2022 TCHS MEETING SCHEDULE
TCHS is restructuring in 2022 and will be having a program for each monthly meeting, public invited.
Meetings are usually the second Tuesday of each month with occasional field trips to areas of historical interest.
For more information visit: https://www.tcpm.org/tillamook-co-historical-society.html

Watch for updates on our facebook page.
www.facebook.com/tillamookcountyhistoricalsociety/

Are you interested in local history? Do you have stories that need to be preserved and shared? The Tillamook County Historical Society (TCHS) wants you!

On Saturday, July 16th, we will be hosting a YOUTH LOCAL HISTORY SCAVENGER Hunt. It will be a month-long game visiting different historical locations and finding answers to questions about local history. When completed you will get a very special award from the Tillamook County Historical Society.

In addition to the booklet distribution, activities will be available to participate in on July 16th.

Participants can pick up a scavenger hunt booklet between 1-3 pm at the Hoquarton House which is located east of the Post Office in Tillamook.

To receive a local history detective award participants can start returning their completed booklets at the Tillamook County Historical Society booth at the County Fair.

If unable to attend the fair, arrangements have been made to pick up awards at TC Pioneer Museum after the fair through Labor Day.

Come join the fun! Bring your kids and/or grandkids!
The Tillamook Historical Society (TCHS) held a recent meeting in a sunny backroom of Tillamook’s Latimer Quilt and Textile Center. It was a chance to combine our monthly meeting with a special event—in this case a “bed turning.”

"What’s a bed turning? You’re not alone if you don’t know. It turned out that only two in our group knew what it was.”

The Latimer is housed in a cozy old two-room schoolhouse, nestled in a rural residential setting on the banks of the Wilson River. From the moment we entered the wood-scented building a wonderful spell fell on everyone. Here we were, meeting about Tillamook history, and we were surrounded by it. All around us were troves of gorgeous fabric and artwork, all showing signs of care and love. In every corner were examples of living history—wall hangings, bed coverings and personal heirlooms, created with a kind of devotion and attention to detail that gives one hope for humanity. It was a lot to take in, and we hadn't even gotten to the bed turning.

After a quick business meeting we were met by our hosts, Carol Weber and Lorraine Woodward. Both have been deeply involved in the Latimer Center for many years, and have yards and yards of quilt knowledge in their heads. They gathered us up and led us further back into the catacombs of the Latimer, eventually descending into a storage area that felt like an old-time version of Bed Bath & Beyond. There were shelves from floor to ceiling packed with bagged quilts and materials used. There were familiar shirt fabrics from the late 1800s, there were flour sacks, old curtains, and several special dyes that only could have come from a certain time and place. The overall effect of these stories on the crowd was a mix of astonishment and inspiration. I remember thinking “If these people could make these amazing quilts, then any one of us must be capable of nearly anything!”

"To escape what?” someone asked. There was a moment of hesitation, and then, “Us? Or maybe raiding parties from other tribes?” We pondered that for a moment, and Lorraine folded back Rosa’s quilt to reveal the next story.

"How could possibly have time to make something like this?” Carol took the question: “These types of quilts were mostly made by women of leisure,” she said. “They often had servants who took care of the house work and the kids, so they could take on a project like this. At the time, quilts were symbols of status.”

Next came a distinctive quilt said to have been made by none other than Rosa Kilchis. An accompanying piece of paper explained that Rosa was the daughter of Chief Kilchis, although there was some discussion about whether that was accurate. The quilt was bright and colorful, seemingly modern, with diametrical lines breaking it into quadrants.

Carol offered some interpretation: “This is a crazy quilt, too, as you can see from the random shapes of the pieces. The story goes that the lines in this piece represent important pathways the tribe used as ways of escape.”

We all leaned in and touched the top quilt, marveling at the truly crazy pieces of odd-sized fabric, sewn together and decorated with impressively detailed embroidery. I heard myself say what I was thinking, “Who could possibly have time to make something like this?”

Carol Weber and Lorraine Woodward in the act of turning a bed. They make it look easy!