

LERA to hold annual conference Nov. 10 at World Trade Center

The Oregon chapter of the Labor and Employment Relations Association (LERA) will hold its annual conference Wednesday, Nov. 10, at the World Trade Center, 121 SW Salmon St., Portland.

LERA is an organization that brings labor, management, neutrals and academics together to improve labor-management relations.

This year's theme is "The Good, The Bad, and The Barely Satisfactory," and will feature author and employment attorney Jathan Janove, who will present an interactive workshop based on his book "Managing to Stay Out of Court: How to Avoid the 8 Deadly Sins of Mismanagement." Each participant will receive a copy of this book.

Afternoon workshops will feature union and management professionals covering topics including: "Performance Management," with personnel from Kaiser Permanente; "Employee Involvement in Decision Making," featuring Partners In Construction Cooperation; "Joint Training," with speakers from PGE, and the OHSU Labor Management Center.

The event begins at 8:30 a.m. and includes a lunch program.

A hosted reception and awards ceremony recognizing outstanding individuals in the field of labor and employment relations will begin at 4:30 p.m.

Registration is \$115, with discounts for members and students. For registration information, contact Bill Rector at 503-939-3421 or e-mail to oregon.lera@aol.com.

LERC leadership school in Portland Nov. 12-13

The Labor Education and Research Center (LERC) at the University of Oregon will hold a Metro Portland Leadership School on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 12-13, at the Sheet Metal Workers Training Center, 2379 NE 178th, Portland.

The school will offer four different classes: Recruiting and Developing a New Generation of Leaders; Basic Grievance Handling; Labor History II: World War I to the Present; and Public Sector Labor Law. Participants choose one class to attend.

Classes run from 6:30 to 9 p.m. on Nov. 12, and from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Nov. 13. Registration is \$75.

LERC hosts a full schedule of classes throughout the year. "The open enrollment programs are a great way to hone your skills and to meet activists from other unions," said Helen Moss of LERC.

Classes are beginning to fill, so Moss recommends registering soon.

For more information or to register online, go to LERC's website at <http://pages.uoregon.edu/lerc/>. Moss can be reached at 503-412-6732 or by e-mail at hmoss@uoregon.edu.



Iron Workers top out Children's Hospital

Members of Iron Workers Local 29 (above) prepare to set the last beam during a "topping out" ceremony at the new Children's Hospital at Legacy Emanuel in North Portland. Before the 31-foot-long beam was set, fourth-graders from Boise-Eliot Elementary School (right) signed their names alongside those of construction workers and dignitaries, including U.S. Rep. Earl Blumenauer. The nine-story, 334,000 square foot hospital is expected to be completed in 2012 and will include 165 private rooms, a 22-bed day surgery unit, a pediatric intensive care unit, a neonatal intensive care unit, and a 22-room emergency department. Hoffman Construction Co. is the general contractor.



Photos courtesy of Legacy Emanuel Hospital.

55 Machinists to be laid off at Silver Eagle

Portland-based Silver Eagle Manufacturing Co. notified the state that it will lay off 55 workers — members of Machinists Lodge 1005 — starting Dec. 17. Two office workers also will be let go.

Silver Eagle makes military trailers and other truck components at its headquarters at 5825 N.E. Skyport Way.

Machinists Union rep Britt Cornman said the company is eliminating its swing shift because the military reduced its contract for manufacturing light tactical trailers used with high mobility multi-purpose wheeled vehicles.

Workers have been cranking out 750 trailers a month. The new order is for 350 trailers a month.

Cornman said Silver Eagle has been under contract with the military to manufacture the trailers since 2006. Up until that time, the company operated with 40 to 50 employees in the plant.

"They started ramping up for the military in 2006, hiring more assemblers," Cornman said.

Employment peaked at 134 bargaining unit members this year.

Workers earn on average \$14 to \$15 per hour, plus benefits.

Labor's Community Service Agency's "rapid response" team met with the soon-to-be-displaced workers Nov. 2. Rapid response helps workers file for unemployment insurance and provides information for job search and retraining opportunities.

Cornman said because Silver Eagle had already scheduled a two-week maintenance shutdown at the end of the year, workers will receive all scheduled holiday and incentive pay prior to the Dec. 17 downsizing.

...Intel construction

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big new fab in Oregon. We've consistently shown that we have the construction workforce to deliver a project on time, on budget and in a safe manner."

Intel began construction of Ronler Acres 1 in December 1994. RA1 is a three-story 300,000-square-foot office building and a 600,000-square-foot fab (D1B) featuring a 35,000-square-foot clean room that grew to 77,000 square feet when it was converted into production in 1998. D1B was the original name of what later became Fab 20, which ceased production in June 2010.

Ground was broken on the D1C development fab in 1998. The 282,631-square-foot plant went online in 2001. The facility featured 100,000 square feet of clean room, which at the time was larger than most production factories in the industry.

Then came D1D, a \$2 billion, 797,353-square-foot development fab with 190,000 square feet of clean room. At its peak, D1D employed 4,000 construction workers. It opened in 2003.

"At one point during D1D construction I remember seeing 14 cranes set up. That's an amazing site to behold," Mohlis said.

Phase 1 of D1X is the size of the D1D, noted John Endicott, business manager of Plumbers and Fitters Local 290 and president of the OSBCTC.

The D1X clean room alone measures in at 200,000 square feet. Another

330,000 square feet of support buildings will be built as well.

"With these projects (D1X and D1C and D1D expansion) I would guess we will dispatch well over 1,000 workers at its peak," Endicott said. "We'll empty our bench for fitters."

Nelda Wilson, assistant to the business manager of Operating Engineers Local 701, said that with other projects such as Portland's Big Pipe starting to wind down, her members are looking forward to the work.

"The Intel project will be a big help," she said.

Local 701's peak work is underground utilities and foundation. Some level of groundbreaking is expected by year's end, so peak likely will come in early 2011.

D1X is projected to open in 2013.

All told, Intel has more than 1.4 million square feet of office and manufacturing space in a half-dozen buildings at Ronler Acres. Some 300 to 350 union fitters and plumbers work there every day performing maintenance, changeovers, and toolovers. Another 100-plus electricians are also on site daily.

In addition to the construction jobs, D1X will add as many as 1,000 skilled manufacturing and research employees (nonunion) to Intel's Hillsboro workforce. Intel has facilities in nine other states and nine foreign countries, but its largest base of operations is in Oregon, with about 15,500 employees.

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