

## Beating the Odds and Finding Success at Tillamook Bay Community College

Zachary Anderson-VonHeeder didn't set out to beat the odds when he enrolled at Tillamook Bay Community College. He set out to turn things around for himself. "I struggled in high school," he said. "I was dealing with family issues. I didn't learn the way the teachers were teaching. I was working to help support my family and that made attendance hard. Ultimately, I dropped out," he told members of the Kiwanis Club of Tillamook at their club meeting in October.

"I earned my GED and then worked minimum wage jobs and struggled to find my way," he said. "I never expected I would go to college."

After several years, Zach wanted to change his life. Through his own personal pursuits, he developed a deep curiosity for the relationship between fungi and its ecological benefits to the environment. "It began with foraging for mushrooms then noticing all the different kinds and functions. It intrigued me," he said. "What happens above the ground we see and notice, but I am curious about the ecosystem under the ground and how fungi could help support sustainable agriculture and forest health," he said. He decided he wanted to go to Oregon State University (OSU) and study Botany with a focus on Mycology, which is the study of fungi. However, after looking into attending, he felt it was financially out of his reach.

Zach's grandparents, who live in Tillamook County, told him about TBCC and the partnership the College has with OSU. Zach looked into it and was excited to learn about the opportunities and the affordability of TBCC's tuition compared to the University. His grandparents offered him a place to stay, and he enrolled.

His first year, he did not apply for scholarships. He focused on learning how to be a student again. However, his second year, Zach applied for and received a \$1,500 Kiwanis Club of Tillamook - Lyle Specht Memorial Scholarship.



*Zachary Anderson-VonHeeder, recipient of the Kiwanis Club of Tillamook - Lyle Specht Memorial Scholarship with Kaylan Sisco, Kiwanis Club President.*

The schoolwork was not Zach's biggest worry, it was ensuring that TBCC would provide the environment and culture necessary for him to succeed.

"I really love attending TBCC," he said. "Biology is probably my favorite course. I like researching and the challenges it presents. I am a peer math tutor, work study in the business office, and member of PTK (Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society)," he said. "It has been an amazing experience for me."

Zach plans to transfer the credits he earns at TBCC to Oregon State University at the end of the 2019-20 academic year.

At the Kiwanis meeting, Dr. Ross Tomlin, TBCC President and Kiwanis Club member, congratulated Zach on his success thus far. "Less than five percent of students who earn a GED go on to transfer to a four-year university and earn a bachelors degree. You are excelling in your efforts and are well on your way to beating those odds. Congratulations and we are proud of you," said Tomlin.

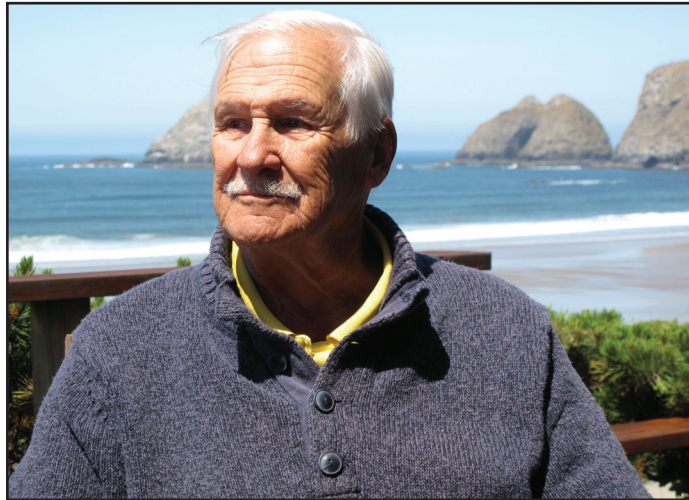
## Saying Goodbye to our Foundation Board President

"I want to go where I am needed," is what Judson Randall said to me when I approached him about joining the Tillamook Bay Community College Foundation Board. Judson was stepping off from the Tourism Advisory Board at the time and wanted to find a new role in the community where he could bring value.

Judson had a reputation as fair, dedicated, and not afraid to ask tough questions. After all, he was a newspaper man. He was a journalist from the inside out.

He and I often spoke of the early days of his career where he covered major events at the Capitol in Washington DC. He was there for both the "I have a dream" speech of Martin Luther King Jr. and attended and wrote about his funeral. Judson lived a life that was full of depth and experience. And he was more than willing to help others as well as challenge the status quo.

After an impressive career with the Oregonian Newspaper, his last working years were spent as the Student Publications Advisor for the *Vanguard* at Portland State University. In that role he had a profound impact on the student editors he worked with. I say that with sincerity. One day Judson mentioned to



David Judson (Jud) Randall III  
1937 - 2019

me we had a friend in common, a student he worked with at the *Vanguard*. I happened to run into the student, John Wykoff, who is now the Deputy Director of the Oregon Community College Association at a training this summer. I asked him if he remembered Judson. Not only did he remember him, he shared with me that Judson was a mentor to him. He said Judson had such an impact on the students at PSU that years later, one of them named their child after him. Imagine that. Sharing your wisdom, experience, and

encouragement with someone to an extent that they named their child after you. That was Judson.

His list of accomplishments is long. It was a gift to Tillamook County that he retired to his home in Oceanside and began his journey to assist where he was needed.

I am grateful for his service on our board from 2016-2019 and his leadership as our board President for the past year and a half. His wisdom, experience, and encouragement will be greatly missed.

**Heidi Luquette, Executive Director**

## How to Make a Donation to Tillamook Bay Community College Foundation

If you would like to make a donation to support a scholarship, program of study, student emergency fund, adult literacy, or other area of need for the College, please contact the Foundation office. We are happy to talk with you about the needs of the College and consider ways we can work together to support higher education in Tillamook County. You can reach us in which ever way works best for you.

### Visit us at the College

Tillamook Bay Community College  
Foundation Office Suite 108A  
4301 Third St.  
Tillamook, OR 97141

### Contact us by Phone

Heidi Luquette  
Executive Director  
(503) 842-8222 ext. 1025

### Send us an Email

heidiluquette@tillamookbaycc.edu or  
Foundation@tillamookbaycc.edu

### Make a Donation Online

You can make a donation online using your credit card by visiting [www.tillamookbaycc.edu](http://www.tillamookbaycc.edu) and then clicking on TBCC Foundation under the Discover TBCC tab.



## Annual Mildred Davy Lucheon Honors Students and Donors



*Back L to R: Kimber Hall, Bill Baertlein, Chris Weber, Mary Faith Bell, Zachary Anderson-VonHeeder, Sarah Absher.  
Front L to R: Andrea Goss, Dr. Ross Tomlin, Patsy Weber*

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the 17th Annual Mildred Davy Memorial Scholarship and Recognition Luncheon. This event showcases the exceptional support the community provides for students to attend college through scholarships. Nearly 100 people attended this year, and student speaker Misty Swanson shared the story of her journey to attend college and how it is helping her to achieve her goals as a wife, mother, and employee in the healthcare field. Event sponsor, Kris Lachenmeier of Near Space Corporation, shared with the audience what inspired her and husband Tim to step forward and endow the Teach for Tillamook Scholarship. "It only takes a spark," Kris said. "Max and Lisa Sanchez were the spark that started us thinking we could do this. Their generosity to start the scholarship was impressive," she said. The Teach for Tillamook scholarship was awarded for the first time this year. The Mildred Davy Endowed Scholarship fund has grown to over \$120,000 and provided support to four students this year. "Scholarships are making a difference," said Dr. Ross Tomlin, TBCC President. "Students need this support. A scholarship shows a student someone believes in them. We are very grateful to this community for its support," he said. The luncheon was graciously sponsored by TLC Fibre Federal, Near Space Corporation, and Judson Randall.





## Degree in Agriculture and Natural Resources Leads to Career in Dairy Robotics

After 15 years in the business industry, and service in the US Marine Corp, Allen Dial went back to school to earn a degree. "I didn't start at TBCC knowing what I wanted to do," he said. "I enrolled in the Agriculture and Natural Resources program because I thought it was a place to start. That is where I met Hayden Bush (previous program coordinator at TBCC). Hayden really helped me discover what I wanted to do. I wouldn't be where I am today without Hayden," said Dial.



*TBCC Alum, Allen Dial on the job at Priority Robotics.*

his families fourth generation dairy farm.

### Education Makes a Difference

"Getting my education made a difference," Dial said. "I had 15 years of business experience but not the education to go with it. My skills got me the job at Priority Robotics but the education I received has helped me to keep my job. Before TBCC I did not have the organizational skills I have now or the ability to prepare technical forms and other technical level tasks. Learning Excel and Word

have benefited me in my job. There weren't any classes in the program at TBCC that I have not benefited from," he said.

"I would absolutely recommend the program to others," he said. "If you are planning to go into the field of agriculture or the dairy industry, the Agricultural Sciences program at TBCC is going to benefit you."

TBCC is currently developing a new Agricultural Technology certificate that students can earn as well. Students will be trained to help local dairies or other agriculture businesses innovate and move into new technologies and advancements in the industry. The goal is to launch the program in spring 2020.

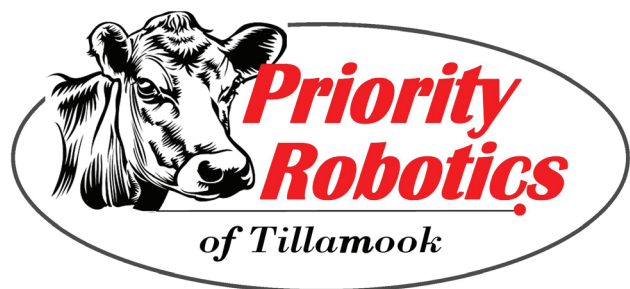
"I owe a lot to TBCC. It was an amazing experience for me," Dial said.

### Scholarship Support Along the Way

Dial was the recipient of both the Virgil Chadwick Agricultural scholarship and the Tillamook County Master Gardeners Scholarship when he attended TBCC. Both scholarships have a focus on supporting students interested in the field of agriculture or horticulture.

"I learned so much at TBCC, and scholarship support helped make it happen," Dial said. "Every instructor at the college helped me immensely to prepare for the the job I have now. Ms. Elliott's class taught me how to write reports and to research on the internet. Dr. Bob's Biology class taught me how to organize my time. The teachers know you individually. You are not just part of a class, you are an individual and they seek you out to support you if you need," he said.

After graduating, Dial is employed by Priority Robotics a local business in Tillamook County that deals in robotic dairy systems. Priority Robotics is owned by Kurt Mizze, who had the first commercial robotic milking dairy in the western US on



### -TBCC offers-

Associate of Science in Agricultural Sciences  
Associate of Science in Animal Science  
Associate of Science in Natural Resources  
Associate of Science in Forestry



## April 25, 2020 Tillamook Air Museum

Join us at what is sure to be one of the best spectator events of the year. Held inside the historic blimp hangar at the Port of Tillamook Bay Air Museum, The North Coast Throwdown is a cornhole tournament with amazing cash prizes, beer garden, local food, local partners, live music, raffle prizes, and room for over 40 teams to compete to be the winner of this inaugural event.

This is a fun competition and fundraiser for the Career-to-Career Scholarship at Tillamook Bay Community College. It is also an opportunity to get together and have fun as a community.

We are seeking sponsors! For information on how you can support this event contact Heidi Luquette at [heidiluquette@tillamookbaycc.edu](mailto:heidiluquette@tillamookbaycc.edu).



*Kathy Gervasi, TBCC Board Chair, makes a donation to the TBCC Student Food Pantry*

## Student Food Pantry Seeks Donations

The TBCC Student Food Pantry was launched in 2019 to support students at TBCC who are experiencing hunger. Food is provided by the Oregon Food Bank (OFB) Tillamook branch and through personal donations. Also provided through the Food Pantry are personal hygiene items such as individual shampoos, soap, laundry detergent, dental care, and feminine hygiene items. All personal hygiene items are provided by donations from faculty, staff, and the community.

Currently, the pantry is in need of donations of all personal hygiene items. If you would like to make a donation, you can bring your items to the college. If you would like to make a cash donation to support the needs of the student food pantry, you can contact the TBCC Foundation at 503-842-8222 ext. 1025 or mail your check made out to the TBCC Foundation with "food pantry" in the memo line.

TBCC Foundation  
4301 Third Street  
Tillamook, OR 97141

## Jude Schlotzhauer: Blazing a New Path

"This school is 100% what you make it," said TBCC student Jude Schlotzhauer. "You can turn it into anything you want for yourself."

Jude is taking full advantage of all that is offered to her at TBCC and in turn she is offering all that she can to support her fellow students. Jude is a member of the Equity and Inclusion committee at the college and is serving as the student work study employee for the program. She is also working to bring new student clubs to fruition on campus to help students find a place of belonging and comradery among each other.

Jude is enrolled in the Welding Technology program and intends to graduate with a degree along with the technical training to earn a local welding job. Her goals are two-fold: Earn a career that will allow her to support her family, and be able to express herself artistically by creating sculpted metal art for our community.

Jude is a recipient of the Mario and Alma Pastega Family Scholarship at TBCC. "There is literally no way I could go back to school without this scholarship unless it included a future of huge student loan debt. I am very grateful for the opportunity," she said.



Jude Schlotzhauer at the welding lab



4301 Third Street, Tillamook Oregon 97141

*The Foundation's purpose is to engage the entire community and increase the level of philanthropic support for student scholarships and the growth, innovation, and overall fiscal strength of Tillamook Bay Community College.*

2019/2020 Board Members: Tim Dolan, Marilyn Phegley, Michael Weissenfluh, Jeanette Hagerty, Van Moe, Kathy Shaw, Chris Weber, Dr. Paul Betlinski, Tamra Gammon, Sarah Absher, Chuck Bridge, Pat Bening, and Omar Hernandez.