

## NEWS

SOUTHWEST  
WASHINGTON  
WORKFORCE  
DEVELOPMENT  
COUNCIL

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- June 2014
- Manufacturing and IT Training Funds Available
- Tim Foley, Director Employment and Training Services
- Philip A. Parker Memorial Scholarship Accepting Donations
- New Members Join SWWDC Executive Board
- Interns Available for Summer Work
- Employers Can Meet IT Talent on June 24
- \$325,000 to Help Long-Term Unemployed
- Swim with the Sharks at PubTalk June 17
- New Youth Programs to Launch
- WorkSource and Vancouver Community Library to Offer Evening Workshops
- CREDC Hires Business Development Manager
- WorkSource Employees Recognized
- STEM Grants Aid Community Colleges
- WIA Adult/Dislocated Worker RFP Results
- In the News

## June 2014

Welcome to **News** from the Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council (SWWDC), featuring information about the SWWDC, our partners and workforce development in the region.

### Manufacturing and IT Training Funds Available

Manufacturing companies interested in training their existing machinists; welders; millwrights/maintenance technicians; machine setters, operators and tenders; CNC machine tool operators and programmers; tool and die makers, among others, may qualify for training subsidies through SWWDC.

To help local manufacturers improve their competitiveness and productivity by increasing skills of their existing workers, SWWDC requested and received Department of Labor approval to expand the occupations that qualify for training under the ProStep/MISTI grant.

Advanced Manufacturing companies and businesses with Information Technology employees are encouraged to apply. See the complete list of covered occupations at <http://swwdc.org/business-resources/training.html> or contact Lee Ann Lawrence, Employer Services Manager, at [llawrence@swwdc.org](mailto:llawrence@swwdc.org) or 360.567.3170.

### Tim Foley, Director Employment and Training Services

Tim Foley, SWWDC's Director of Employment and Training Services since September 2012, oversees adult Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funds, WorkSource one-stop centers in Clark and Cowlitz counties and manages several grants, including a Housing Works partnership with the Vancouver Housing Authority. In addition, he supervises the Employer Services and Youth Initiatives managers and Integration Coordinator.



## IN OTHER NEWS

### Board Meeting

**July 9, 2014**

4-6 p.m. at Evergreen School District Offices in Vancouver. Click for details.

### Strategic Plan 2014-17

SWWDC's Strategic Plan  
<http://www.swwdc.org/about-swwdc/strategicplan.html>

### Mission

*To prepare and promote a skilled and adaptive workforce for a thriving economy in Southwest Washington.*

### Our Partners



Educational Service District 112

Tacoma Goodwill

### Questions/Comments?

Julia Maglione  
Communications Manager  
[jmaglione@swwdc.org](mailto:jmaglione@swwdc.org)

## SWWDC

**360.567.1070**  
**360.567.1054 Fax**  
**[www.swwdc.org](http://www.swwdc.org)**

Before joining SWWDC, Tim held positions with AmeriCorps and Educational Service District 112 that included program management and administration in numerous aspects of workforce development. He graduated from the University of Washington after an enlistment in the U.S. Navy that took him from Yokosuka, Japan to Everett, Washington.

Upon graduation, Tim joined AmeriCorps and accepted a position as a tutor and volunteer coordinator at Harney Elementary in Vancouver, where he continues to volunteer as a Lunch Buddy. More importantly, he met his wife, Shannon, at Harney, where she is a third grade teacher. They've been married seven years and have an eight-month old son, Davis Patrick. When not at his desk, Tim can be found writing, fishing or brewing various ales and lagers.

Reach Tim at [tfoley@swwdc.org](mailto:tfoley@swwdc.org) or 360.567.1076.

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## Philip A. Parker Memorial Scholarship Accepting Donations



To honor our friend and long-time board member Phil Parker, who passed away in April, SWWDC has created the Philip A. Parker Memorial Scholarship Fund.

The scholarships will help students interested in pursuing jobs in the trades.

"Phil was an advocate for helping young people and for creating jobs in the region," said Jeanne Bennett, SWWDC Executive Director. "We're pleased to honor him in this way."

Donations can be made by check, payable to SWWDC, (please note "Parker Memorial Scholarship Fund" on your check) and mailed to 805 Broadway, Suite 412, Vancouver, WA 98660. Attn: Accounting.

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## New Members Join SWWDC Executive Board

Beginning July 1, two new members join the SWWDC Executive Board Committee.

- Existing member, John Vanderkin, Employers Overload, will become Committee Chair
- Angela Simmons, iQ Credit Union, joins as Vice-Chair
- Mindy Heuer, Port of Kalama, joins as Treasurer



Other committee members include:

- John Deeder, Evergreen Public Schools
- Mike Karnofski, Cowlitz Board of County Commissioners
- Keith McPhun, Cornell Pump
- Bill Skidmore, McKinstry
- Ted Sprague, Cowlitz Economic Development Council
- Lydia Work, American Paper Converting

Thank you all for your service on the Board and to our community!

Photo: John Vanderkin (courtesy of John Vanderkin)

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## Interns Available for Summer Work



Summer vacations can be difficult for businesses when fewer hands are available to do the work.

During these times, hosting an intern is a great option. The business gets temporary help and the intern gains valuable knowledge about teamwork, time management and other skills that will help them in their careers.

Through a partnership between WorkSource, Vancouver Housing Authority and SWWDC, individuals will receive training and have their wages paid while they intern with local companies, at no cost to the business.

Interns for office or administrative support positions will be available to work July through September.

Interested businesses should contact Kristi Johnson at WorkSource at 360.735.5081 or [KRJohnson@esd.wa.gov](mailto:KRJohnson@esd.wa.gov).

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## Employers Can Meet IT Talent on June 24

Businesses that employ information technology and/or software professionals are invited to a free “Link-2-Talent” event on Tuesday, June 24 to meet prospective new hires.



Sponsored by the SWWDC, WorkSource and Clark College, the event will allow businesses to meet upcoming graduates trained in CCNA/network, Exchange server/SQL, web design, IT management, information security and help desk.

Speed networking and conversations with candidates are part of the event. Businesses are encouraged to attend, whether or not they have current job openings.

Reservations are requested by June 16 to Darcy Hoffman at 360.735.5038 or [dhoffman@esd.wa.gov](mailto:dhoffman@esd.wa.gov).

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## \$325,000 to Help Long-Term Unemployed

Dave Josephson had always worked in commercial construction; until the jobs disappeared. Out of work nearly a year, he had to learn how to job search, write a resume and highlight his transferrable skills during job interviews. With help from a team of WorkSource counselors and trainers, Dave found a new career path. Today, he's Assistant Fleet and Facilities Manager at Fort Vancouver Regional Library District.

WorkSource will use nearly \$325,000 from the SWWDC to provide job placement, coaching, on-the-job training, internships and skills training to individuals in Clark, Cowlitz and Wahkiakum counties who have been unemployed for 27 weeks or more. The money is part of a \$4 million grant distributed to the state's 12 workforce development councils by the Governor's office to help get long-term unemployed individuals back to work.

Individuals and businesses seeking employment-related services can contact WorkSource in Clark County at 360.735.5000 and in Cowlitz and Wahkiakum counties at 360.577.2250.

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## Swim with the Sharks at PubTalk June 17



It's time for Clark County PubTalk's annual business pitch competition! Modeled after the popular Shark Tank™ television show, four companies will pitch their business idea to an expert panel of "sharks" in hopes of winning cash and prizes.

The event is 5 to 8 p.m. at the Artillery Barracks, 600 E Hatheway Road, Vancouver. Cost is \$30.

Learn more and register at <http://www.credc.org/events/52/clark-county-pubtalk-business-pitch-competition/>

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## New Youth Programs to Launch

Innovative Services NW and Partners in Careers (PIC) are new SWWDC partners and will provide skills, education and training services to young adults ages 16-21 to help them get jobs.

Innovative Services NW will expand its Transitions Youth Impact Program to serve homeless youth. Participants will have access to training, paid internships, job coaching and case management. Training and internships will focus on STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) and other high-demand industries.

PIC will provide individuals who have dropped out of school with employment and/or post-secondary education services, case management, employment readiness trainings, career exposure and a three-month work experience in a high-growth, high-demand sector such as manufacturing, healthcare, software or IT. Students will have opportunities to interact with local employers through mock interviews, job shadows and group tours.

To learn more, contact Chelsea Jackson, Youth Initiatives Manager, at [cjackson@swwdc.org](mailto:cjackson@swwdc.org) or 360.567.1066.

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## WorkSource and Vancouver Community Library to Offer Evening Workshops



To increase access to employment services, WorkSource and the Vancouver Community Library are partnering to offer evening workshops.

On Wednesdays in July from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., WorkSource staff will lead workshops at the Vancouver Community Library, 901 C Street.

The free workshops include job search strategies, interviewing techniques, and how to write resumes and cover letters, among other topics, and may count towards an unemployment job search activity.

Due to limited space in the computer lab, registration is requested for the July 9 and 16 sessions. For details about the workshops, go to [www.fvrl.org](http://www.fvrl.org) and click "events" or call Jennifer at 360.906.5138 or Michael at 360.735.5015.

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## CREDC Hires Business Development Manager

Max Ault has joined the Columbia River Economic Development Council (CREDC) as Business Development Manager.

Ault previously served as Operations Manager for the Gifford Pinchot Task Force. He has also served as Special Assistant to the Office of the Chancellor at Washington State University Vancouver and Legislative Assistant to Washington State Representative Tim Probst.



Ault will serve as CREDC's primary point of contact for local businesses seeking assistance with startup, growth or retention.

A Clark County native, Ault holds a bachelor's degree in public affairs from Washington State University Vancouver and can be reached at [mault@credc.org](mailto:mault@credc.org) or 360.567.1055.

Photo by Aevum Images [www.aevumimages.com](http://www.aevumimages.com)

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## WorkSource Employees Recognized

Congratulations to Jennifer Dahl and Heather Fox, case managers at Vancouver WorkSource! Both recently received letters of appreciation from U.S. Department of Labor Assistant Secretary Portia Wu in recognition of their commitment and dedication to helping job seekers connect to training and employment. Keep up the good work!

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## STEM Grants Aid Community Colleges

Our local community colleges both recently received grants to advance their STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) programs.

Lower Columbia College received an \$845,000 Economic Development Administration (EDA) grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce to help provide equipment for the College's new Health and Science Building which will open in Fall 2014. Details at <http://www.lowercolumbia.edu/about-lcc/news/2014-05-01-EDAGrant.aspx>

Clark College was awarded \$400,000 from the Meyer Memorial Trust for equipment, furnishings and educational materials for the college's upcoming STEM building. Learn more at [http://www.clarkcollegefoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/2014\\_05\\_Meyer-Memorial-Trust-Grant-PR.pdf](http://www.clarkcollegefoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/2014_05_Meyer-Memorial-Trust-Grant-PR.pdf)

These programs will ensure Southwest Washington students are prepared to help fill the regional and national shortage of trained STEM employees. Congratulations to both colleges!

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## WIA Adult/Dislocated Worker RFP Results

In a competitive bidding process, ResCare's proposal was selected and they will continue as the WorkSource one-stop operator and WIA Adult and Dislocated Worker program contractor for Clark, Cowlitz and Wahkiakum counties.

Contact Tim Foley, Director of Employment and Training Services at [tfoley@swwdc.org](mailto:tfoley@swwdc.org) or 360.567.1076.

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## In the News

See recent **coverage of the SWWDC and workforce projects.**

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SWWDC, a nonprofit organization founded in 2002, is the Workforce Investment Board for Clark, Cowlitz and Wahkiakum counties. SWWDC connects funding, state agencies, local service providers, colleges, economic development and community-based organizations to provide employment and training services to employers, job seekers and youth.

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*Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council (SWWDC) is an equal opportunity employer and provider of employment and training services. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. To place a relay call, dial 711.*

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