

Arborist takes passion for preservation to dizzy heights

Camp Kiwanilong Arboretum is a treasure trove of species

By CASSANDRA PROFITA
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — It started as a rather urgent need to stabilize Clatsop County's sand dunes in the 1930s.

The change in sand movement caused in part by the Columbia River jetties was bringing the dunes farther and farther inland, covering the native plants that once contained the sand and threatening homes and roadways along the North Coast.

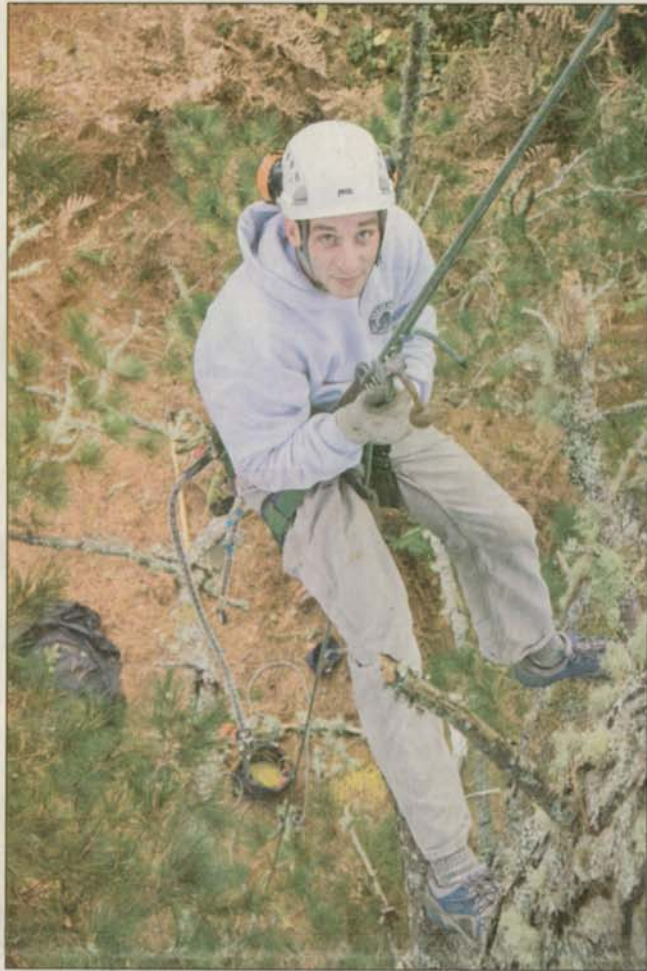
Looking for a solution, the Civilian Conservation Corps collected 100 different species of sand-adapted trees and shrubs from around the world and planted them in 100 25-square-foot test plots in Warrenton to see which ones would thrive.

Some of the plantings were Northwest natives: Crabapple, bigleaf maple, noble fir and Sitka spruce. Others, such as the coast redwoods, Monterey and ponderosa pines, black locust and red maple, were taken from across the U.S. But many hailed from as far off as Europe and China. CCC crews planted Chinese elm, white poplar,

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Luke Colvin, of Arbor Care Tree Specialists, hangs out on a massive Maritime pine tree Nov. 4 at the Camp Kiwanilong Arboretum in Warrenton. This Maritime pine is one of several trees targeted for a preservation party taking place at 9:30 a.m. Saturday.

ALEX PAJUNAS — *The Daily Astorian*



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Luke Colvin, who runs Arbor Care Tree Specialists from his home in Olney, wanders among the ferns and the massive jumble of branches from a crabapple tree inside the Camp Kiwanilong Arboretum in Warrenton. "I love this tree," Colvin said. "It reminds me of something out of 'The Chronicles of Narnia' or 'Lord of the Rings.'"

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