

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Labor Appreciation Night June 3 at Westmoreland

The ninth annual Labor Appreciation and Recognition Night sponsored by the Northwest Oregon Labor Council will be held Saturday, June 3, at 6 p.m. at Westmoreland Union Manor, 6404 SE 23rd Ave., Portland. This year's theme is "The 1950s."

Tickets for the buffet dinner are \$10 each. Raffle tickets also will be sold, with all proceeds going to the Emergency Fund of Labor's Community Service Agency.

A highlight of the event is the recognition of outstanding men and women in the labor community. Award nominees can be an individual union member, shop steward, staff member or someone from the community who has worked cooperatively with labor.

Nomination forms are available at the labor council or by calling 503-235-9444. The deadline to submit nominations is Monday, May 22.

NW labor history group to convene in Olympia June 2-4

OLYMPIA, Wash. — "Labor Struggles on the Edge: Ports, Borders and Workers in the Pacific Northwest" is the theme of the 38th annual Pacific Northwest Labor History Conference June 2-4 at Evergreen State College here.

The keynote speaker on Saturday, June 3, will be Elaine Bernard, executive director of the Labor and Worklife Program at the Harvard Law School. That evening at 7 p.m. will be a banquet and awards ceremony.

On Friday, June 2, conferees will tour Wobbly-related sites in Centralia, where 90 years ago Wesley

Everest was murdered after Wobblies shot and killed Legionnaires who attacked the union hall.

Registration before May 15 is \$50. After that the fee goes to \$65. Cost for the banquet is \$30.

For more information, call Ross Rieder at 253-875-9498.

Motorcycle event set June 10 to benefit hospital

The fourth annual "Unions For Kids" motorcycle poker run and chili cookoff will be held Saturday, June 10, at the IBEW Local 48 hall, 15937 NE Airport Way, Portland.

Raffle tickets to win a 2006 Harley-Davidson low-rider FXDLI are sold out. Only 3,000 tickets were sold as part of the fundraiser for Doernbecher Children's Hospital. The winner will be announced June 10.

The poker run will consist of riders going from checkpoint to checkpoint over a nearly 100-mile course and drawing a card at each of five places. The high and low hands win a cash prize.

The event starts and ends at the IBEW Local 48 hall. A barbecue will be held afterwards, along with a silent auction.

For more information, call Lee Duncan at 503-260-5905 or go to their Web site at unionsforkids.org.

Paramount Hotel offers special 'union rate' in May

The Paramount Hotel in downtown Portland has declared May "Union Appreciation Month" and is offering union members a special rate of \$99 a night.

Employees at the luxury hotel are members of UNITE HERE Local 9.

The special rate is available now through May 31. Simply ask for the "union rate" when reserving a deluxe room at the hotel, located at 808 SW Taylor St., Portland. To reserve a room, call 503-223-9900 or 800-663-1144.



Carpenters help homeowners

Two dozen members of the Carpenters Union volunteered on Saturday, April 29, to help do repairs on nine homes in the Portland area, part of the "Rebuilding Together with Christmas in April." The Carpenters Union has been a partner in the program for the past 16 years. "We intend to continue helping those in our community who are in need," said Bruce Dennis, president of Local 247 and a longtime volunteer (pictured above with Stan Joseph. Christie Kern is pictured left). "We could not do this without the support of the trades, especially Carpenters Local 247," said Mike Malone, executive director of Rebuilding Together, a national organization that helps people in need of home repairs and maintenance. Volunteers working this year as house captains were Dan Cagle of Local 1388, Ray Grahn of Local 247, John Jackson of Local 247, Gary Zinn of Local 247, and Peter Martell of Howard S. Wright. Ralph Miller of Local 1388 served as an area captain.

Iron Workers #29 plans benefit dinner for sick member

Members of Iron Workers Local 29 are holding benefit dinners for 35-year member Steve Swearingen, who recently was diagnosed with mesothelioma. Mesothelioma is a relatively rare form of cancer that afflicts approximately 2,000 Americans each year. The only known cause is exposure to asbestos, which comes from inhaling particles of dust.

The benefit dinners will be held Monday, May 22, and Monday, June 5, from 6 to 9 p.m. at Lorenzo's Pasta Bella, 709 SW 17th Ave. (a block away from PGE Park). The restaurant is owned by retired Iron Worker

Lorenzo Jordan.

Cost for the family-style dinner is \$20 per person.

All proceeds will go to Swearingen, 52, the father of four children ages 14 and younger. Swearingen, of Birkenfeld, Ore. in Columbia County near Jewell, was in Houston last month where he underwent surgery to remove a lung. His health insurance will cover approximately 80 percent of the cost of surgery.

Because of the disease, Swearingen will not be able to return to his trade.

Iron Workers Local 29 also is accepting donations for the family at the union hall. Send contributions to: 11620 NE Ainsworth Circle, Suite 200, Portland, Ore. 97220.

People exposed in the 1940s, '50s, '60s and '70s are just now being diagnosed with mesothelioma because of

the long latency period of asbestos disease. For that reason, Swearingen is asking anyone who worked with him on paper mill projects in the past to please contact the union hall at 503-774-0777.

Evergreen College to host summer school for women

OLYMPIA, Wash. — The Evergreen State College Labor Center is hosting its 16th annual Summer School for Union Women and Community Activists June 28-July 2. This year's theme is "Women Bringing It Back Together: Building Alliances Between Union and Community Activists to Realize Our Goals Locally and Globally."

The registration deadline is June 12. Space is limited to 60 participants.

For more information, call Nina Triffleman at 360-867-6525, or e-mail her at triffen@evergreen.edu.

Howard Dean to talk at Democratic Party confab June 2

EUGENE — Howard Dean, chair of the Democratic National Committee, will kick off the 2006 Oregon Democratic Party state convention June 2-4 at the Eugene Hilton Hotel.

Dean will speak at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, June 2. Tickets are \$25.

All registered Democrats are welcome to attend. However, to participate in the convention and to vote on official business and the party platform, you must be a registered delegate from your home county.

Contact your local county party for details on how to become a delegate or go to party's Web site at: www.dpo.org/inside/convention/2006.

Delegates will develop and adopt the Oregon Democratic Party's official platform. Part of that platform is a labor plank. Unionists who want to offer input into the plank can contact Oregon Democratic Party labor liaison Tom Curtin at 503-224-8200.

The platform will be debated and voted on Sunday, June 4.



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