a bachelor's degree in computer science and an associates in system engineering. She is also bilingual, which will greatly help when we have calls for assistance in Spanish. She has been in Oregon for about 18 months and has a daughter who lives here, as well as two sisters. Catalina has learned to love nature, walking, enjoys the challenged of a complicated puzzle, playing board games, watching movies, and listening to music. She misses the restaurants and some friends in New York, but can live without the restaurants and video chats to friends help a lot! She loves cats and has a 10 year old named Mishi. Catalina likes vacations anywhere with good company such as parks, beaches, and mountains. She is excited about her job in being able to use her computer skills, and the diversity of activities and connecting with people. Please welcome Catalina Santamaria to our office.



Leah Sundquist
Office Manager

Future Events

August:

Clackamas County Fair: August 13-17 at the Clackamas County Fair and Event Center.

BBQ Dinner and Celebration: Thursday, August 15 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm in the Grove at the Extension Fair and Event Center. Event information can be found at <http://bit.ly/osubbq>. Contact Cheryl Keithan 503-655-8631.

Boiling Water Canning Class: Saturday, August 24 from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm at the Extension Annex. Participants learn to preserve using boiling water canning. Contact Buffy Rhoades 503-655-8634.

A Walk in the Woods Tour: Saturday, August 24 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Raincloud Tree Farm in Corbett. Participants will learn about the forest and carbon management strategies. Contact Glenn Ahrens 503-655-8631.

September :

Office Closed: Monday, September 2. The office will be closed in observance of Labor Day.

Community Forestry Day: Saturday, September 14 from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm at Hopkins Demonstration Forest. Contact Peter Matzka 503-655-8631.

Farmer's Market Tour and Recipe Demonstration: Saturday, October 12 from 9:00 to 10:30 am at the Oregon City Farmers Market. Participants get to interact with local farmers and taste a recipe made from seasonal produce. Contact Kelly Streit 503-557-5885.

Pressure Canning Class: Saturday, September 14 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm at the Extension Annex. Participants learn to preserve using pressure canning. Contact Buffy Rhoades 503-655-8634.

Pickling Class: Saturday, September 28 from 19:00 am to 12:30 pm at the Extension Annex. Participants learn to preserve using pickling. Contact Buffy Rhoades 503-655-8634.

October:

Community Forestry Day: Saturday, August 10 from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm at Hopkins Demonstration Forest. Contact Peter Matzka 503-655-8631.

Farmer's Market Tour and Recipe Demonstration: Saturday, October 12 from 9:00 to 10:30 am at the Oregon City Farmers Market. Participants get to interact with local farmers and taste a recipe made from seasonal produce. Contact Kelly Streit 503-557-5885.

Accommodation requests related to a disability should be made at least two weeks before the event to the contact person listed.

BBQ dinner & celebration at Clackamas County Fair

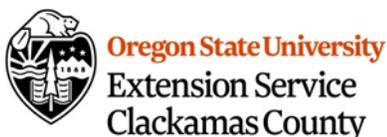
August 15 5:00 PM - 7:00 pm in the Grove

Clarkes Grange BBQ:

BBQ chicken, roasted garlic dill potatoes, coleslaw, roll, carrot cake, cold lemonade, ice tea, and water
\$10 Adults, \$5 Youth (12 and under)

Purchase tickets on Eventbrite <http://bit.ly/osubbq>, at OSU Extension in Oregon City, or at event.

6:00 - 6:30 Mike Bondi & Architect, Mike Shea will share info, updates, and renderings of the new OSU Extension Education Center.



Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources, Family and Community Health, 4-H Youth, Forestry & Natural Resources, Extension Sea Grant, Open Campus, and Outdoor School programs. Oregon State University, United States Department of Agriculture, and Oregon counties cooperating. The Extension Service offers its programs and materials equally to all people. Oregon State University Extension Service prohibits discrimination in all its programs, services, activities, and materials on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, familial/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, genetic information, veteran's status, reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.