

## Business Notes

### Career Voyages web site has information on needed skills

A collaboration between the U.S. Department of Labor and the U.S. Department of Education, has resulted in a new web site designed to provide connections into good career opportunities in high-growth industries and high-demand occupations.

The web site features detailed information about the fastest growing industries and occupations, the skills and education required to prepare for them, job openings by area, wages, licensing requirements and growth rates for numerous occupations. Although some career paths described on the site require a four-year degree, Career Voyages expands post-secondary opportunities to include on-the-job training, apprenticeship programs for skilled trades, vocational certificates, and two-year profes-

sional degree programs at community colleges that can all lead to promising careers.

Career Voyages web site is <[www.careervoyages.gov/](http://www.careervoyages.gov/)>. With its focus on high-growth industries and high-demand occupations, Career Voyages should be part of the electronic toolbox in every Career Center.

### Forestland tax change classes

Property tax options available for forest landowners are changing in 2004. To assist forestland owners needing additional information on the options and learn which tax program may be best, free classes will be held.

Sessions will be held at the following locations:

- January 20, 7 – 8:30 p.m., at Capital Center, 18640 NW Walker Rd., Room 1315,

### Grants available for employee training

The Region #1 Workforce Response Team, Clatsop and Columbia Counties has approximately \$140,000 available in Employer Training Fund Grants. The funds are for the purpose of supporting the retention and growth of living wage jobs, a skilled workforce and competitive businesses in Oregon. Projects may include training of current workers to help grow businesses, or devel-

oping training initiatives for industry associations and strategic economic clusters designed by business-labor consortia.

Project emphasis areas must include one or more of the following:

- Companies in cluster formed around traded-sectors;
- Training in occupations or skills where shortage exists in region or state;
- Training in skills necessary to permit companies to advance technological capabilities or enhance productivity;
- Multiple employer, worker or industry association-led projects, while still allowing single employer projects;
- Projects that make a conscious attempt to utilize existing curricula/training programs/resources, when available, and develop new curricula only when it will not duplicate other work;
- Training of workers who

are paid wages that meet or exceed the median hourly wage in the county in which they are trained, or result in wage gain or career ladder development;

- Training that leads to industry certification or industry skills standards.

Size of grants awarded will be determined by the scope of employer proposed training and the potential for employee advancement into living wage jobs. Employer must provide equal or in-kind match to qualify for the funds awarded. Training must be completed by June, 2004.

Deadline to apply is January 31, 2004. To apply for training funds, employers must be located in Clatsop or Columbia Counties. Brief Application Proposals may be obtained by contacting Jill L. Elkins, MTC Works, 250 36th Street, Astoria, OR 97103, 503-325-1156 or <[jelkins@mtctrains.com](mailto:jelkins@mtctrains.com)>.

## Community Calendar

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29							28	29	30	31			

#### VERNONIA

Alcoholics Anonymous	Mondays	6:30 p.m., Head Start Bldg.
Alcoholics Anonymous	Saturdays	7:00 p.m., Head Start Bldg.
American Legion Post #119	2nd Thursday	627 Adams Ave./ 503-429-4000
Arts & Crafts Society	2nd Thursday	2:00 p.m., City Library
Boosters	2nd Wednesday	7:30 p.m., VHS Library
Boy Scout Troop 201	Tuesdays	7:00 p.m., Scout Cabin
Boy Scout Troop 860	Wednesdays	7:00 p.m., LDS Church
Cemetery Beautification Comm.	2nd Thursday	7:00 p.m., Leonetti's Grill
Chamber of Commerce	2nd Wednesday	Noon, Lew's Place
Cub Scout Pack 201	Scout Cabin	For Info Call 503-429-0188
Doll Club	4th Tuesday	1:00 p.m., Senior Center
Friends of the Library	1st Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Vernonia Library
Hands On Art Committee	3rd Wednesday	7:00 p.m., Head Start Bldg.
Home Extension Club	3rd Thursday	10:30 a.m., Christian Church
Izaak Walton League	3rd Thursday	For location call 503-429-7193
Lions Club	1st & 3rd Tuesdays	6:30 p.m., Lew's Place
Nehalem Valley Car Club		For Info Call 503-429-4074
Pioneer Museum		For Info Call 503-429-8134
Preschool Story Hour	Mondays	10:30 a.m., City Library
Upper Nehalem C.P.A.C.	2nd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., City Hall
Vernonia Airport Committee	3rd Wednesday	7:00 p.m., City Library
Vernonia Cares Directors		For location call 503-429-1414
Vernonia City Council	1st & 3rd Mondays	7:00 p.m., City Hall
Vernonia Garden Group	1st Thursday	7:00 p.m., Pioneer Museum
Vernonia Grange	4th Saturday	10:30 a.m., Grange Hall
Vernonia Health Center	2nd Monday	6:00 p.m., 510 Bridge St.
Vernonia Planning Comm.	1st Thursday	7:00 p.m., City Hall
Vernonia Pride		For Info Call, 503-429-5201
Vernonia Ridge Riders	Last Thursday	7:00 p.m., City Library
Vernonia RFPD Board	2nd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Fire Station
Vernonia School Board	2nd Thursday	8:00 p.m., District Office
Vernonia Sr. Center Board	3rd Friday	1:00 p.m., Senior Center
Vern. Volunteer Ambulance Assoc.	1st Thursday	7:00 p.m., Fire Station
Vernonia Volunteer Firefighters	2nd Monday	7:00 p.m., Fire Station
WOEC Directors	3rd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., WOEC

#### MIST-BIRKENFELD

M-BRFPD Board Business Mtg.	2nd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
M-BRFPD Board Workshop	4th Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
M-B Ambulance Drill	1st & 2nd Thursdays	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
M-B Fire Drill	1st & 2nd Wednesdays	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
M-B Helping Circle	2nd Monday	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
M-B SAR Drill	3rd Wednesday	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
M-B Volunteer Assoc.	1st Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
Natal Grange	2nd Wednesday	7:30 p.m., Natal Grange Hall
T.O.P.S.	Mondays	6:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
Upr Nehalem Watershed Council	For date call 429-2401	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station

#### BANKS

Alcoholics Anonymous	Fridays	8:00 p.m., Methodist Church
Banks City Council	2nd Tuesday	7:30 p.m., City Hall
Banks Fire District #13	2nd Wednesday	7:00 p.m., Station 13
Banks Planning Commission	Last Tuesday	7:00 p.m., City Hall
Banks School Board	2nd Monday	7:30 p.m., Jr. High Library
Banks Youth Group	Sundays, Wednesdays	7:00 p.m., UMC Youth Bldg.
Chamber of Commerce	1st Thursday	12:30 p.m., Brown Derby
CPO 14	3rd Monday	7:00 p.m., City Library
Friends of the Library	2nd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., City Library
Lions Club	1st & 3rd Mondays	7:00 p.m., Schlegel Hall
Sunset Park Assoc.	3rd Wednesday	8:00 p.m., Gun Club
T.O.P.S.	Wednesdays	7:00 p.m., Administration Bldg.
Women's Aglow	2nd Thursday	7:00 p.m., City Library

#### COLUMBIA COUNTY (All meet in St. Helens unless otherwise noted.)

Board of Commissioners	Wednesdays	10 a.m., Courthouse
Citizens for Senior Justice	2nd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Sunset Park Church
Columbia Soil & Water District	3rd Wednesday	7:30 p.m., NRCS , 2514 Sykes
County Fair Board	2nd Monday	7:00 p.m., Fairgrounds 4-H Bldg.
County Parks Commission	3rd Monday	6:00 p.m., 1054 Oregon St.
Mental Health Advisory Comm.	3rd Tuesday	10 a.m., 2nd Floor, Courthouse
Comm. on Children & Families	3rd Thursday	5:30 p.m. OSU Ext., 550 N. Hwy. 30
Local Alcohol & Drug Plann. Comm.	2nd Tuesday	3:00 p.m., 2nd Floor, Courthouse

Organizations and meeting dates not listed may be included by calling 429-9410 or by mail to The INDEPENDENT, 725 Bridge Street, Vernonia, OR 97064.