



# Mature workers

Job fair designed to help older job seekers make employment contacts

**By Elizabeth Bennett**  
Herald Special Sections Writer

The flagging economy and escalating cost of gas and food have many seniors contem-

plating finding a job or looking for a higher-paying position.

Although it's becoming difficult for younger workers to get jobs, it's even tougher for peo-

ple who are 20 or 30 years older. For many seniors, the thought of even trying to find a job is terrifying.

If you're fearful of approaching a business or aren't sure where to begin, consider attending a job fair tomorrow in Everett.

WorkSource Snohomish County is hosting the Mature Worker Job Fair, which gives older applicants an opportunity to talk to representatives from participating companies such as the City of Everett, Tulalip Resort and Casino, ResCare Home Health Care, Washington State Patrol and Pace Staffing Advantage.

Also attending are community resource vendors, including Social Security and Medicare.

The event will be 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Forest Park Floral Hall, 802 East Mukilteo Blvd. in Everett.

According to Sam Virgil, business services manager for WorkSource, some employer representatives will be accepting resumes, so come prepared. "Bring a resume, usually one or two pages long, and dress appropriately, like you're going to a job interview," he said.

Instead of worrying about compiling a cover letter that's aimed at promoting yourself, Virgil said to practice giving a potential employer a short description of your abilities.

"Be prepared to give a 60-second commercial. Introduce yourself and articulate what you're looking for in your job



Debbie Rydman, left, employment specialist at WorkSource of Snohomish County, helps Alan Christman of Everett complete some paperwork.

search."

According to Virgil, the job fair is expected to attract about 300 people. With that many people milling around, a short speech is about all you'll have time to give. Your quick commercial should include something about your background, skills, strengths, accomplishments, job focus and future career plans.

"You can say quite a bit in a minute. That's enough time to tell them who you are and what you're looking for," Virgil said.

**What:** Mature Worker Job Fair

**When:** 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Wednesday

**Where:** Forest Park Floral Hall  
802 East Mukilteo Blvd., Everett

**Contact:** WorkSource Snohomish County  
3201 Smith Ave., Suite 114, Everett  
425-258-6300 or [www.worksourceonline.com](http://www.worksourceonline.com)

Another way to have someone remember you is to have a simple business card that has your name and contact infor-

mation on the front, along with a notation to turn over the card. On the back, there should be a short list of skills and experience that you mentioned in your quick speech. It's something different, something that will catch their attention. It's part of the all-important good impression you want to leave with the employer representative.

If you can't attend the fair, stop by WorkSource to find out what other free services the organization offers job seekers of all ages.

If you're having trouble formulating a resume, WorkSource employees will help you prepare one. You'll also be able to use a copier, computer, phone and fax at no charge.

Another service that's available at no cost are workshops on a variety of topics, including how to write a resume, get and keep a job, use a computer in your job search and interview effectively.

"Especially with the market the way it is, people need to know that the resources are available and that they don't have to do it on their own," Virgil said.

He also described the organization that's in the business of helping people find work. "WorkSource is your one-stop solution to finding a new job," Virgil said. "It's an innovative partnership of organizations dedicated to addressing Washington state's employment needs."

A job fair is one method of making contact with people who may lead you to a job. Another is networking, although some people may not feel comfortable meeting strangers and giving their quick commercial. Job clubs help bridge the gap in a non-threatening atmosphere.

The Professional Networking Group meets 9 a.m. to noon every Monday at the Lynnwood WorkSource location, 20311 52nd Avenue W., Suite 300. The Career Network Club meets 9 to 11 a.m. the second and fourth Wednesday at the Everett WorkSource office, 3201 Smith Ave., Suite 114.

"A lot of people attend the meetings to network and share job-search strategies. PNG has 30 to 50 people and CNC 10 to 20. It's an organized meeting where they cover topics like the 60-second commercial," Virgil said. "It's a lot more comfortable because you're networking with people in the same position as you are - either unemployed or under-employed."

**STAT MEDICAL**  
Home Medical Equipment  
2931 West Marine View Drive in Everett  
(425) 339-9393  
Product of the Month Seat Lift Chairs

- Latest technology in Home Oxygen
- Wheelchair and Hospital bed rentals
- Bathroom Equipment
- Lift chairs
- Power wheelchairs & Scooters/Ramps
- Largest selection of CPAP equipment & supplies in the area.

**Bring in this coupon and save 15% on any one regularly priced item.**

\*Offer good through October 31, 2008. Insurance billings not eligible for discount. Item must be paid for upon receipt.

**COUPON**

**Enjoy the Flexibility and Freedom of Anytime Dining at Merrill Gardens**

At Merrill Gardens, our Anytime Dining program makes it easy to get the fresh, nutritious meals you want - when you want them - from early morning to early evening. Experience the convenience of Anytime Dining for yourself. Just bring this ad to a Merrill Gardens near you, take a tour and enjoy a free meal for two. Call for details.

**MERRILL GARDENS**  
A one of a kind retirement community  
[www.merrillgardens.com](http://www.merrillgardens.com)

<b>The Creekside*</b> (425) 483-7953	<b>Mill Creek</b> (425) 338-1580	<b>Mountlake Terrace Plaza</b> (425) 672-4673
<b>Marysville</b> (360) 659-1279	<b>Monroe*</b> (360) 794-4284	<b>Stanwood*</b> (360) 629-3445

\*The Creekside offers Independent Living only. Alzheimer's Care Available at Monroe and Stanwood. Coupon limited to seniors, their families and friends. Free meal with tour only. Limited time offer.

**RETIREMENT, ASSISTED LIVING & ALZHEIMER'S CARE\***

**DON'T MISS THIS IMPORTANT EVENT!**

Your nest egg can be protected. Find out what nursing homes, state and federal governments don't tell you about protecting your assets from nursing home Medicaid spend down. Even if you are in a nursing home, it's not too late to get help. You can find out how at...

**FREE SEMINAR**  
Thursday, Sept. 25 • 1-2 pm  
Everett Library, Evergreen Branch  
9512 Evergreen Way

You'll also get a free estimate of how much YOU can shelter - right on the spot!

Guest speakers:  
**Terry H. Schaberg, PLLC**  
Attorney at Law  
**David Wadley, LUTCF, RFC**  
Nationwide Elder Services Association

**NESA!**  
NATIONWIDE ELDER SERVICES ASSOCIATION

Call **1-866-270-2280**  
To Reserve your spot.

**Up To One Month Free!\***

**Afternoon Tea**  
September 27 | 1 pm - 5 pm  
Savor an afternoon filled with good conversation, laughter, and a relaxing cup of tea. Nibble on cookies and finger sandwiches while you make new friends. Enjoy a pleasant afternoon at Cedar Park.

**Free \$10 Gas Card** when you make an appointment and take a tour.

**Don't forget to ask about more fun Cedar Park activities this Month.**

**RENTS START AT ONLY \$683\*** Most utilities included  
Rooftop decks with 9 hole mini-golf | Planter Boxes plus City & Mountain Views | Media center Exercise & Craft rooms  
We guarantee we will not convert to condominiums.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT CALL:** (888) 307-1821  
OR VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT: [www.housing4seniors.com](http://www.housing4seniors.com)  
[www.urbanliving4seniors.com](http://www.urbanliving4seniors.com)

**CEDAR PARK**  
APARTMENTS  
Affordable Urban Living For Active Seniors

\*Special Discount / Select units only / Limited Time Offer  
\*LIMITED AVAILABILITY. ASK FOR DETAILS. CEDAR PARK PARTICIPATES IN A HOUSING PROGRAM FOR AGE- AND-INCOME QUALIFIED APPLICANTS.