

made available upon request. Comfortable clothing for the class is recommended. Early registration must be made by calling to the Learning Center at 427-3609.

MASON TRANSIT AND UNITED WAY TO HOLD VOLUNTEER SUMMIT

SHELTON — United Way of Mason County is partnering with Mason Transit Authority (MTA) to host a Volunteer Summit at the Transit-Community Center (T-CC) on Oct. 7.

The purpose of the event is to raise awareness about the organizations in Mason County that provide social services to the community, the services they provide, as well as promote the volunteer positions those organizations have available and are currently recruiting for.

Some organizations are desperate to find volunteers. Mason Transit's volunteer

driver program has seen a 59 percent decline in volunteers over the last five years, said Christina Kramer, outreach manager at MTA.

Isaac Wagnitz, the volunteer coordinator for United Way of Mason County, says there are other organizations that rely on volunteers who have experienced declines as well. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the percentage of Americans volunteering has dwindled nationwide, last year the volunteer rate was 25.3 percent compared with 29 percent of the population in 2003.

The event is free and open to the public.

It will be held from 3-6 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 7, in the gym at the Transit-Community Center, located at 601 W. Franklin St in downtown Shelton. For more information, contact Isaac Wagnitz at United Way of Mason County at 426-4999 or at iwagnitz@unitedwaymasonco.org.