



### Merkley talks to rank-and-file

Oregon House Speaker and U.S. Senate candidate Jeff Merkley (left) talks to AFL-CIO National Organizing Director Stewart Acuff at an Oct. 1 listening event staged by the Oregon AFL-CIO. At the Portland offices of American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees (AFSCME), the state labor federation assembled a roundtable of six union members from as many unions, each of whom asked Merkley a question about topics from trade to health care to Social Security for the benefit of several members of the news media. Acuff says the Merkley campaign is one of the national labor movement's top priorities. On Oct. 12, the National Alliance for Retired Americans endorsed Merkley. The Alliance is an organization of retired union members who want to make their voices heard in the laws, policies, politics and institutions that affect all older Americans. ARA has an Oregon chapter.

## Apprenticeship programs eligible to apply for grants from Workforce Investment Council

Union apprenticeship training and journey-level skill enhancement programs that serve residents of Clackamas County are eligible to apply for training funds through the Workforce Investment Council of Clackamas County.

Approximately \$219,600 will be awarded. Average awards are \$20,000.

"Many training programs aren't aware that this money is available," said Ron Murray, a union representative of Plumbers and Fitters Local 290 who represents labor on the Workforce Investment Council of Clackamas County.

The purpose of the training funds is to create and retain living-wage jobs in Clackamas County; build a highly skilled workforce; train current workers; and enhance global competitiveness of Oregon businesses based on workforce skills.

A minimum \$1 to \$1 match of cash and/or in-kind services is required. Eligible matches must consist of project related costs covered by the applicant, which are not funded with local, state, or federal governmental resources.

Funds cannot be used for recruiting workers from outside Oregon, paying wages for participants while in training or to purchase equipment, among other

restrictions.

To apply for a training grant go to [www.wicco.org](http://www.wicco.org) – Employer Workforce Training Fund page to download appli-

cation materials.

Proposals must be submitted no later than 4 p.m. on Oct. 31. Funds will be awarded Nov. 6.



**MICHAEL DEMBROW** DEMOCRAT for STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
Labor's Candidate in HD45

**A clear record of leadership, commitment, and union values.**

**MICHAEL DEMBROW IS ENDORSED BY:**

- NW Oregon Labor Council
- Oregon AFL-CIO
- AFT-Oregon
- Oregon Education Association
- Oregon State Fire Fighters Council
- Oregon Nurses Association
- Oregon AFSCME Council 75
- SEIU Locals 503 & 49
- United Food & Commercial Workers 555
- Oregon State Building & Construction Trades Council

See all endorsements at: [www.michaeldembrow.com](http://www.michaeldembrow.com)

**Karl Bik**, Co-Chairman  
Cement Masons Trust Funds for Northern California



### The bank of labor

has on-the-job experience in Taft-Hartley trust fund management

supports you with an expert labor team and one easy point of contact

offers investment solutions to build and protect your hard-earned funds

gives workers the benefit of customized health and retirement plans

has worked on behalf of unions for more than 50 years.

**Invest in you<sup>®</sup>**

**UNION  
BANK OF  
CALIFORNIA**

**Labor Management Trust Services**

Stephen Heady, Vice President, (503) 450-1270  
Louis Nagy, Vice President, (503) 450-1273

**Labor Management Deposit Services**

Diane Williams, Senior Vice President & Manager, (213) 236-5085  
John Mendoza, Vice President & Relationship Manager, (415) 705-7112

Visit us at [unionbank.com](http://unionbank.com)

©2007 Union Bank of California, N.A. Member FDIC