

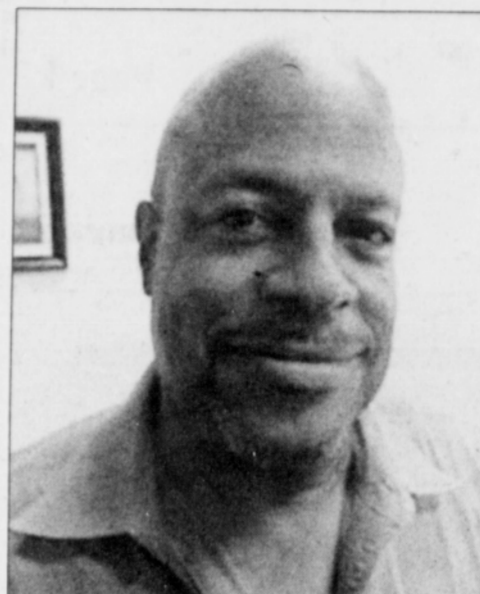
Carpenters Union Hosts Career Fair

The Pacific NW Regional Council of Carpenters is looking for enthusiastic women and men who are interested in building their communities to fill jobs as skilled union

carpenters.

A free career fair will be held on Saturday, Sept. 21 offering women and men of any experience level to come to the union's training center

and ask questions of industry professionals, contractors, and the apprenticeship program to see if carpentry is the right career path for them.



Michael A. Burch

reer. Unfortunately many young people today do not know programs like apprenticeships even exist. Often times apprenticeship programs are overlooked by high school students, and recent graduates. Apprenticeship offers free training, and actually pays while one learns a trade. While most of the training is on the job, apprentices do attend class a few times a year.

From the concrete forms on a high-rise building, to the acoustical ceilings in offices, to bridges, to heavy machinery, carpentry as a trade is very diverse. There is unlimited potential for upward mobility and advancement within carpentry.

The career fair will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Pacific Northwest Carpenter Institute, located just off Sandy Boulevard at 4222 N.E. 158th Ave.

"If you love your city, and would like to build it, then come down. We hope to see you there," Burch said.

With impending retirements facing not just the construction workforce, but in all industries, it is imperative that workforce training is in our future, said Michael A. Burch, NW Carpenters representative.

Learning a skilled trade such as carpentry is an honorable way to have a lucrative and rewarding ca-

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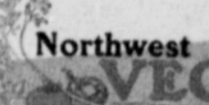
Karyn Calabrese
chef and author, seen on
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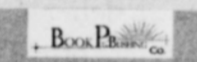
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Mystery Test Scores

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and eighth grade students who were able to pass math exams with a 50 percentage improvement from the previous year. Students in other grades also saw huge increases in reading and math. But a new year of testing made public last week shows scores plunging significantly.

Now the district is again looking at the disparities in scores to try to explain what happened.

A former language arts teacher at King says she witnessed educators offering coaching to students dur-

ing state testing when the higher scores were recorded. She filed a complaint with the district last year, however officials ruled there was no evidence to support her claim.

While school administrators they don't believe district employees cheated to help students, they still want to examine causes behind the changes.

Jackey Fox is the mother to a Kindergartner at King School. She believes the whole system of testing is the biggest concern.

King is in its third and final year of a \$2million federal School Improvement Grant, which is meant to turn around some of the nation's lowest-performing schools.

Seniors

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brains going. If you don't use it you'll lose it and I see that as I get older," she says.

67-year-old Mable Atkins was on the walk too. She says she'd been in similar programs in the past, but many of them seemingly dismantled. She saw a posting about the program at the senior center on Martin Luther King Boulevard and was compelled to sign-up.

"My momma died last year in May, and was 101 [years old], and that was the number one advice she gave me, is if you keep moving, you'll stay."

Atkins playfully added another reason for staying active, "I don't want to give the pharmacy all my retirement."

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