Bulletin of the Tillamook County Women's Resource Center



many times when we were

ful. But they just couldn't

catch him.'

texting that she was very fear-

Then, according to news

reports, in the early morning

hours of May 3, 2011, Jeffer-

where his three children also

were sleeping. He drew a pis-

ran past him trying to get to a

eight times. Five of the bullets

tol on Rebbecca. When she

neighbor's apartment, he

chased her, firing at least

struck her in the head and

7-year-old daughter.

tence for his crime.

upper body. Witnessing the

entire event was the couple's

Jefferson fled the scene,

but was later arrested and is

now serving a 34-year sen-

Despite her injuries,

cover, until experiencing a

She died June 9, 2011.

sudden cerebral hemorrhage.

Rick, during her hospitaliza-

According to Cyndie and

Rebbecca did not die immedi-

ately. She was hospitalized for

five weeks and expected to re-

of Rebbecca's apartment,

son broke down the front door

Fall 2013

DV Council ramps up team approach to help stop violence

omestic violence is a problem that touches all segments of the community and, by extension, many of the agencies that serve us. So it only makes sense that those agencies get together to coordinate their efforts.

That was the idea behind the creation of the Domestic Violence Council some years ago. The group, composed of representatives from a number of agencies, met regularly, but had recently become less active than in the past.

That is changing.

"We have a steering committee now that's looking at what kind of organization makes sense in our community, what for-

'It is going to take a

shift in the thinking

eradicate domestic

violence from our

of our citizens to

completely

community.'

mat. I'm really excited about it," said Kathleen Marvin. executive director of the Women's Resource Center.

"We are reaffirming our agreements and in October we will be finalizing and adopt-

 Barbara Billstine Victim Assistance Coordinator

ing the protocols we drafted a long time ago."

Marvin explained that the council brings together representatives from all the agencies that have a role in addressing domestic violence in the community.

"A lot of it is around law enforcement response, criminal justice response," she explained.

"It is having a multi-disciplinary team looking at how we are working together or not, how are we supporting survivors and their safety, whether we are holding offenders accountable. So we are looking at our coordinated response."

See DV COUNCIL Page 2

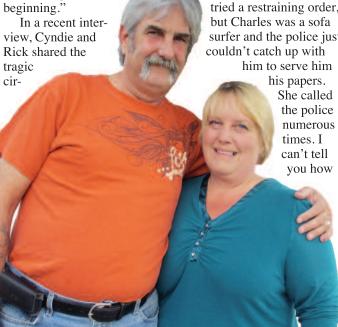
Being Rebbecca's voice

Volunteer speaks for stepdaughter she lost to DV

The horror of domestic violence is a very personal reality for Cyndie Dietz. Her stepdaughter was murdered by an abuser in

That is why Cyndie, a lifelong Tillamook County resident, became a volunteer at the Women's Resource Center and it is why her husband, Rick Dietz, supports her in her work.

"Before she died, my daughter told us that she wanted to be a voice for other women who went through what she experienced," Rick Dietz explained. "So I have been behind what Cyndie is doing from the



cumstances around the death of their daughter, Rebbecca Dietz.

According to Rick, Rebbecca met Charles Jefferson 11 years ago when she was 19. They lived together and had two children together. Rebbecca also cared for Jefferson's son, who lived with

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

them. But over the years, Jefferson became physically abusive. Three years ago, she broke away from him and got a place of her own in Aberdeen, Wash., west of Olympia. But Jefferson continued to stalk and harass her.

> "Rebbecca had gone through all of the proper steps," Cyndie said. "She tried a restraining order, surfer and the police just

tion, Rebbecca had shared with them her desire to help others. "She really did want to be

a voice," Cyndie said. "She wanted to help other women avoid getting into the same situation she was in.'

So as soon as Cyndie and Rick worked through their grief, Cyndie contacted the Women's Resource Center and offered her services.

"I wanted to become Rebbecca's voice," Cyndie

See REBBECCA, Page 2

Rick and Cyndie Dietz

TCWRC News

Facing new realities

By Kathleen Marvin TCWRC Executive Director

ctober is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and as we mark it this year, there are many changes afoot at the Women's Resource Center. Primary among them is a "re-visioning" process that we have undertaken in the face of new realities.



These realities include the ad-

dition of a major new thrift retailer in our community, which has led to dramatic falloff in the supporting revenue from our own Wildflower boutique. In addition, the challenging economic times of the past several years have impacted donations and sparked budget cuts at state and federal granting agencies.

We are very blessed that we have the support of funding through the federal Department of Justice rural grant program. And we continue to apply for other grants and grant extensions, as we will be doing for the Intimate Partner Violence grant that had funded outreach positions at the Department of Human Services and the health department, but recently came to an end.

But we also understand that we must be prepared to deal with the inevitable fluctuations in our resources. We know that grants come and go, economic indicators rise and fall and good fortune does not always arrive on schedule. So guiding our revisioning and re-planning work is the deep awareness that resources are finite: There's never enough.

With that fact in mind, we have begun an extensive analysis of our operations, our goals, strategies and tactics to help us determine how we can best structure our service delivery to meet the needs of our community and how best to adapt quickly when things change for the better or worse.

We have had a couple of day-long meetings during which we have mentally dismantled our entire operation, what are we doing, who's doing what, what our mission and values are or should be. We have evaluated our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and challenges. And out of all that, we have formulated ideas about how to be more effective. Little by little, we are implementing those ideas with the extraordinary support of our board of directors.

We also are actively looking for input and ideas from the community. That is why we have created a community survey. We invite you to fill it out. Copies are available at the Wild Flower Thrift Boutique, our office and on our website at www.TCWRC.net.

Yes, we are changing. We are doing our very best to adapt to our shifting environment and match our staffing and programs to the ever shifting resources that will always be finite.

But we also are keenly aware of another reality: The problem of domestic and sexual violence is so pervasive in our culture that we can never do enough after the fact. All of us in the community must work to change the social norms that support and perpetuate this violence. We must be vigilant and look for ways to prevent violence before it occurs.

Rebbecca

From Page 1 explained.

Cyndie went through the volunteer training and for the past



year has been volunteering at the front desk, answering phones and helping walk-in clients. She also works the hotline

Rebbecca Dietz

one night a week and occasionally helps out as an advocate.

Rick and Cyndie say their ex-

perience has also shown them that family members and friends must not underestimate the potential danger of domestic violence to their loved ones.

"There have been a few people who, when they learned that I volunteer here, started telling me their stories," Cyndie noted. "I don't hesitate to share our story because I want them to know and understand that this can happen."

Rick echoed her sentiment.

"In my wildest dreams I never would have thought something like that could happen to us," he said. "But now I know. Now I would tell anyone in a similar situation that, no matter how hard it is, you need to get away and get some help."

DV Council

From Page 1

Marvin said the group has had two steering committee meetings and has another planned for Wednesday, Oct. 23, at the Women's Resource Center office. At that meeting, the group is expected to re-sign membership agreements and adopt the protocols.

"We have created a preliminary structure for the council, which will continue to meet monthly," Marvin continued, "with every third meeting to be a training meeting. Then the following meetings will talk about the preceding training and how it applies to our community and whether there are things that might benefit us to look at. Then the next meeting, we'll do an update and report on projects that we may have identified."

Marvin said the steering committee is comprised of representatives from the Probation Department, the Sheriff's Office, the District Attorney's Victim's Assistance office, plus Women's Resource Center.

"People are really excited about this rebuilding," Marvin said. "We already have developed some new systems of referral and release of information, which would not have been possible if we hadn't gotten together in the same room. It's exciting."

Tillamook County Sheriff Andy Long, who participated in the original process of drafting the protocols, said he found the process a learning experience.

"I thought it was very interesting to see what other agencies are doing and what other counties do," Long said. "It is a great reality check to see what is going on at other agencies."

Barbara Billstine, coordinator of the Victim Assistance Program, said the council revitalization is an important step in combating violence.

"Bringing awareness to our community and advanced training to those responsible for protecting its citizens are two important pieces to the DV Council's renewal," she remarked.

"It is going to take a shift in the thinking of our citizens to completely eradicate domestic violence from our community. The mission statement of the TCDVC, to 'seek to decrease domestic violence through development and coordination of resources, community education and promotion of abuser accountability and support for victims of domestic violence' pretty much says it all."

TCWRC Staff News

Shelter housemother leaving for African adventure



Janet Stringer

Tanet Stringer, housemother of the Women's Resource Center safehouse since its opening five years ago, is planning to leave soon to pursue another passion: African baskets.

Stringer said she is working on a plan to travel to Africa to learn from and work with local basket weavers.

Stringer, 61, who retired after nearly 30 years as a special education teacher, said she had always planned to take on a new project after five years with the shelter.

"I make baskets and felt a connection first to Native American basket weavers," she said. Then she saw a catalog from the Tintsaba craft cooperative in Swaziland. "These women create remarkable baskets and jewelry from locally grown Sisal. When I saw the work they were doing, I knew I wanted to go work with them, learn from them and perhaps help them in some way."

"Janet has been a true gift to us in these early years," said Kathleen Marvin, executive director of the Women's Resource Center. "Her steady, reliable presence has been a tremendous comfort to those who come to us to begin rebuilding their lives. We are truly grateful for her service and we wish her great happiness."

Marvin said a very informal process has begun to find just the right person to step into the housemother post.

The housemother is given separate living quarters, including separate laundry, and utilities and basic living expenses are paid. She is on duty about 20 hours a week keeping the facilities running smoothly, making sure the freezer and the cupboards are full and that all the gates are locked at night and that people are in and safe.

"We will miss Janet, but I have every faith that we will find just the right person to join us," Marvin concluded.

Maile Cay to work with teens

ongtime teacher and guidance counselor Maile Cay has joined the staff as violence prevention coordinator.

Former



Maile Cay

coordinator Terri Niemann is leaving, but will stay on to help Cay transition into the job.

Cay's most recent job was as an itinerant school counselor among the native Alaskans living in the Bering Strait Region.

"I was based in Nome and flew out to one of three sites each week and stayed there for a week," she explained. "When you go out as a school counselor to these villages, you really become the village counselor."

Cay said she served in that job for four years. She said a large part of her

work was dealing with the high suicide rate among the young people.

Eventually, she decided to return to Oregon, where she had spent most of her adult life.

"We had always wanted to live on the Oregon coast, so we moved to Garibaldi. When I saw the ad for the violence prevention coordinator, working with youth, I knew it was for me."

"Maile is an amazing person," said Kathleen Marvin, Women's Resource Center executive director. "Every day I'm really grateful we have her."

Cay said she is excited to have the chance to work with local teens.

"I am really looking forward to working at Tillamook High School and Neah-Kah-Nie High School and teaching awareness about domestic violence and healthy relationships. It will be wonderful to help teach the young people who show leadership potential to then teach the other kids.

"I'm going there to teach, but I hope to learn from them, as well," she concluded.

Richardson helps at DHS

Joining the staff this fall is Erin Richardson, who for the past three years has been a hotline volunteer.

A native of Tillamook, Richardson, 36, is the new colocated advocate at DHS. Her one-year assignment is funded under Oregon Senate Bill 964, which provides services and support to help avoid or limit a child's placement in foster care. Kathleen Marvin, Women's



Erin Richardson

Resource Center executive director, said Richardson was chosen because of her hotline experience.

"She is a really natural advocate," Marvin noted. "I think she is going to be fabulous. She is really enthused."

Richardson said she began volunteering at WRC because she has long had a goal to work in social services. "I wanted to make a difference in my community, so volunteering was a natural choice for me," Richardson explained.

"I am really looking forward to using the collaborative process to help bring all possible resources together to help our clients. I believe that kind of collaboration among agencies is not only best for the people we are serving, but also for the entire community."

TCWRC News

OCADSV training session

On Sept. 12-13, we hosted a training in Tillamook for area social service professionals. Presented by the Oregon Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, the training covered fair housing, services to Spanish-speakers, HIV issues, technology and safety planning. Vanessa Timmons (right), executive director of OCADSV, was a speaker.



Men's group on the move

bout three years ago, following our landmark "Imagine No Violence Summit," a group of men who had attended the conference began meeting to discuss ways to help change some of the elements of our culture that help perpetuate violence.

Recently, we have had a resurgence of this men's group, thanks to the efforts of local retired school counselor and TCWRC Board Member Tim Hayes.

With Tim's leadership, the group now has a steering committee of from eight to 10 people. On Oct. 1, they scheduled a

gathering of people from Portland and around the state to talk about the initiatives men are taking in other parts of the state and how they might work together.

"Tim's enthusiasm has just kind of brought people together," said Kathleen Marvin, executive director of TCWRC.

"We are once again looking at how we can all work together to engage men and women in talking about how to reduce intimate partner violence."

If you know someone who would like to get involved in our men's group, contact us at (503) 842-9486.

IDAs to help clients save

fter months of training and preparation, the Women's Resource Center can now begin enrolling clients in Oregon's Individual Development Account (IDA) program to help them save for their educations.

"This is very exciting," said Kathleen Marvin, TCWRC executive director. "We now have all of the agreements finalized with CASA of Oregon through the Oregon Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence. We can now begin helping our clients enroll in the IDA education program and, in the not-too-distant future, we hope to offer other IDAs, as well, such as saving for a home or to start a business."

Marvin said the Women's Resource Center began working toward this goal last spring when staff underwent extensive training in personal financial management skills that they could then teach to their clients.

"Victims of abuse may not know or understand the long-term consequences of the damage that has been done to their credit and that can really affect their quality of life," Marvin explained.

The second leg of this project is the IDA Initiative. This is a program that invests in the personal and financial growth of individuals. The initiative was created in 1999 by the Oregon State Legislature. Participants enroll through a partner agency like TCWRC, set a goal and begin saving. Once the participant's goal is reached and all parts of the savings plan are completed, every dollar saved by a participant is matched by the Initiative, typically \$3 for every \$1 saved. Funding for the program comes from individuals and businesses, who are eligible for a 75 percent credit on state taxes when they contribute.

"We believe this is an important step in our goal of expanding services to survivors of abuse and to traditionally underserved groups by empowering our clients to gain skills for directing their own lives," Marvin concluded.

For information about the IDA program, contact Marvin at (503) 842-9486.

Serving the 'Underserved'

Trauma-informed services

We are continually looking for ways to better serve historically underserved populations and to offer the best possible help to all our clients.

With this in mind, our staff has received training that has made them aware of the special needs of those who have experienced trauma in their lives. We have taken part in workshops and will receive ongoing training in how to deliver "trauma-informed" services in both our individual and group contacts.

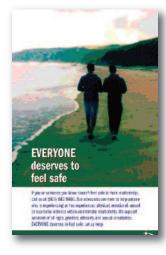
This is just one more way in which we are working to leverage the staff we have to continue to provide high-quality service to our community, even as we adapt to changing economic realities.

Helping Spanish speakers

For several years, our bilingual advocate, Norma Obrist, has been helping us assist our Spanish-speaking clients. Recently, in an effort to expand our outreach to this population, we have increased her hours and she also is now spending one day a week at DHS as a co-located advocate.

Serving the LGBT community

Among our current initiatives as we reach out to underserved populations, we are working to inform members of our lesbian, gay, bisexual and transsexual community that we offer domestic violence and sexual assault



services to them, as well.

To underscore this outreach, our staff recently set up an information table at the annual Oregon Coast Pride celebration in Lincoln City. And we have developed a poster (pictured at left) to let the community know of our services.

If you or someone you care about in the LGBT community is in need of help, we are here to serve. Contact the hotline or our office at (503) 842-9486.

You can help - Take our survey

Whether it's reaching underserved populations or doing a better job of helping the overall community, we want to hear your ideas for how we can do better.

To facilitate your feedback, we have created a survey through which you can offer your thoughts and suggestions. You may fill out the form electronically by simply going to our website at www.TCWRC.net or you can pick up a copy of the survey at The Wild Flower Thrift Boutique or at our offices at 1902 Second Street in downtown Tillamook.

Please take a moment to fill out the survey. It will help us as we work to be the best we can be.

TCWRC News Briefs

Open House Oct. 7

As we went to press, we were in the process of planning an Open House and Deborah Yund Lending Library Dedication event for Monday, Oct. 7, to mark Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

The event, from 4 to 6 p.m. at the center at 1902 Second Street, honors the memory of our dear friend and co-worker, the late Deborah Yund.

Deborah was passionate about reading, and was a lifelong learner and educator. She put great effort into helping reorganize and structure the lending library with the help of other members of our staff. We are honored to rename it the "Deborah Yund Lending Library."

We will have refreshments, information about our services and volunteer opportunities. At 5:30, we will take a few moments to dedicate the library to Deborah. This is an opportunity to stop in, see what we do and even donate books.

For more information, or to RSVP, please contact Romy Carver at (503) 842-8294, ext. 209, or email her at romy@tcwrc.net.

And if this newsletter reaches you after the event, feel free to stop by any time and see what our library has to offer.

Cell phone drive

In honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we are having a month-long cell phone drive to raise awareness about the continuous need for this lifesaving resource.

If you have an old cell phone sitting around in a drawer, you can help by dropping it off at our office at 1902 Second St.

Any cell phone, even without service, can be used to call 911, and having access to a cell phone can be a matter of life or death for a domestic violence survivor.

We take your old phone, clear off all identifying information,



'In Her Shoes' event Oct. 29

a find the shoes," an interactive simulation event designed to help participants learn about domestic violence first-hand from the perspective of the survivor, is coming back!

This life-changing simulation is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 29, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the main library in downtown Tillamook.

We first brought this powerful simulation to Tillamook County in

2009. Developed by Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence, it uses a series of vignettes that take participants through some of the real-life experiences of domestic violence victims.

When beginning the game, participants are given game identities and experiences and are asked to make choices as to how to respond. Depending upon their choices, they experience first-hand some of the barriers that survivors of domestic violence encounter in their efforts to get free, get safe and recover.

Come take part in the "In Her Shoes" program and experience for yourself some of the terrors and obstacles that can work to keep victims of domestic violence in abusive situations.

For information, contact Romy Carver at (503) 842-8294, extension 209.

pictures, texts, etc., then give it to someone who needs it.

While we don't require that donors also supply chargers, cases and other accessories, it is always helpful and appreciated. If we receive a phone that is not re-usable, we make sure it is disposed of in a responsible manner.

Your cell phone gift is tax deductible.

Memorial Walk Oct. 30

On Oct. 30 at 1 p.m. we will hold our annual Memorial Walk. We will meet at our offices, 1902 2nd St., at 1 p.m. and walk to Carnahan Park for a short ceremony to remember the victims and honor survivors. People are welcome to drive if they don't wish to walk, and meet us there.

New volunteer training

In early October, a new volunteer training series will begin for those interested in getting involved in our work or for others who may simply wish to learn more about domestic violence and sexual assault.

According to Volunteer Coordinator Ma'at Crook, the 30-hour training is held in sessions on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and on one full Saturday. The training is conducted by speakers with years of experience in the field. At the end of the training, all participants will receive certificates of attendance.

The training is open to individuals interested in volunteering and to individuals wishing to learn how to be part of the solution to domestic and sexual

abuse. Because each presentation builds upon the other, participants are asked to commit to attending the majority of the training sessions.

If you are interested in taking part in this or future training classes, contact Ma'at Crook at the office, (503) 842-8294, ext. 210, for the requisite pre-screening appointment.

Ongoing training

For those who have already taken part in our 30-hour training, Women's Resource Center also holds monthly training sessions on selected topics that they may have requested or to update material previously presented. These sessions are held every second Monday from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

On Monday, Oct. 13, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., Deputy Dodie Gillespie from Tillamook County Community Corrections, Parole and Probation will speak on the topic of "Sex Offender Management."

Contact Ma'at Crook for information and to confirm.

SART training

Members of Tillamook County's new Sexual Response Assault Team will attend a training session Oct. 25, led by Jenna Harper, training coordinator with the Oregon Sexual Assault Task Force.

Harper said the day-long intensive training session will cover such topics as sexual assault dynamics, the rape culture, offender profiles and dispelling myths about sexual assault. She also will discuss how to develop a sustainable SART program through relationship building, setting goals, benchmarks and protocols and how to conduct outreach and awareness programs.

Harper has counseled survivors of domestic and sexual violence and aided in the development of the SART program in Chicago.

TCWRC News

October pre-holiday sale set at The Wild Flower

Beginning in mid-October, the Wild Flower Thrift Boutique will hold its annual pre-holiday clearance sale to make room for Christmas merchandise.

"Everything will be half off storewide," said store Manager Melissa Finnell. "We will have some incredible bargains."

Finnell said that, after the clearance, the boutique will be closed for a week while staff members clean, do maintenance and reset the displays for the holiday merchandise.

The store will reopen Nov. 1 and will be filled with stacks of seasonal decorations and gifts.

In addition, there will be a new arts and crafts section with art supplies on sale, for those customers who like to make their own gifts.

"We think that will be very popular,"

Finnell said.

Finnell noted that, in preparation for the holidays, the Wild Flower is particularly interested in donations of new or lightly used home décor items, such as wall art and decorative pieces. And, as always, donations of used appliances are gratefully accepted.

One thing the Wild Flower cannot accept is computer electronics.

"We still accept televisions and stereo equipment, but we just are not able to manage donations of computers and peripherals at this time," she explained.

In addition, she asked that donors please refrain from dropping off unusable, dirty or broken items.

All proceeds from the store are used to help support the operations of the Women's Resource Center and the shelter. The Wild Flower Thrift Boutique 114 Main Ave., Tillamook (503) 842-2996

Hours: Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Donations are accepted during store hours. The Wild Flower can pick up large items by appointment. Besides clothing, household items, furniture and used appliances, the Wild Flower also accepts gifts of registered vehicles, running or not. If they are not running, we can arrange to pick them up.

Items that CANNOT be accepted for donation: stuffed animals, computer components, reference books and encyclopedias and upholstered furniture that is dirty or in disrepair.

'As Time Goes By' is theme of this year's musical fundraiser

ark your calendar for Sunday, Nov. 3, for the 2013 musical fundraiser to benefit Women's Resource Center.

Once again, the event will be hosted by Jeanna Stephens (cello), Joanne Petty (piano) and Dennis Wagner (harmonica) and will feature performances by a number of other musicians and singers, as well as a delicious buffet.

This year, the theme will be "As Time Goes By," which also will be one of the songs played,

along with "Moon River,"
"Young at Heart," and Bach's
"Sheep May Safely Graze."

Performing once again will be 10-year-old songstress Emily Nord-Rush. And musicians Kim Berthelson on violin and his wife, Sherah Berthelson, on flute and pan pipes, will play a czardas. Charlie Henderson will perform "Shall We Dance," and pianist Amelia Alvarez will perform "The Entertainer," a ragtime number.

This year's musical will begin at 3 p.m. at Tillamook United





A thrift boutique benefitting the Tillamook County Women's Resource Center

Open Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-3 p.m. 114 Main St., Tillamook • (503) 842-2996

With Grateful Thanks!

We wish to thank the following supporters for their generous contributions. With your help, we continue our work to stop violence. Please forgive us if we have overlooked or misspelled your name. Names preceded by a ♥ are HEART Guild donors.

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Hope, Beth Hopkins, Rebekah

Hulburt Tam & Clyde Zeller Hush Salon & SpaSpa Inn at Cape Kiwanda Jacob, Linda & Theadore Jacobsen, Robert Jan Gordon / The Red Hat

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Obrist, Norma Obrist, Pam & Richard Obrist, Robert & Angeline Old Mill Marina

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Rowland, Richard Rubin-Swanson, Erica & Sanderson, Judie & Ray Schoen, Odetta

Scholtz, Jean Schwartz-Sorrel, Judith Seaholm, Leonard Searles, Nancy Seeds of Change Severson, Marti Shadbolt, Douglas Siegel, Gretta Silver, Dan & Cathy Simkins, Dennis &

Charlene Skaar, Erin Spicer, Karen Spidal, Bill St Joseph's Altar Society St. Albans Guild St. John's Women's Group St. Mary's by the Sea Stahl, Janet & John Stanford, Esther Stein, Steven Stelzig, Joanna Stephens, Jeanna Stevens, Terri Stine, Lisa Stockton, Dale Stoppiello, Anthony Sugarfoots Sunflower Flats Sweet Perfection Tallman, Viviane Taylor, Adrienne The Fern Restuarant The Rendezvous The Village Merchants Thomas, Vicki Thwaites, Carol

Tillamook County Creamery Association Tillamook County Quilters Guild Tillamook Cow Tillamook Options Program

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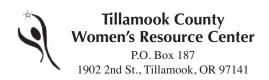
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