



PHOTO PROVIDED

Annie Painter hosts Circle of Friends children and mentors.

## Circle of Friends hosts annual luncheon

By Kelly Davis Martin  
Correspondent

Circle of Friends hosted their annual fundraising luncheon last week. There were nearly 100 community members packed into The Belfry to support the work of Circle of Friends, a local nonprofit matching Sisters youth with volunteer adult mentors.

During the luncheon program, guests were given a glimpse into one of the community-based opportunities shared by some of the children and their "Friends."

Two of the Circle of Friends youth were present to present an art show and demonstrate the art process they and their 'Friends' have been learning with their art teacher, Annie Painter. In addition,

Painter spoke at the luncheon about her own experience with a lifelong mentor and how that relationship inspired her throughout her life and "nudged" her when needed. Annie donates a significant portion of her art studio time to Circle of Friends and she shared her experiences, processes and photos of working with the youth and their Friends.

If you are interested in mentoring, or donating, to Circle of Friends, call 541-588-6445, email Debbie@acircleoffriendsoregon.com or visit 353 W. Hood Ave.

### PROJECT: Some areas are already improving their condition

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DLT ownership.

The first phase of the project will begin in what has been designated as Reach 4. Immediately upstream, next in line for restoration will be Reach 3. Reaches 1 and 2 will most likely follow; and Reaches 5 and 6, on Rimrock Ranch, will follow to complete the project.

Egertson said that the canyon in the upper part of the Preserve and at Rimrock Ranch is quite a bit narrower than at Reach 4 and, therefore, would require less extensive restoration work. "There are some areas there and at Rimrock Ranch where the stream has already done a good job of restoring itself," she said.

Extensive work at Rimrock Ranch is still probably four or five years away. Egertson explained that the work at the ranch would probably be a mixture of rechanneling, plus preserving and enhancing natural processes already underway.

In preparation for this summer's work, hundreds of downed trees with root-balls still intact have been trucked to the site in preparation for the creation of

diversions and log jams in the new channels and meanders. "We've been stockpiling things as they become available." Egertson explained that the downed trees have been salvaged from unrelated construction jobs around the area.

This year's project area is not open to the public, although it is envisioned that part of the uplands would include portions of a planned hiking trail to connect all the segments along the lower creek. The project area, however, can be visited by taking part in one of the DLT's free guided tours.

This initial project area includes beautiful stands of orange-barked ponderosa pines and lush grasses, so extra care will be needed to preserve some of the prime habitat already present. Egertson said that 200,000 individual native plants were placed in Camp Polk, and a similar planting regimen will take place here, as well; but, she said, the process will be much more swift on this

reach, with planting to take place in late September and early November of this year.

“There are some areas there and at Rimrock Ranch where the stream has already done a good job of restoring itself.”  
— Amanda Egertson

“This is a really large floodplain, here,” Egertson said. “In these reaches, we will be knocking down (Army) Corps of Engineers berms and putting in log jams and letting the water do its work.”

For more information about the Deschutes Land Trust, their free guided tours, volunteer opportunities, membership, or to contribute to the Campaign for Whychus Creek, contact the Land Trust at 541-330-0017 or log on to [deschuteslandtrust.org](http://deschuteslandtrust.org).

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