

INTEGRITY

PROFESSIONALISM

ACCOUNTABILITY

RESPECT

SEPTEMBER
2011

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Dave's Killer Bread founder Dave Dahl shares his bread, reformation philosophy with youth

"I was a four-time loser before I realized I was in the wrong game."

Approximately 80 Hillcrest YCF youth heard that message Sept. 6 from Dave Dahl, founder and president of Dave's Killer Bread, who talked about his years of crime and incarceration.

"Use that same go-getter mentality you had out there and apply it creatively," he told the youth. "I liked that I was able to turn my life around and be a good seed."

Dahl's Milwaukie-based company has 16 varieties of bread distributed in six states and northern California. The "killer" monicker applies to the quality of the bread, not to Dahl, who says he was convicted of crimes such as possession, petty larceny, robbery, and assault.

Most of Dahl's Hillcrest visit, arranged by GLC and Hillcrest gang liaison Steve Kimbrell, was devoted to a question-and-answer period. Youth sampled Dahl's bread as they asked their questions.



Youth at Hillcrest YCF prepared a welcome sign for former offender Dave Dahl, whose presentation about how he turned his life around and built a business was filmed by a camera crew for the Lifetime network, which will include Dahl in a six-part series expected to air this winter.

See Dave's Killer Bread, page 10

This month's masthead photo is by Ann Snyder. You may submit a photo for use as an *Inside OYA* masthead by e-mailing your photo to oya.communications@oya.state.or.us.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

Kent Bittner
Hillcrest YCF

Jeff Sturgis
Hillcrest YCF

COIN AWARD RECIPIENTS

Awards listed are for May, June and July.

Alex Contreras
July Coin Award
Malheur Parole and Probation

Jim DeNault
June Coin Award
Marion Parole and Probation

Shanie Hill
May Coin Award
Central Office

Danny Hernandez
July Coin Award
Marion Parole and Probation

Frances Howells
July Coin Award
Lane Parole and Probation

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Director's column



Colette S. Peters

September traditionally is a time of change — students return to school, the days get shorter and the nights get cooler, and for most of us our vacations are behind us.

At OYA, this September also marks a time of significant change. We are approaching the end of our layoff process, which means some employees are departing, and many of you will be working in new positions with different co-workers.

This has been a difficult experience for all of us, but I have been heartened and humbled by everyone's professionalism and support for each other through this time. I thank you for your continued dedication and commitment to each other, our youth, and this agency's mission. For those of you who are leaving, we are here to help you find a spot to land and we hope to get you back to OYA in short order.

To help respond to our new, lower staffing levels, we will be implementing several new initiatives that will improve our ability to match staffing resources with workload needs in our facilities. More information

about this initiative will be coming your way during the next few weeks.

We also are rolling out two new measurement tools for staff to use when evaluating youths' potential for recidivism. These tools are just the first of several new methods we are developing to improve our ability to assess youth and provide appropriate treatment and services.

In the meantime, I invite you to read about the wonderful achievements of our youth in this issue of *Inside OYA*. Our youth have won prize ribbons at county fairs, helped renovate a fair booth, built a stage for performances, rebuilt sweat lodges, and been selected as art finalists in a national art contest. All of these achievements help our youth experience successes and see that they have value.

We also continue to involve community members including former offenders who serve as positive examples for our youth. One such former offender is featured on the first page of this newsletter. His successes help our youth see that they, too, can build a positive future for themselves.

Thank you, as always, for the role you play in making all of these good things possible.



Colette S. Peters
Director

Annual employee survey under way

Each fall OYA employees are asked to share their opinions about the work environment within the agency. Topics include opportunities for training and development, workload, supervisory direction and feedback, and general job satisfaction. Results are aggregated for Field, Facility, and Central Office employees to protect confidentiality.

This year's survey is available both online and in print. Employees have through September 30 to respond. If you have not completed the survey, please take a few minutes to do so. Your answers and comments will help guide the agency's activities as it works to create an open, effective, and efficient work environment. ■

JPOs supervising close-custody DOC youth

With goals of reduced recidivism and greater equity for DOC youth, JPOs have added DOC youth in facilities to their caseloads. They will contact DOC youth at quarterly MDT meetings.

“Even though they won’t be doing transition planning, there’s a huge advocacy role JPOs can play,” said Jim Kramer, Parole and Probation Operations chief. “We can’t expect these youth to know how to navigate the system.”

DOC youth in facilities were added to JPOs’ caseloads August 1. Kramer and Assistant Director for Community Services Phil Cox met with DOC officials to prepare for the change, and field supervisors are scheduling meetings with their community corrections counterparts in the counties. AFSCME has been supportive of the change, and individual JPOs should be applauded for their support.

Treatment managers in OYA facilities do a good job of advocating for the needs of youth, Kramer said. Adding the JPO brings another advocate to the table who may have a relationship with family, community, and victims, as well as knowing a youth’s history transitioning from facility to facility.

“There’s going to be one more person advocating for them,” Kramer said.

For example, the JPO can join facility staff in counseling a youth who has completed education to look at further opportunities such as the lattice program at MacLaren, barbering or other trades at MacLaren or Hillcrest, or the chance to earn money at Camp Florence. Or if a youth’s family and support system have moved to a different county, the JPO can advocate with DOC Community Corrections to obtain a transfer for the youth. JPOs also can share treatment history and other information that DOC Community Corrections workers otherwise might not have.

JPOs will not be responsible for providing DOC youths’ community supervision, developing their community resources and placements, or developing and continuing data entry into youth case plans.

Kramer said adding DOC youth to JPOs’ caseloads resulted from Cox and Director Colette S. Peters hearing youth in facilities talk about the differences in advocacy they receive, as well as facility and field staff acknowledging the inequity of the current process. “You could have two youth – same crime and same treatment, but the advocacy is different because one is OYA, one is DOC. These are youth who 15 years ago (before Measure 11) were our youth,” Kramer said.

“Fundamentally this is a question of equity,” said Cox. “Community Services staff can be instrumental in providing case-management support for all of the youth in OYA’s close-custody facilities. Adding DOC youth to our JPOs’ caseloads will ensure all youth in OYA have someone from the Community Services area assigned to them who can serve as a consistent advocate while they are in our custody, and who can help plan their transition when they leave OYA for parole or DOC.”

With the JPOs’ advocacy, Kramer said, “We hope DOC youth would be placed in the right program at the right time for the right reason, so that we can improve the chances they are going to be successful in the community. It’s serving the kids of Oregon, and that’s the right thing to do.” ■

COIN AWARDS, *continued*

Carolyn Lemhouse

July Coin Award
Polk Parole and
Probation

Lisa Parker

July Coin Award
Crook Parole and
Probation

Jill Peterson

May Coin Award
Central Office

Janie Richards

July Coin Award
Multnomah Parole
and Probation

Daniel Sifuentez

July Coin Award
Washington Parole
and Probation

Paul Vogel

July Coin Award
Douglas Parole and
Probation

Cliff Walker

July Coin Award
Clackamas Parole
and Probation

Bart Wilmoth

July Coin Award
Jackson Parole and
Probation

SERVICE AWARDS

The anniversaries listed are for July.

FIFTEEN YEARS

Michelle Brandner-Hegney
Central Office

Jordan Grant
Coos Parole and Probation

TEN YEARS

Jason McKinley
Rogue Valley YCF

Two Hillcrest GLCs earn certifications



Joseph Mabonga, TM, Hillcrest

Two more OYA staff members are now ACCBO-certified alcohol and drug counselors, bringing to 24 the number of state-certified A&D counselors in the agency.

The two newly certified staff members, both at Hillcrest YCF, are Treatment Manager Joseph Mabonga and GLC Tara McEachern.



Tara McEachern, GLC, Hillcrest

OYA now has 11 CADCs at Hillcrest, seven at North Coast YCF and six at MacLaren YCF. The initiative to obtain certifications for more staff members began 18 months ago with the start of a series of classes for employees seeking the certification. Previously only eight OYA staff members had ACCBO certifications, all of them at Hillcrest.

Staff had to do personal study and complete 1,000 hours of clinical supervision before sitting for the ACCBO test. It is a challenging task, but OYA's employees continue to be up for the challenge. ■

Golfers play in tournament fund-raiser

OYA and the Lincoln County Juvenile Department fielded a team for the annual charity golf tournament benefiting the Lincoln County Children's Advocacy Center, which provides evaluation, treatment, and advocacy for victims of abuse.

Not only did the team win the well-attended July 30 event, but JPPO Rick Hayden also

won a separate putting contest. Although proceeds from the putting contest were to have been split between the winner and the Newport center, Hayden donated his share of the winnings to the center.

"Rick's actions reflect well on the entire agency and he deserves our appreciation and thanks," said Field Supervisor Steve Harder.

Participation in the event, held at the Olalla Valley Golf Course in Toledo, is part of OYA's partnership with Lincoln County's juvenile justice community. ■



From left, golfers competing in the charity tournament were Lincoln County Juvenile Department Supervisor Larry Ballinger, OYA staff members Steve Harder and Rick Hayden, and Lincoln County Juvenile Department Probation Officer R.K. Gascho.

CASA recognizes JPPO-nominated volunteer

A recipient of this year's Judge Stephen Herrell award honoring an outstanding CASA volunteer was nominated by Multnomah JPPO Barry Diggs.

He nominated volunteer Edith Hintz, to whom he presented the award August 6 during an annual event at which CASA volunteers were honored.

"She's motivated, she has integrity, and when you think about advocacy you see the face of Edith," Diggs said. Hintz works with a sibling group, two of whom have been in OYA's care and custody, another at Children's Farm Home, and two in DHS foster care. Diggs said he also learned to make adjustments in how he delivers care from Hintz, with whom he has worked for nearly five years.



JPPO Barry Diggs, center, and attorney Liann Crane, right, were among those who honored CASA volunteer Edith Hintz. Diggs nominated Hintz for the Judge Stephen Herrell award, which honors an outstanding CASA volunteer.

The Herrell award is named for a former Multnomah County family court judge who was a champion of children and families, is credited with bringing CASA to Oregon, and served as president of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. He died in 2006. ■

MacLaren holds OYA Summer Olympics

After several years' hiatus, MacLaren YCF's Summer Olympics resumed August 29. A morning relay race plus eight afternoon events challenged youth from each cottage to show their skills and sportsmanship to youth and staff. Events such as the egg toss and water balloon toss kept youth on their toes; jump ropes, footballs and Frisbees were exercised in other cottage events. Each cottage sponsored an event and the youth took turns participating. ■



Youth (in photo above) get ready for their turn in the MacLaren Olympics. Official timer, Program Director Abe Rios (in photo to right), kept the cottages rotating during the afternoon events. Cottages rotated every 20 minutes among Olympic events.



SERVICE AWARDS

The anniversaries listed are for July.

FIVE YEARS

Steve Delarosa
MacLaren YCF

John Joseph
Health Services

Sarah Pruett
Hillcrest YCF

Lisa Schrenk
MacLaren YCF

Patrick Sorenson
Rogue Valley YCF

CHANGES

Dan Robertson

Dan Robertson, acting chief of facility operations since March, has accepted the job on a permanent basis. Robertson joined OYA in January 2010, bringing nearly three decades' experience in juvenile corrections from Washington State where he was deputy assistant secretary in the Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration.

"I asked Dan to accept this assignment to capitalize on his background in operations and his experience in strategic planning, project management, and stakeholder engagement," said Assistant Director Karen Daniels.

Robertson joined OYA as superintendent of Eastern Oregon YCF. He holds an undergraduate degree in psychology from St. Martin's University in Lacey, Wash.

Relay for Life brings serious message to youth

Cancer is a serious subject, and Oak Creek YCF's first Relay for Life brought home serious messages wrapped in an engaging, sometimes fun package.

There were t-shirts, balloons, a barbecue, hair-cutting, snow cones, luminaria, music, and of course the relay. "The idea was to have a lot of fun and to really have a message behind it," said Assistant Security Manager Drew Reynolds, the event's lead organizer.

Reynolds said he went to several meetings of Albany's Relay for Life committee, he helped out at the community Relay, and found the committee so supportive that they sent about a dozen volunteers to assist in Oak Creek's event.



Oak Creek youth were encouraged to invite cancer survivors from their approved visitor lists to the six-hour Relay for Life event.

And youth sent "messages to heaven," including a poem that one youth read, on biodegradable helium balloons that were released during the event.

The event came less than a month after Oak Creek lost QMHP Troy Sikel to cancer, and Reynolds said the Relay helped some youth process the death. Superintendent Lory Humbert purchased a t-shirt – the design incorporated top designs submitted by three youth – that staff members and youth signed and sent to Sikel's family.

"The night closed with the youth taking time to walk by the luminaria bags to read them and then getting to see them lit from their housing units," Humbert said of the small paper lanterns. "It was a solemn time and brought the evening back into focus."

Fundraising from t-shirt sales and other Relay activities approached \$1,000. Another measure of the event's success was that several youth asked if Oak Creek would host a Relay for Life again next year. Reynolds said he believes they will. ■

Each Oak Creek living unit fielded a relay team that had one youth on the track at all times during the six-hour event. At least 15 people – several youth, a staff member, and a volunteer – had their hair cut to make wigs for cancer patients. Youth were encouraged to invite cancer survivors from their approved visitor lists. There were cancer messages and check-up reminders to read, and on which a quiz was based.



Oak Creek youth used biodegradable helium balloons to send "messages to heaven" including poems and other comments meaningful to them.

North Coast youth welcome state Senator

High school students looking for information about how government works could hardly do better than to start with a lawyer and two-term state senator who has worked in two of government's three branches.

But South Jetty High School students at North Coast YCF began preparing even before State Senator Betsy Johnson's Aug. 11 visit, learning about the branches of government, the two legislative chambers, and names of Oregon's elected officials. "When she asked them questions they knew the answers," said South Jetty Principal Robbie Porter. "I was very pleased with the prior knowledge they brought to her visit."

The invitation to Johnson was extended by Scott Carpenter, a Warrenton High School teacher who led a government class at South Jetty High School during the summer. Carpenter knew Senator Johnson from talking with her for a master's degree project at Oregon State University.

Senator Johnson made two 50-minute presentations about how state government

works, how bills become law, and describing Oregon congressional and legislative districts. She also learned about North Coast programming, toured the facility, and asked questions about a day in the life of an OYA youth.



State Senator Betsy Johnson of Scappoose fielded questions from youth at North Coast YCF.

She asked about opportunities for post-secondary education and about the possibility of starting a program like Project POOCH at MacLaren YCF.

Porter said youth had been schooled in how to address a question to a legislator (thank you for coming, my name is, my question is...). During a Q&A period, youth asked about immigration concerns, sentencing guidelines, Measure 11 sentencing for juveniles, the debt crisis, financial and budget concerns, and events connected with Congressman David Wu's resignation. "The youth were well-mannered, asked thoughtful questions, received direct answers, and seemed generally appreciative of the Senator's visit," said Superintendent Dan Berger.

Before leaving North Coast, Johnson asked Carpenter to e-mail her with any follow-up questions the youth had. ■

CHANGES

Doug Smith

Doug Smith, acting superintendent of Eastern Oregon YCF since March, has accepted the position permanently. Smith, who has worked in juvenile corrections since 1986, joined OYA in 1993.

"I have been impressed with Doug's leadership skills and his interest in partnering with the community to benefit OYA youth," said Assistant Director Karen Daniels.

Smith previously was a treatment manager at MacLaren YCF and also worked as assistant director and acting director of Camp Tillamook and as treatment manager of a Multnomah County facility. He holds an undergraduate degree in sociology and business from Willamette University in Salem.

CHANGES

Whitney Vail

Whitney Vail has accepted the position of behavioral services treatment director for OYA. She is a licensed psychologist who has worked on contract at Hillcrest and MaLaren YCFs since 2009.

"My goals will be to improve the fidelity and effectiveness of evidence-based practices, and to look at how we can integrate interventions to improve the ability of youth to do well in custody and then use those skills in a positive way in the community," she said.

Vail holds a doctorate in clinical psychology from Pacific University in Forest Grove; a master's degree in clinical psychology from Pepperdine University in Malibu, Calif.; and an undergraduate degree in psychology from Oregon State University in Corvallis.

OYA's Oktoberfest food booth gets a facelift

If you stop by OYA's food booth at this year's Mt. Angel Oktoberfest, which runs September 15-18, you may notice that it's gotten a facelift. Youth on Hillcrest YCF's Sigma Unit took on the work as a vocational project under the direction of John W. Cummings, acting manager of the unit, and MaLaren YCUC Jim Shelly.

"Youth got a sense of accomplishment, learned the value of starting a project and finishing it, got to work with basic hand tools, and built something to help people," Cummings said.

Oak Creek Program Director Alicia Buettner, who orchestrates the booth's operations, said it has been a Mt. Angel Oktoberfest fixture for more than 30 years. She said it was long managed by MaLaren's Deena Fulwider, who gave Buettner the assignment when she retired.

Net proceeds from the booth go to OYA's youth welfare fund, whose resources are spread across all facilities, although Buettner said most of this year's proceeds will pay for the food booth's much-needed makeover. ■



OYA volunteers at this year's Mt. Angel Oktoberfest will sell cabbage rolls and cheesecake from the booth that youth helped renovate.

Tillamook fair entries net ribbons from judges



Lucas poses with his winning entries.

Three Tillamook YCF youth who entered handcrafted items in the August 10-13 Tillamook County Fair received prize ribbons for their efforts. Wade received a first-place ribbon and Tarry received a second-place ribbon, both in woodworking for skimboards (see the April 2011 issue of *Inside OYA*).

A third youth, Lucas, received a first-place ribbon in the "crochet other" category for his Minions, diminutive yellow characters from the movie "Despicable Me," and a second-place ribbon for a crocheted blanket.

Lucas said he was 5 when his mother showed him how to crochet. "When she taught me I thought it was ridiculous," he said, "but once I got the knack of it I've done all sorts of things."

Lucas said the blanket measures 8-1/2 feet by 6-1/2 feet and uses a Native American design that includes the head of a bald eagle at its center. He said he spends most of his free time crocheting, enjoys it because it challenges his creativity, and is enrolled in online courses through Portland Community College.

This was the first time OYA youth have had entries in the Tillamook County Fair. ■

OYA youth CJCA art finalists for second year

For a second consecutive year, OYA youth have captured judges' attention in the Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators (CJCA) art competition. CJCA seeks entries to display on the cover of its annual yearbook.

This year two youth from Tillamook YCF and one from Hillcrest YCF were semifinalists. Last year, two Hillcrest youth were semifinalists and had their work displayed on the yearbook's inside pages (Inside OYA, September 2010).

"The Change is Yours," art by Devin and Ruben at Tillamook YCF, shows a butterfly leaving two open palms and the message, "You are the only one who holds your future and you are the only one who can change it." Art by Nathan at Hillcrest YCF, "Life Change," depicts the contrasting appearance of tree branches in the four seasons.

Youth from 28 jurisdictions submitted 118 entries from which members of CJCA's executive board voted based on originality, quality of presentation, and reflection of the contest theme, "Challenges, Power, and the Impact of Change." They selected first place for the cover, created by a youth at the North Dakota Youth Correctional Center, and four semi-finalists whose work will be displayed on the yearbook's back cover and inside pages. ■

Sweat lodges rebuilt at Eastern and RiverBend



Youth joined in rebuilding a sweat lodge, enabling Eastern Oregon YCF to have its first sweat in more than a year.

Thanks to rebuilding at Eastern Oregon YCF and RiverBend, all OYA facilities now have functioning sweat lodges.

In August, OYA Tribal Liaison Jack Lawson and Contractor Dusty McKay traveled to the two facilities to rebuild their sweat lodges and conduct sweat ceremonies.

Ten youth participated at Eastern Oregon and approximately 15 at RiverBend. It was Eastern Oregon YCF's first sweat ceremony in more than a year. "All of the offenders in attendance reported to me how enjoyable the experience was for them," said Superintendent Doug Smith.

Lawson said an Eastern Oregon youth who participated for the first time said it was the best experience he'd ever had. "It's a purification, a cleansing, a rebirth," Lawson said. "We've always been taught the sweat lodge is our oldest ceremony. It teaches youth about

the spiritual aspect of their culture and connects them with something greater than themselves. It's really a powerful experience for many of the youth who use it."

Lawson, who has committed to leading September sweat ceremonies at the two facilities, said he is seeking tribal or other volunteers to continue the ceremonies. ■

ARRIVALS

Anita Crenshaw
MacLaren YCF

Lisa Jeffers
MacLaren YCF

Amy O'Brien
Health Services

Marianne Oster
Central Office

Joan Palmateer
Oak Creek YCF

Jan Verser
Health Services

DEPARTURES

Janet Buddress
Central Office

Jeremiah Dalton
MacLaren YCF

Brenda Frontino
Oak Creek YCF

Rosa Grimaldo
Oak Creek YCF

Shanie Hill
Central Office

Erin Krutsinger
Oak Creek YCF

Kelly Larson
Oak Creek YCF

Brenda LeBlanc
MacLaren YCF

Dina Lynch
MacLaren YCF

**DEPARTURES,
continued**

Julie Milstead
Oak Creek YCF

Sarah Olson
Oak Creek YCF

Jennifer Peterson
Oak Creek YCF

Jill Peterson
Central Office

Kristi Robeson
Oak Creek YCF

Renaldo Romero
MacLaren YCF

Ivan Ken Ross
MacLaren YCF

Susan Runnels
Eastern Oregon YCF

Jason Smith
Oak Creek YCF

Pamela Stewart
Young Women's
Transition Program

Dave's Killer Bread

Continued from page 1



Dahl's visit was held in the Robert S. Farrell High School gymnasium. Enthusiasm among his audience led to so many questions that Dahl eventually had to allow just two final questions so he could conclude the scheduled event on time.

How hard was it to change? "It was hard and it felt good," Dahl said. "Most of my life I thought I was worse

than everybody else and pretended I was better." He said he "had to tell on myself" and got medical help for his depression. He said taking a computer-assisted drafting class in prison also opened his eyes to new opportunities.

"People are always saying things like, 'I'm going to change.'" Dahl said. "No you're not. You start now."

"What keeps you motivated?" one youth asked.

Dahl responded that he is motivated by letters, e-mails, and Facebook postings praising the quality of the bread, and by seeing the change the company is making in the lives of ex-offenders (70 of the company's approximately 230 employees are former offenders).

"It's great when you give someone a chance to turn their lives around," he said, "and they do it. Some of them are leaders in our company."

In hiring employees, Dahl said, he looks for people who are enthusiastic about the opportunity – not those who say their parole officer told them to get a job. "I don't have a lot of respect for people who aren't making changes in their own lives," he said.

"Did you start at the bottom?" another youth asked.

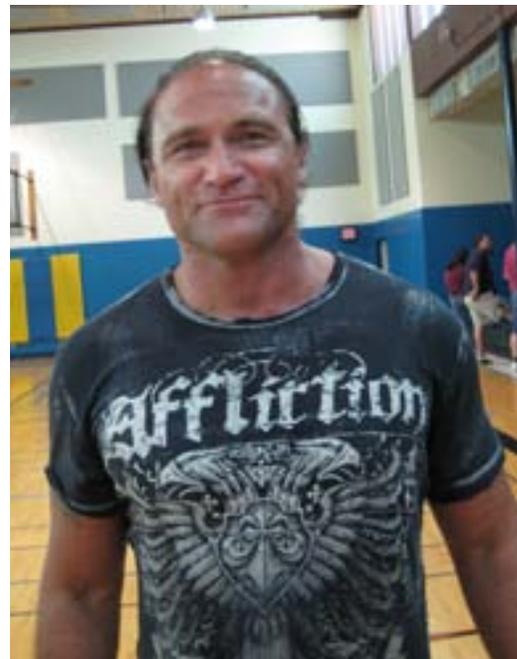
"My family barely wanted me to come back," he said of the baking business his father started in 1955. He said he did start at the bottom before developing his own bakery lines.

"How much do you make?" was another question.

"It goes up every year," Dahl said. "I can't tell you how much I make, but believe me, it's good money." He said the company makes a penny on every loaf it sells and will produce 15 million loaves this year, with much of the profit being reinvested in the company.

A production crew recorded Dahl's visit for part of a Lifetime television series, expected to air this winter, about people who have come back from traumatic events in their lives.

Dahl told Hillcrest youth: "If I can do it, you can do it." ■



Dave Dahl, founder and owner of Dave's Killer Bread

Youth build stage for MacLaren events

When MacLaren YCF held its Asian/Pacific Islander celebration in August, speakers and dancers performed on a brand new stage in the visiting center.

The stage was built after Program Director Tom Johnson asked the lattice factory work crew supervisors, GLCs Derrick Ingram and Ron Flory, if they thought they could build one to replace a stage that had been rented. They said they could.

Ten high-tag youth, working with Ingram and Flory, got right to work and built the stage in nine days so it would be ready for the August celebration. It measures 32 by 16 feet and can be used in three different configurations.

"The youth benefited by working as a team, problem-solving as a team, and learning a skill while enjoying doing it," Ingram said. "It was very educational for them." Although youth usually earn money working in the lattice factory, they took on this project as a part of their community service.

Requirements to work in the lattice factory, which Ingram said has been in business 20 years, are to have completed high school, to have finished or be engaged in treatment, and to be a high-tag youth.

"It's a joy to come to work and work with youth who want to be productive, use their minds, and develop a skill," Ingram said. "They enjoyed building the stage because they know it's not just for them but for the facility's long-term use." ■

Slip sliding away



When it's a 90-degree summer day, what better way to enjoy it than with a roll of plastic, some slippery dish soap, and just enough water? That's exactly what Rogue Valley YCF's Leading the Change group recommended and, for a second consecutive year, youth enjoyed a slip-n-slide event. "Everybody had a good time," said GLC Doug Thomas, who works in security and helped manage the event. "Everybody set aside their differences and enjoyed the water."

THANKS

A former OYA youth, now in his 40s, stopped at Hillcrest YCF August 11. He said he had been a troubled teen with an anger problem. He stated that he was grateful for Hillcrest and that being here had helped him a lot. He concluded that he thought he would be in jail today if not for Hillcrest. Instead he is employed and doing well out in the community. I thought I'd share this success story with you all.

*Jessica Hopkins,
Hillcrest YCF*

INSIDE OYA

Colette S. Peters
Director

Fariborz Pakseresht
Deputy Director

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Send your stories for the October issue by September 30. Articles received after that date will be held for the November newsletter.



Staff's quick action aids employee in distress

Although OYA facilities' medical professionals are assigned to treat youth, they occasionally get a chance to practice their training on staff members.

That was the case at Rogue Valley YCF in mid-August when GLC Mick Lambert, who experiences a life-threatening reaction to bee stings, was stung in the right ear. The incident report described him as "wheezing loudly, very pale, shaking, and struggling to breathe."

Knowing Lambert's history, staff nurse Debbie Winn arrived on the scene with an epi pen. "After she administered the first injection she was quick to assess that I needed a second injection if I was going to survive long enough for the ambulance to arrive," Lambert said. "She administered the second injection without hesitation and stayed with me continuing to assess my situation until the EMTs were ready to take over."

"I commend Debbie for her quick thinking, knowledge in emergency care, and her memory of staff's personal medical issues," said Superintendent Ken Jerin. "She is a valuable team member and cares for both staff and youth."

Lambert was subsequently taken by ambulance to Three Rivers Community Hospital, where Treatment Manager Pete Roberts – he had called Lambert's wife and met her at the hospital – later reported the patient was doing well.

Winn was among seven staff members who assisted in some way. "This was a team effort and this team saved my life by being prepared," Lambert said. ■



*Debbie Winn,
Rogue Valley YCF*

Can you dig it?



Workers are replacing failing underground lines for drinking water, fire suppression, sanitary sewer, and storm conveyance at MaClaren YCF. Work is expected to continue into November.