March 10, 2006

Trades Fair goes on despite inclement weather

Despite recent snows, the seventh annual Women in Trades Fair, featuring 46 exhibits with hands-on activities, is taking place today, March 10, at the Rogue Community College Table Rock Campus, 7800 Pacific Ave. in White City.

Middle and high school girls from throughout Jackson and Josephine counties are invited to attend from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The public is invited to this free event from noon to 5 p.m.

Josephine County school closures mean bus transportation is not available, but fair organizers want people to know the event is happening, and girls and their parents are welcome. Last year’s fair was attended by 451 girls from area schools and 125 women. Following the event one middle school student wrote that, “Girls can do just about anything we put our minds to.”

A popular highlight, “10 Things Girls Need to Know,” will again be offered, with activities such as measuring, using a cordless drill, hammering, and pull-starting an engine. There will also be videos showing women working at a wide range of jobs. Representatives from RCC professional-technical programs, apprenticeship trainings, local contractors and utilities, and government and non-profit agencies offering employment or training will help participants practice skills needed to work in the trades.

The fair is presented by RCC, Southern Oregon Education Service District, and Oregon Department of Education. RCC organizers work closely with educators from regional middle and high schools in designing and promoting the fair.

For more information call Barbara Campbell at 245-7999, or visit http://learn.roguecc.edu/genderequity/

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