



Oregon

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NEWS RELEASE

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15 to receive diplomas at Tillamook Youth Correctional Facility

(Note: Although most youth offenders cannot be identified, Superintendent Tracie Hightower will have one or two graduates Saturday who can be interviewed about their achievement.)

Fifteen youth will receive Trask River High School diplomas Saturday during an 11:30 a.m. ceremony at the Tillamook Youth Correctional Facility, 6700 Officer Row.

Diplomas will be conferred on Tillamook YCF youth who earned diplomas in either 2011 or 2010, some of whom elected to wait until their parents could attend. This is believed to be the first formal commencement with a ceremony, caps and gowns, and a speaker since the facility was a boot camp.

In comments to the graduates, OYA Director Colette S. Peters is expected to urge them to enroll in online community college courses, take vocational training or explore other interests that will lead to productive, crime-free lives. "And one of the most important steps you can take along that road is to get an education," she says in prepared remarks. "The more you learn, the more doors you will be able to open in life."

The Tillamook School District provides education staff for Trask River High School through a contract with the Oregon Department of Education. The new high

school facility was dedicated last September by State Rep. Betsy Johnson, Tillamook Schools Superintendent Randy Schild, Peters, and two youth who spoke at the event.

Tillamook YCF is a 50- bed facility, one of 11 OYA close-custody facilities statewide delivering education and treatment to approximately 900 offenders ages 12-24. OYA also supervises approximately 1,100 youth on probation and parole in communities across Oregon.

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