

Chamber of commerce graduates 25 from leadership program

June 27, 2009

The Salem Area Chamber of Commerce graduated 25 professionals from its 2007-09 Leadership Salem Program. Graduates were accepted based on community involvement and commitment to the program. Participants receive a comprehensive overview of the Salem area — its realities, opportunities and challenges. During the first year of the two-year program, the group spends one day each month immersing themselves in important aspects of the Salem community, including government, natural resources, business, law and community resources. The year concludes with a community service project. During the second year, the group mentors and leads the incoming class by planning the curriculum.

Graduates are Bonnie Stephenson of Chemeketa Community College; Brady Rogers of the City of Salem; Cynthia Richardson of Salem-Keizer Public Schools; Jeff Trautman of Clark, Lindauer, Fetherston, Edmonds, Lippold & Collier; Jim Arnold of Boise Cascade; Dave Okada of Salem Police Department; Christine Vrontakis of SAIF Corp.; Cori Clausen of Salem Area Chamber of Commerce; Paul Schulz of LCG Pence Construction; Matthew Lysne of the Department of Justice; Kevin Gienger of Boldt, Carlisle & Smith; Derik Munns of Willamette Valley Bank; Matt Lokan of Bliss Sequoia Insurance & Risk Advisor; Tricia Olson of the Heltzel, Upjohn Law Firm; Ryan Skogstad of Merrill Lynch; Christine Watson of Chemeketa Community College; Kevin Raschko of West Coast Bank; Bry Taylor of Hot Rod Hair; Jamie Young of MaPS Credit Union; Aaron Horton of the Bureau of Land Management; Jessica Chambers of Salem Area Chamber of Commerce; Carolyn Bolton of Garten Services; George Grabenhorst of Rushing Real Estate; Jennifer Kinkade of West Coast Bank; and Amy Farmer of State Farm Insurance.

The 2009-11 class is in the process of being selected. For more information, go to www.salemchamber.org or call (503) 581-1466.

— Kathie Hodges