

## College Expands Manufacturing and Industrial Technology Programs through Mechtronics Purchase

When the Mechtronics building on Third Street in Tillamook went up for sale, it seemed like a match made in heaven. The Manufacturing and Industrial Technology (MIT) programs at Tillamook Bay Community College were struggling to grow in their current space at Tillamook High School, and the owners of Mechtronics, Ed and Eileen Seeger, were ready to pass their legacy onto someone else.

Of course, it certainly helped that Mechtronics sits directly across the street from the TBCC main campus.

“The Mechtronics space fully meets the needs of our Manufacturing and Industrial Technology programs,” explained TBCC President Ross Tomlin. “This gives us the opportunity to not only expand programs and course offerings but to add additional technical programs in the near future.”

The MIT programs have lived at Tillamook High School in a shared facility with the high school program. The space has been maxed out for both schools for quite a while.

“We are continuing our relationship with Tillamook High School,” Tomlin said. “They need room to grow their labs, and we need room to grow our labs so this works



*Ed and Eileen Seeger stand with Kathy Gervasi, TBCC Board Chair and Ross Tomlin, TBCC President. The college purchased the building from the Seegers to house its Manufacturing and Industrial Technology programs.*

out equally well for both of us. This new space allows us to add additional labs and courses that we couldn't over at the high school.”

For the Seegers, who built Mechtronics from the ground up 26 years ago, it was about ensuring their space was still utilized by the community in a meaningful way.

“The hardest part [about running our business] was always finding quality employees,” Ed Seeger said. “It wasn't enough to know how to turn a wrench; we needed people who were trained in specific skills. There is a huge

need for something like this in the community to offer high-quality training, and we are thrilled the college is forward-thinking in that regard, and will continue to put this place to good use.”

“Education was a huge motivator for us,” added Eileen Seeger. “It is really key to a successful community.”

TBCC is continuing to grow and expand on career technical programs that meet the needs of the community. Most recently, they added degrees in Agricultural Technology and Healthcare Administration.

“Any growth requires equipment, space for that equipment, and space for students,” Tomlin said. “The advantage of having our own building is we can add classes and equipment as needed.”

Most recently, TBCC added a brand new CNC machine, thanks to a donation from Stimson Lumber and the Stimson Miller Foundation. The Hass Mini Mill is expected to go live in spring of 2021, and the college will be able to offer comprehensive training relevant to many of the manufacturing companies in the county.

“Career-technical education (CTE) is a clear direction the college wants to go in the next few years in order to offer the proper training for high-paying jobs right here in Tillamook County,” added Tomlin. “We are going to continue to grow more CTE programs as we see the needs in the community.”

The purchase of the building was supported by generous donations from TBCC Foundation Board Member Janet Riedel and the Loren E Parks Trust. The college has submitted a grant for the retrofitting of the building. The remaining purchase money will come from timber tax reserve funds.

## TLC, a Division of Fibre Federal Credit Union Gifts \$2,500 in Emergency Funds for Students

TLC, a Division of Fibre Federal Credit Union recently gifted \$2,500 for student emergency funds, which are available to support students who have been impacted by an emergency in their life. The emergency funds are often critical to a student staying in school and not dropping out.

Vice President of Student Services Rhoda Hanson says it is her personal goal to help every student complete their education without having to take out a loan. Being able to offer the emergency funds is a key piece of that.

This was the third year in a row that TLC, a Division of Fibre Federal Credit Union has supported TBCC students through a \$2,500 gift.



Rhoda Hanson is pictured here (right) with Development Director Britta Lawrence (left), and Shannon Cahoon (center), the Community Development Manager for TLC, a Division of Fibre Federal Credit Union.

## Tillamook Rotary Club Supports Continued Equity and Inclusion Work at TBCC

The Tillamook Rotary Club recently gave \$900 from their Community Support Grant program to support diversity, equity, and inclusion work at Tillamook Bay Community College through an additional community movie night.

The Equity and Inclusion Committee at TBCC launched its first community movie night over the summer in partnership with the Tillamook Coliseum Theater. They screened the 2019 film 'Just Mercy' based on a true story about a criminal defense lawyer in Alabama. In lieu of admission, the college accepted donations for the Equal Justice Initiative, which was founded by Bryan Stevenson whose autobiographical book inspired the film. A total of 70 people came to the viewings, which raised \$800 for the Equal Justice Initiative.

To keep the conversation around racial justice at the forefront of the community, the Equity and Inclusion Committee committed to hosting another community movie night. The committee intends to screen the 2014 historical drama 'Selma' based on the 1965 Selma to Montgomery voting rights marches. At this event, they will be seeking donations for organizations that fight to abolish voting suppression.



The Community Support Grant from the Tillamook Rotary Club will help cover the expenses of renting the movie, advertising, and creating informational handouts for moviegoers.

The community movie nights are one piece of a much broader scope of diversity, equity and inclusion work being tackled by TBCC. The college began its focus on equity and inclusion in 2015 when it developed an Equity and Inclusion committee. The committee comprises employees from across all levels of the college and includes student representation. TBCC began this effort to create an equitable and inclusive

campus for our students, staff, faculty, and visitors.

Since its inception, the Equity and Inclusion Committee has focused on professional development opportunities, performed an equity assessment, and developed a strategic framework to set institution-wide goals to help create systemic change in several key areas. The college also developed an equity statement in 2017.

Thank you to Tillamook Rotary Club for supporting this important work in our community. We look forward to sharing more details on the next community movie night with the community in the near future.

### TBCC Equity Statement:

Tillamook Bay Community College is enriched by diversity. Each individual uniquely enhances and strengthens our learning environment.

- We value a community that promotes respect and dignity for all.
- We identify and eliminate barriers to learning.
- We provide equitable support and a safe and inclusive environment.
- We promote full engagement in our college community.
- We do this through access, opportunity, and advancement for all.

## In Memory of Pat Sears



*Pat Sears with Jhonary Pimienta, an Esther Milne - Pat Sears Scholarship recipient.*

When it comes to being a champion for education in Tillamook County, a few names rise to the top. One of those is Pat Sears.

Pat was instrumental in founding the Esther Milne Living Memorial, an endowment created in 1988 by friends of the late Esther Milne who had a heart for helping women succeed. Esther was a personal friend of Pat's and a very strong influence in her life.

Originally, the endowment helped support women living in southern Tillamook County go back to school and funded different community art projects.

At the time of its inception, the scholarship was completely depended on donations, and in 1993 Pat took it upon herself to host an annual Garden Tea in her pristine garden overlooking the ocean in Pacific City.

Pat once described building the Esther Milne Living Memorial as her life's work. Over the years, she continued to host the beloved Garden Tea - fretting over every detail - and was such an influence on the scholarship that years later when it was moved to the Tillamook Bay Community College Foundation, her name was added to the endowment.

"She never wanted any credit," recalled Jon Carnahan, former TBCC President and Executive Director of the TBCC Foundation at the time the college got involved. Pat had called Jon and invited him over to her house for coffee and fresh-baked cookies to discuss the future of the scholarship.

"She was so polite," Jon said. "She was always a gracious hostess and loved that part of managing the scholarship because it allowed her to be a hostess. She was a wonderful person who really cared for the community, really supported

education, and was incredibly appreciative of the college assuming the leadership role and carrying on the legacy of that scholarship. It was important to her that it continued."

Over the years, the scholarship helped in a variety of ways: A mother and her children moving away from an abusive husband with no money to pay rent; a single mother who needed a college class to secure her job; students who had scholarships to pay for their tuition and books but not money for gas to get to school; tires and a brake job; a uniform and shoes after a recipient got her degree and landed a job; a needed computer for classes; and so much more.

Originally the scholarship wasn't thought to be primarily for college education, but over the years the pattern became evident that there was a huge need for women who had been out of school for a few years and needed to go back to earn a better living for themselves and their families. As the economy became more difficult for low income individuals more requests were received for child care and gas money to take the classes they had managed to pay for. The scholarship changed with experience and time, but continued to meet needs of women.

In 2012, an additional \$25,000 was raised and a permanent endowment was established through the Tillamook Bay Community College Foundation assuring there will still be financial assistance available for women striving to improve their lives. Currently there is more than \$30,000 in the endowment that is able to award a scholarship every year, giving preference to women from South County.

We are eternally grateful for the work that Pat has done to help education and women in Tillamook County, and for her gracious spirit. She had a huge heart for education, and her impact on our community will be everlasting. In memory of Pat, please consider making a donation to the Esther Milne – Pat Sears Endowed Scholarship.



*Pat Sears with Jon Carnahan, former TBCC President and Executive Director of the TBCC Foundation.*

# It Only Takes One

## Buy a Credit for only \$102 and help change a life

It takes bravery to return to school.

As TBCC graduate Melissa Mumei said, "Before [returning to school], I honestly never felt that I was college material. I didn't feel like I was smart enough, and questioned my ability to do the things that would be required of me... But encouragement from my family, friends, and the college has given me the tools and support that I needed to succeed. And now, I am looking ahead to the future. I'm here today as a college graduate."

The Career-to-Career scholarship was formed to help these students who are returning to school after already being a part of the workforce for several years. It was created out of an effort to make sure that every student has what they need

to complete their education without the stress of financial burden.

The TBCC Foundation has committed to raising \$27,540 to fully-fund three new students to earn their associate degrees. But we can't do it alone. We are looking for 270 people to each buy one credit, worth \$102, to help us get there. Each credit purchased makes a difference. So far, we have raised 118 credits for the Career-to-Career scholarship, and can fully fund one student to get their associate degree. There is still a long ways to go.

Please consider making a donation today of \$102 to buy a credit. Donations can be made online via Paypal at [tillamookbaycc.edu/about-tbcc/tbcc-foundation/](https://tillamookbaycc.edu/about-tbcc/tbcc-foundation/), or by mail to 4301 Third St.

Tillamook OR 97141. Please include 'Buy a Credit' in the memo line. It is a small donation that can make a big impact in a student's life.

For more information about the 'Buy a Credit' fundraiser, email [BrittaLawrence@tillamookbaycc.edu](mailto:BrittaLawrence@tillamookbaycc.edu) for a digital brochure or call 503-842-8222 ext. 1026.



### GOALS



RAISE \$27,540 FOR CAREER-TO-CAREER SCHOLARSHIPS



FULLY FUND A TOTAL OF 270 CREDITS



YOUR DONATION OF \$102 (1 CREDIT) WILL HELP US FULLY FUND 3 NEW STUDENTS



*The first Career-to-Career Scholarship cohort.*

The Career-to-Career scholarship provides eligible students free tuition to complete their associate degree and is open to Tillamook County residents who have at least five years of work experience and are looking to transition into a new career or advance at their current job.

The goal of the Career-to-Career scholarship is to not only help students realize their career and educational goals, but to do so without the financial burden that can be associated with going back to college.

# 2020-2021 Scholarship Recipients

**AAUW Endowed Scholarship**  
Angela Nadeau

**Arthur and Janet Riedel Endowed Scholarship**

Stephanie Velazquez-Garcia

**Benjamin G. Nunez & Priscilla Gleason Nunez Endowed Scholarship**

Veronica Chavarin-Gutierrez

**Buck and Elnora Monroe Endowed Scholarship**

Tiffany Lopes  
William Walbridge

**Casey-Green Endowed Scholarship**

Briana Chambers

**DeArmond Scholarship**

Thomas Baker  
Casey Cannon  
Andrew Clegg  
Jimmie Cope  
Alexandria Myers  
Jude Schlotzhauer  
Morgan Waldhart  
William Walbridge

**Dr. Paul Betlinski Endowed Scholarship**

Amanda Koski

**Esther Milne-Pat Sears Endowed Scholarship**

Megan Kjenslee  
Lesley Hurliman-Wilson

**Futuro Brillante Scholarship**

Gustavo Camacho  
Jennifer Ponce-Olivera

**Gilda J. Brown Scholarship**

Jennie Cunningham

**J.M. "Jim" Brown Scholarship**

Grace Miller  
Jephath Troyer

**Kiwanis Club of Tillamook - Lyle Specht Memorial Scholarship**

Megan Kjenslee  
Amanda Meyer

**M. Wayne Jensen Memorial Endowed Scholarship**

Rikki Reid

**Mario and Alma Pastega Family Scholarship**

Jerry Bruner  
Yvette Clark  
Krissy Flores  
Tyler Marshall  
Hannah Stinnett  
LeAnne Troyer  
Jephath Troyer

**Mary Lou Hudson Endowed Scholarship**

Journey Whitted

**Mildred Davy Endowed Scholarship**

Kevin Esquivel  
Marlene Luna Parra  
Nara Romero  
Jude Schlotzhauer  
Elizabeth Weaver

**Nehalem Bay Emergency Services Scholarship**

Casey Cannon

**Oceanside-Netarts Vera Snow-Reid Memorial Scholarship**

Charity Mann  
Tabitha Shipman

**Peggy Maack Memorial Endowed Scholarship**

Marlene Valencia-Godinez

**Robert and Alicia Reed Endowed Scholarship**

Selena Aguilar Castillo

**Teach for Tillamook Endowed Scholarship**

Bonnie Wynia

**Tillamook Bay Community College Foundation Scholarship**

Dylan Bringuel  
Abigail Garcia  
Angelica Godinez  
Ella Gum

**Tillamook County Pioneer Museum Endowed Scholarship**

Casey Cannon

**Tillamook Masonic Lodge Scholarship**

Selena Aguilar Castillo  
Megan Kjenslee

**Virgil Chadwick Agricultural Scholarship**

Tyler Seals

# Stimson Lumber Supports TBCC Students

Tillamook Bay Community College believes that in order to get high-quality technical training you shouldn't have to travel far. That's why since 2009 the college has been training millwrights and apprentices in skills needed to meet the needs of local employers.

Earlier this year, the Manufacturing and Industrial Technology program received a substantial boost in the form of a HAAS Mini Mill. The HAAS 3-Axis Computer Numerical Control unit, was purchased through a \$25,000 grant from Stimson Lumber and the Stimson-Miller Foundation specifically to support Career Technical Education students.

"The CNC machine was the missing piece of the manufacturing program," said Darryl Spitzer, Dean of Career Technical Education. "The addition of the mill will allow the college to create a complete machining pathway and sets the stage for certificates in machine automation. It also allows us to train students for high-demand jobs that they can get locally."

The HAAS Mini Mill will allow TBCC to provide comprehensive training relevant to most manufacturing companies in Tillamook County, and allows employers the ability to train their employees close to home.

"Before we could send [our employees] to TBCC, they were having to drive to



*Left to right: John Schneidecker and Wes Colter of Stimson Lumber with Darryl Spitzer, Dean of Career Technical Education at TBCC.*

Portland and back and were losing time at work and with their families," said Wes Coulter with Stimson Lumber. "Now through the program that the college has built, we can get them trained quicker and better... It has been night and day for our employees."

TBCC first began training millwrights and apprentices more than 10 years ago through a customized training degree program designed to meet the needs of local employers. In 2015, the degree was restructured to address a wider range of skills including 3-D modeling and machining.

In 2019, TBCC developed an associate degree in Welding Technologies. With the purchase of the HAAS Mini Mill, the college will be able to teach classes in the operation of a CNC, and how to write G-Code.

"The Stimson-Miller Foundation is happy to have spearheaded the partnership with Stimson Lumber Company to help support TBCC's efforts to improve the training of lumber industry employees," said Stimson-Miller Foundation Board President Clara Evensen.

Spitzer noted that with the economic impact from COVID, and the increasing demand for training and education in high-wage, high-demand business sectors, there is no better time than the present to add this essential skill to the Manufacturing and Welding programs.

"We're really thankful to have Stimson Lumber as a partner in this program, and for the Foundation's financial contribution," Spitzer added. "The impact that this CNC machine will have on our program, our students, and our community is unmatched."

## How to Make a Donation

If you would like to make a donation to support a scholarship, program, student emergency funds, adult literacy, or other area of need, please contact the Foundation office. We are happy to talk with you 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 or email a donation to:**

**Britta Lawrence  
Development Director**

**Heidi Luquette  
Executive Director**

**Make a Donation Online**

Tillamook Bay Community  
College Foundation  
4301 Third St.  
Tillamook, OR 97141

(503) 842-8222-1026  
brittalawrence@  
tillamookbaycc.edu

(503) 842-8222-1025  
heidiluquette@  
tillamookbaycc.edu

Visit [www.tillamookbaycc.edu](http://www.tillamookbaycc.edu).  
Click on TBCC Foundation  
under the Discover TBCC tab.



## Look here!

Dr. Bob needs new microscopes. In fact, he needs 11 of them. Students enrolled in all of our healthcare programs, biology, microbiology, and animal science will benefit from these new resources in their classroom.

Can you help? We are seeking \$15,000 to purchase these instruments. We plan to write a grant to help with the cost, but grantors want to see that we have local support. Will you help us?

To make a donation you can send a check to the TBCC Foundation with "microscopes" in the memo line.

*Dr. Robert Pietruska is pictured here with two of his students, looking through a very old microscope.*

## Making Giving Easy

There are so many ways to make a difference in Tillamook County. One of those ways is supporting a local nonprofit that has meaning to you or has provided you or those you love with support or services. The TBCC Foundation is a 501c3 nonprofit that supports students to earn an education and increase their opportunities in life. We provide student scholarships, emergency funds, and provide for the financial support and innovation of Tillamook Bay Community College. If you would like to support these efforts, we would love to talk with you.

There are many ways to give a gift that can make a big impact today or in the future.

### A Gift Today

An outright gift can help fund immediate needs or an upcoming project. The potential financial benefits to you can include an income tax deduction or possible elimination of capital gains tax. Here are three quick ideas:

- 1.) A cash donation
- 2.) A donation of appreciated stock
- 3.) A donation of your IRA Required Minimum Distribution (RMD).

If you're older than 70 ½ and have an IRA or other retirement plan, talk with

your CPA or tax preparer about how you can use your annual required minimum distribution to make a donation that is sent directly to a qualified non-profit organization.

According to the IRS website [irs.gov](https://www.irs.gov), your RMD is the minimum amount you must withdraw from your account each year. You generally have to start taking withdrawals from your IRA, SEP IRA, SIMPLE IRA, or retirement plan account when you reach age 72 (70 ½ if you reach 70 ½ before January 1, 2020).

Using your RMD as a donation to a nonprofit may allow you to reduce your taxes since it reduces the amount of your adjusted gross income by the amount of the donation. TBCC Foundation has received several contributions this way and they have made a big difference to the college. If you are interested in learning more, reach out to a local CPA for help.

### A Gift Made Later

There are many ways for you give a planned gift that will be made in the future. You can:

- 1.) Include a bequest in your will or living trust stating that a specific

asset, certain dollar amount or—more commonly—a percentage of your estate will pass to us at your death. You can still make the gift in honor of a loved one or yourself.

2.) You can designate the TBCC Foundation as the beneficiary of your life insurance policy, insurance annuities or IRA. These policies are not controlled by the terms of your will. Each uses separate beneficiary forms to determine who receives the benefits.

We also encourage you to talk with a CPA or tax professional in our community about putting together an estate plan that can help benefit you, your family, and the charitable organizations that are important to you. It is an opportunity for each of us to make a difference together. I look forward to hearing from you and can be reached at 503-842-8222 ext. 1025 or [heidilouquette@tillamookbaycc.edu](mailto:heidilouquette@tillamookbaycc.edu).

## Lesley Hurliman-Wilson: Getting Back on her Feet

The hurdles of going back to school are so much more than just financial.

For Lesley Hurliman-Wilson, she had just had her second child and a recent on-the-job injury required her to have hip replacement surgery. It was at that time she decided to do something she had been contemplating since high school: get her degree.

Lesley had attempted to get a nursing degree shortly after she graduated, but didn't finish.

"It wasn't really the right time in my life to do it," she recalled. "I didn't take it very seriously."

She had taken a health occupations class while in high school and while doing her rotations at Reinhart Clinic, landed a job as a Medical Assistant.

From there, she worked at the hospital for several years before deciding on a career change. However, after sustaining an injury she was determined not to return to that field and decided to pursue nursing again.

"I'm not looking for a nine-to-five job; I'm just not built that way," she said about why she wants to be a nurse. "I would rather work longer hours a few days a week and still have time to do the things I love, like train horses and spend time with my grandparents."

Lesley grew up on a dairy farm where she learned the ins and outs of the medical world. "I was always there with the vet, doing IVs on cows and horses and everything in between. I knew I didn't want to be a vet, but I was still drawn to the medical field in some capacity."

Even though it has taken her a few years to get here, Lesley said she is determined to get her associate degree through TBCC and apply for the nursing program in the near future.

"One of the reasons I took so long to go back to school is I didn't think I would qualify for any grants or scholarships," she said. "It was shocking to learn that not only did I qualify, the Milne-Sears Scholarship helps me pay for things like childcare. That means I can pay



someone to watch my children while I go to face-to-face classes.

"We live far outside of Tillamook, so there are travel costs associated with getting my degree and I can rest assured knowing that's covered as well. It has really helped with the financial costs in ways I didn't think you could get with a scholarship."



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, Van Moe, Kathy Shaw, Chris Weber, Dr. Paul Betlinski, Tamra Gammon, Sarah Absher, Chuck Bridge, Pat Bening, Janet Riedel, and Omar Hernandez.