

'Made in America' means Manufacturing Careers

Mt. Hood Community College works with industry to build skilled force

Critical parts for airplane engines, sturdy boots for hikers, massive walk-in refrigerators for restaurants and a multi-tool that allows users to uncork a bottle of wine, tighten bolts on a picnic table and slice up a snack – these are just a few of the products created by local manufacturers. And, Mt. Hood Community College has partnered with many of these companies to train their workforces through its Integrated Metals program and customized initiatives.

To celebrate and highlight the importance of "made in America," MHCC is hosting Manufacturing Day, Friday, Oct. 4, on its Gresham Campus, 26000 S.E. Stark St.

Information will be available about Running Start, a program that enables high school students to participate in MHCC's Integrated Metals program and earn college credit.

Visitors from area high schools, local industry and interested community members will meet MHCC instructors; tour the campus and view demonstrations of surface grinders, drill presses, lathes, mills and precision machining equipment.

"National Manufacturing Day at MHCC recognizes the importance of manufacturing in east Multnomah County and the college's partner-

ships with local industry," says Marc Goldberg, dean of Economic and Workforce Development. "Nationally, manufacturing is thriving. However, a forecasted labor shortage will create a significant challenge to employers in the near future. Now is a great time for America's youth and other job seekers to explore careers in manufacturing."

MHCC works closely with regional employers, agencies and workforce investment boards to manage a region-wide workforce strategy for advanced manufacturing. It is all about building a work-ready community to help employers succeed grow and attract more workers in their supply chain.

"Through our Integrated Metals program, students receive instruction in precise measurement, material layout, blueprint reading, machine tool and welding operations," says Dennis Mattoon, dean of Industrial Technology. The college has programs for non-English speakers as well as regular mainstream classes.

Robert Weinman, workforce training coordinator says the Integrated Metals program has a rockstar faculty representing the perfect blend of experience in both industry



Instruction in precise measurement, material layout, blueprint reading and other industrial skills are employed at Mt. Hood Community College. The Gresham campus will celebrate National Manufacturing Day on Friday, Oct. 4.

represents the very best in national manufacturing standards, training and development.

Besides the Integrated Metals program, MHCC designs and implements custom training for employees of other client companies such as Danner Boots, Leatherman Tool Group and Imperial Manufacturing.

"The end result for employers is a smarter, more skilled, more productive workforce. For employees, we provide high-value training that makes them more competitive in the job market. It's a win-win for both sides and what we do helps power the economic development of the entire MHCC district," notes Paul Wild, one of four workforce training coordinators at the college.

To reserve your space to attend MHCC's Manufacturing Day, call 503-491-7235.

and education.

"We have a unique understanding of the current environment, what employers need and how to best transition students from high school into our programs and employment, Weinman says.

In addition, MHCC has an engaged and active advisory committee that represents an even mix of small machine tool shops to some of the largest manufacturers in the region. The MHCC team is renewing a rigorous, national certification that



Mt. Hood Community College student Josh Burke is trained in welding as part of the school's Integrated Metals program which blends experience in industry and education.

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Sunday, October 13, 2013 at 11:00 am – Evangelist Evelyn McCoy of the Highland Christian Center will be our speaker.

The celebration will climax Sunday, October 13, 2013 at 3:30 pm – Special Guest: Bethesda Baptist Church, Rev. Robert C. Jointer, Pastor



Sis Rosa Kennedy, Chairlady & Sis Vickie Marshall, Co-Chairlady

Dr. Johnny Pack IV, Pastor

** The donation is \$10.00. Please contact Rosa Kennedy at 503-281-9316 if you are interested in attending the banquet.

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