



Painters and tapers complete apprenticeship

The Western Oregon/Southwest Washington Painters Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee celebrated the graduation of nine apprentices to the painting and drywall finishing trades at a

dinner March 12 at the Grill on the Green in Southeast Portland. The new journeymen are members of Painters and Drywall Finishers Locals 10, 724, and 1277, affiliates of Painters and Allied Trades District Council 5. New taper journeymen pictured above from left to right are Shaun Hart, Ryan Jipp, Nigel Richie, Alberto Jimenez, and Brandon Shirron. In the photo left, new journeyman painters William Goodwin (right) and Thomas Carver (left) are congratulated by District Council 5 organizer Mike Bokamper. Also graduating from the program were Daniel Garvey and Jesus Valencia.



AFSCME unit at Multnomah County votes to freeze wages

Union workers at Multnomah County voted by a very strong margin to freeze their own wages — in order to prevent layoffs and cuts to county services. Nearly 1,200 members of American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Local 88 came out March 9 to cast ballots at four locations, and 63 percent were in favor of the freeze. The freeze modifies the current collective bargaining agreement by eliminating step (longevity) raises and cost-of-living increases.

Multnomah County Chair Ted Wheeler expressed deep appreciation

for what they had done at a March 11 press conference alongside Local 88 President Becky Steward.

Local 88 represents 2,700 county workers — about three-fifths of the county's total workforce, with at least some members in every County department.

"Our members have agreed to make personal sacrifices to save jobs, preserve core County services to the citizens and lessen the overall impact on the local economy," Steward said. "We won't save all of the jobs at risk. The deficit is too deep. But we will put a dent in the budget shortfall."

Unionists lay groundwork for Labor History Museum

Would you or your union like to be part of a Labor History Museum project?

A Labor History Museum for Ore-

gon and Southwest Washington is in the making, thanks to the vision and resolve of Nellie Fox Edwards, a retired political director of the Oregon AFL-CIO.

The location of the museum will be the new Oregon AFSCME Council 75 building at 1400 Tandem Ave. NE, Salem (near the bypass).

The new museum will be affiliated with the Pacific Northwest Labor History Association.

A work in progress, the museum will unfold in stages, starting out as a meeting place with history atmosphere, heightened by exhibits of historical memorabilia and a library of books, periodicals, and audio/visual materials.

A museum committee has been established to look into possibilities for further development.

Volunteer help is needed for the project, as well as contributions of books, furniture, DVD and CD players, and more.

An opening date for the Labor History Museum has not been set.

For more information, contact Jim Strassmaier at 503 236-1094, or e-mail at strassj@spiritone.com.

NW Oregon Labor Council's recognition dinner slated May 30

Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 30, when the Northwest Oregon Labor Council hosts the 12th annual Labor Appreciation and Recognition Night at Westmoreland Union Manor.

The dinner and awards ceremony serves as a fundraiser for Labor's Community Service Agency.

Dinner tickets are \$10 per person.

Raffle tickets also are sold for \$1 each or seven for \$5.

Through May 15, the labor council will be accepting nominations for persons to be recognized for their contributions to the labor community.

The labor council also is accepting cash and prize donations for the raffle.

For more information or to order tickets, call 503-235-9444.

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Published as a public service by the NW Labor Press