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Southwest Portland's Independent Neighborhood Newspaper

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Portland, Oregon

Complimentary

June 2011

Citizenship ceremony draws 47 new Americans from 26 Countries

By Polina Olsen
The Southwest Portland Post

When Carmel Breathnach took her oath of citizenship, children from the kindergarten class she teaches cheered. Part of the 27th Annual Cinco de Mayo Fiesta in Waterfront Park, the May 6 United States Citizenship and Immigration Service ceremony brought together family, friends and 47 new Americans from 26 countries.

Each year, the Portland Guadalajara Sister City Association sponsors a naturalization ceremony as part of the fiesta. Established in 1984, the non-profit PGSCA promotes Latin culture, arts, education, economic and intercultural programs between Portland, Oregon and Guadalajara, Mexico. The organization's primary source of funding comes from the annual Cinco de Mayo celebration.

The naturalization ceremony took place in the fiesta's main tent. Onlookers grabbed treats from the vendors lining the large enclosed area and crowded into tables and chairs set out for the occasion.

The new citizens held their naturalization packets and listened with

attention. Qureish Ahmed Adde came from Mogadishu, Somalia, and has been in the United States for six years.

Bindya Narayan came to the United States from Mumbai (Bombay), India nine years ago. She and her husband are high technology workers at Intel Corporation in Hillsboro. "It feels good to be a citizen," she said.

Breathnach, who teaches at the Joyful Noise Child Development Center, immigrated to the United States from Galway, Ireland, more than 10 years ago. She and the others stood as they called out each country of origin ... Albania, Australia, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, China, Cuba, the Czech Republic, Fiji, India, Iraq, Ireland, the Democratic Republic of Georgia, Greece, Kenya,



Children from the kindergarten class and their parents joined Carmel Breathnach at the citizenship ceremony, May 6. Shown from left to right are Steve Mooney, Rys Kleier, Zachary Slater, Carmel Breathnach, Delaney McFarland, and Kelea Lachman. (Post photo by Polina Olsen)

Mexico, Moldova, Peru, Romania, Somalia, South Africa, Syria, Taiwan, the United Kingdom, Uzbekistan and Vietnam.

After administering the Oath of Al-

legiance and offering congratulations, the Immigration and Naturalization Service director introduced the keynote speaker, Nawzad Othman, the chief ex-
(Continued on Page 7)



Ryan Hashagen, owner of PortlandPedals.com, gives a pedicab ride to Kelly and Dash Hartman of Linnton at the Hillsdale Farmers Market, May 1. (Post photo by Don Snedecor)

Multnomah residents consider Safeway traffic impacts

By Lee Perlman
The Southwest Portland Post

Representatives of the Safeway Corporation presented their plans for a new store at Southwest Barbur Boulevard and Capitol Highway, replacing an existing store on the site, at a public meeting organized by the Multnomah Neighborhood Association last month.

The 30 people who came expressed pleasure at seeing the new store come in, but their questions were directed almost entirely at its potential transportation impacts, and they expressed concerns.

"We've had the store since 1968, and for the last 15 years we've tried to figure out how to upgrade it," Safeway Real Estate Manager Diana Phillips said. "The site is an odd configuration that's hard to deal with. Then last year we purchased two adjacent parcels, one vacant, the other with a small rental house on it."

Safeway is currently seeking a Comprehensive Plan Amendment to change the lot's R1 multi-family zoning to a commercial designation. The process requires Safeway to replace the potential housing that could legally be built on the residential site by rezoning another property somewhere in the city for residential use or greater density.

According to spokesperson Dan Floyd, the company will attempt to do this with a property in southeast Portland. They have already submitted a formal application for the project,

Floyd told *The Post*.

Assuming they can do so, they intend to put in a "podium" store, architect Wendell Mueller said, with parking at grade and a store built over it. Once parked, customers will proceed by "various modes of transportation" to the sales floor, which will be open on all four sides, he said. The entrances will be off Southwest Capitol Hill Road and Multnomah Boulevard.

Chris Brehmer of Kittelson and Associates said that the store will have an 11-foot-wide sidewalk on Multnomah and a 12-foot-wide sidewalk on Capitol Hill Road and Barbur Boulevard.

To accommodate left turns from northbound traffic, he said the intersection will have a dedicated left turn lane and a signal with a yellow left turn arrow, allowing traffic to turn without unduly impeding through traffic flow. To accommodate pedestrians, there will be an exclusive "walk" phase, he said.

Those present were not completely reassured. "That crossing is really dangerous," Hillsdale activist Don Baack said. "There's a lot of traffic coming at high speeds. There are a lot of near-misses." Others said that Capitol Hill Road contains a blind curve that obscures views of crossing traffic.

Asked about the traffic the new store is expected to generate, Brehmer said, "It will nearly double in size, so we're expecting a substantial increase." Asked about future development of Barbur as a "transit corridor," he said, "We don't have any parameters to design around."

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The Southwest Portland Post
4207 SE Woodstock Blvd #509
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City Council authorizes use of Sears Armory for emergency operations

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

By Don Snedecor
The Southwest Portland Post

Portland City Council voted 4-1 on May 24 to authorize the use of the Sergeant First Class Jerome Sears Army Reserve Center in the Multnomah neighborhood as an operations center. This operations center will ensure the City is able to effectively respond to emergencies on the west side of the Willamette River.

"Council's approval of the Sears Center for emergency operations is a positive step towards addressing a compelling safety need for Portlanders," said Mayor Sam Adams. "Currently, no public works emergency vehicles, equipment or supplies are located on the west side of the Willamette, leaving Portland at risk during a significant event. Creating an emergency operations center at this location will change that."

The Sears Center, located in Southwest Portland at 2730 SW Multnomah Blvd, was previously identified by the U.S. Department of Defense Base Realignment and Closure process as surplus property.

The City subsequently received a public benefit conveyance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency authorizing the no-cost transfer of the property for use as an emergency operations facility.

"We know Portland is vulnerable to earthquakes, winter weather and other natural disasters. The use of the Sears facility as an emergency center will

enhance the City's overall capabilities and enable a more timely and effective response to emergencies," said Carmen Merlo, Director of the Portland Office of Emergency Management.

After an extensive public engagement process in 2007 and 2008, Council originally recommended the redevelopment of the site for a mixed income, rental and ownership housing development.

However, after performing due diligence, the City determined the Portland Housing Bureau did not have the necessary capital to adequately fund the project.

Additional outreach was performed by the City in January and February 2011 to the Multnomah Neighborhood Association to affirm the community's support for the site as an emergency operations center.

But according to Moses Ross, chair of the Multnomah Neighborhood Association, this option is not without its critics.

"Concerns and potential site usage issues were raised that identified unacceptable use of the site that are not in the neighborhood's best interest," said Ross.

"These issues surround the potential for daily maintenance operations to be scheduled from the site that would generate excessive noise to a predominantly residential area."

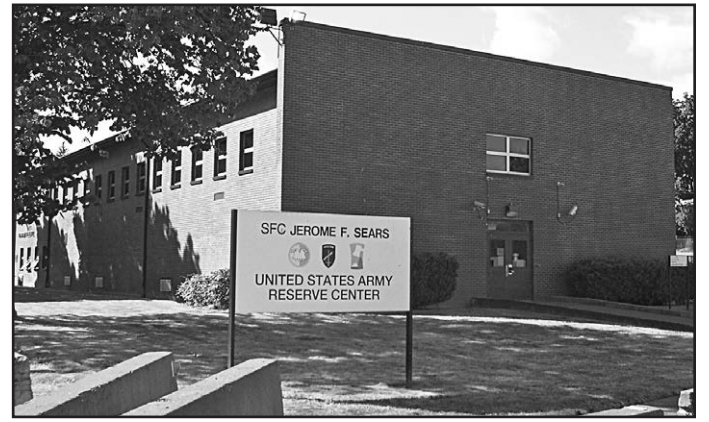
"General maintenance or staging operations on the site are considered by the neighborhood as unacceptable and do not fit in with the neighborhood."

"Usages beyond emergency support do not meet the criteria or the benefits intended by the Army for relinquishing the property and are not supported by

the neighborhood."

This was re-enforced by a motion that the neighborhood only supports this property use type if it is limited to emergency use. This motion passed with unanimous vote.

With Council's approval May 24 of the reuse of the site, the City will submit a revised reuse master plan to the U.S. Department of Defense and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, amend-



(Post file photo by Don Snedecor)

ing the designated use of the facility from affordable housing to emergency operations.



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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Lee Perlman
The Southwest Portland Post

Gibbs Street Pedestrian Bridge construction affects traffic

The Gibbs Street Pedestrian Bridge now under construction has had some effect on local traffic, and is about to have more.

Periodically, preliminary work on the \$13.2 million span linking the South Waterfront with Southwest Kelley Street has necessitated closure of the I-5 Freeway off-ramp at Southwest Hood Street.

According to project manager Jean Sennechal Biggs, during two nights between late June and mid-July, late at night, the freeway itself will be closed. Ironically, the detour will utilize Hood for southbound traffic, while northbound traffic will be shunted to Southwest Macadam Avenue.

The closure will allow the relocation of overhead directional signs that the new bridge will hide from view, Biggs said. Sometime between late July and mid-August there will be a week of nighttime work as crews hoist a main



Gibbs Street Pedestrian Bridge (File illustration courtesy of Jody Yates, Portland Bureau of Transportation)

horizontal girder into place.

"This is exciting," Biggs said. "This is the real bridge." During this work the Hood exit may once again be closed.

The project is somewhat behind its original schedule due to more complicated than anticipated utility work at its inception. It was due for completion by January 31, Biggs said, but is likely to continue into mid-February.

City breaks ground on affordable housing

Work crews last month broke ground on a long-promised affordable housing

project in the South Waterfront. The six-story structure will be located on Block 49, bounded by Southwest Moody and Bond avenues and Lowell and Bancroft streets.

The new building will contain a total of 209 units. Of these, 42 units will be reserved for veterans earning 30 percent of median area family income (about \$15,000 for a single person household) or less. The rest will be affordable to people earning 50 percent M.F.I., or about \$25,000.

The \$50 million project is a partnership between the new Portland Housing Bureau and REACH Community Development. With 1,400 housing units, concentrated primarily in southeast Portland, REACH is the city's largest non-profit housing manager. They will manage the building and purchase 12,000 square feet of ground floor space for their new administrative offices.

The City of Portland is contributing \$29 million of the project cost, including \$21.71 million in tax increment funds from the North Macadam Urban Renewal District.

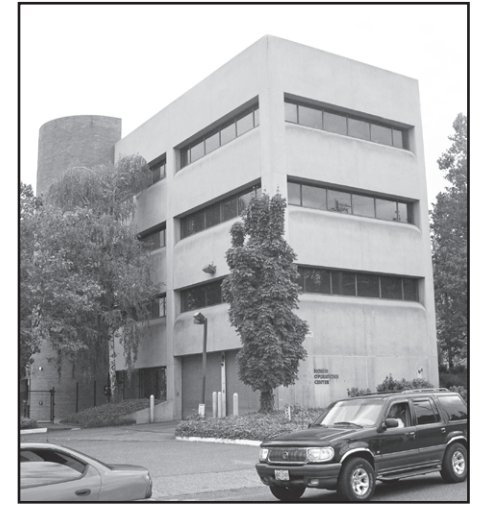
Southwest neighborhood coalition holds board elections

The board of Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc., a non-profit which contracts with the City to provide services to southwest neighborhood associations, was scheduled to hold its annual officer elections on May 25, and unlike some years the process promised to be contentious.

Chair Brian Russell of Multnomah is moving out of the neighborhood, and was not a candidate to retain his

office. Instead, Don Baack of Hillsdale, chair of the SWNI Trails Committee, and Marianne Fitzgerald of Ash Creek, Transportation Committee chair, were prepared to vie for the top spot.

At other positions, Jim McLaughlin of West Portland Park challenged incumbent Ken Love of South Portland for first vice-chair. Sharon Keast of Arnold Creek and Moses Ross of Multnomah were both seeking the second vice-chair position. Lee Buhler of South Portland was unopposed as secretary, as was Linda Troutman of Marshall Park as treasurer.



South Waterfront jail (Post file photo by Don Snedecor)

Hearing set for South Waterfront jail

A public hearing has been scheduled on a request for a conditional use permit for a detention facility for the federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (Continued on Page 7)

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COMMUNITY LIFE

By Don Snedecor
The Southwest Portland Post

Multnomah Neighborhood Association meets again on Tuesday, June 14 at 7:00 p.m. at the Multnomah Center, Room 30. Residents that live along Capitol Highway are especially encouraged to attend.

The June neighborhood meeting will be focused on Capitol Highway and the status of proposed sidewalk, bike ways and potential storm water improvements from the Multnomah Village bridge overpass along to the I-5 Barbur Blvd interchange.

This project has been identified by the City as a "tier one" or highest priority project. Even with that status, there is concern that funding for the project may be re-prioritized and that the project would be done "piecemeal" thus taking longer to complete.

The impact of construction on traffic flow has been affecting the Multnomah Village business community and there is concern about prolonging this negative (but temporary) by-product of these improvement projects.

The neighborhood association wants to make sure folks are well informed about the Capitol Highway improvements and its status at each stage. Stakeholders from the SWNI Transportation Committee, Portland Bureau of Transportation and Bureau of Environmental Services will be there to share their perspective and to answer questions.

Capitol Hill Library

10723 S.W. Capitol Hwy., 503.988.5385

Bike Safety 101

Stay safe this summer while riding on two wheels! Brian Lacy of BIKEmpow-



Capitol Highway street plan illustration – Capitol Highway and Lobelia facing North. (Courtesy Portland Bureau of Transportation)

ered will teach you how to check your bike to make sure all parts are secure and working properly.

Feel free to bring in your bicycle for a full check up! Brian will even write a health report about any repairs that need to be made. For children ages 6 and up. Following the program, everyone can decorate their bikes and participate in a parade through Holly Farm Park! Tue., June 28, 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Chess at Capitol Hill Library

Players of all levels welcome. Play a game or get tips from a tutor. Chess sets provided or bring your own. For teens and adults. Sundays, 3:15-4:45 p.m.

Pageturners Book Groups

Read *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie. Engage in stimulating conversation about books, exchange perspectives about characters and plot, and get to

know your neighbors. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Thu., June 2, 1:30-2:30 p.m. Tue., June 14, 6:45-7:45 p.m.

Hillsdale Library,

1525 S.W. Sunset Blvd., 503.988.5388

The No. 1 Hillsdale Knitting Society

Learn basic knitting skills or get help with an existing project. Crocheters welcome too. For children 5 years and older as well as adults. Sat., June 11, 10 a.m.-noon

Read to the DogsSM

Improve your reading skills by reading aloud to therapy dogs from the Delta Society's Pet Partners® Program, sponsored by DoveLewis. For kids and teens. Registration required; call 503.988.5388. Sat., June 11, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Sat., June 18, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Pageturners Book Groups

Engage in stimulating conversation about books, exchange perspectives about characters and plot, and get to know your neighbors. For adults. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Read *Crossing to Safety* by Wallace Stegner. Thu., June 16, 1-2:30 p.m.

SPRINGFEST: Grant Summers (trumpet) and Finn James (trombone), fifth graders at Riverdale School, entertain shoppers near Food Front at the Hillsdale Springfest on May 1. (Post photo by Don Snedecor)

The Southwest Portland Post

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Questions & Answers About Our Environment

Dear EarthTalk: I heard someone say that legalizing pot—as Californians considered doing last year—would benefit the environment. How would that be?

-- William T., Portland, OR

It is well known that legalizing pot could have great economic benefits in California and elsewhere by allowing the government to tax it (like it now does on liquor and cigarettes).

In addition, legalization would end expensive and ongoing operations to eradicate pot, and keep millions of otherwise innocent and non-violent marijuana offenders out of already overburdened federal and state prisons. But what you might not know is that legalizing pot could also pay environmental dividends as well.

Nikki Gloudeman, a senior fellow at *Mother Jones* magazine, reports on the change.org website that the current system of growing pot—surreptitious growers illegally colonizing remote forest lands and moving pesticides, waste and irrigation tubes into otherwise pristine ecosystems—is nothing short of a toxic scourge.

Legalizing pot, Gloudeman said, would clean things up substantially, as the growing would both eliminate the strain on public lands and meet higher standards for the use and disposal of toxic substances.

Legalization would also reduce the environmental impacts of smuggling across the U.S./Mexico border, said Gloudeman: "Cartels routinely use generators, diesel storage tanks and animal poison to preserve their cache,



Legalizing pot, some say, would eliminate many negative environmental impacts associated with clandestine growing and illegal smuggling. It would also likely open the door for the legalization of hemp (right-hand image), a relative of the cannabis plant that can't get you high but could help us sustainably meet a good amount of our fiber and fuel needs. (Photo courtesy of Wikipedia)

when the border area is surrounded by more than 4 million acres of sensitive federal wilderness."

Also, legalizing pot would move its production out into the open, literally, meaning that growers would no longer need to rack up huge energy costs to keep their illegal indoor growing operations lit up by artificial light.

This means that the energy consumption and carbon footprint of marijuana growers would go way down, as the light the plants need for photosynthesis could be provided more naturally by the sun.

Yet another green benefit of legalizing marijuana would be an end to the destructive eradication efforts employed by law enforcement at bust sites, where the crop and the land they are rooted in

are sometimes subjected to harsh chemical herbicides for expedited removal.

The legalization of pot in the U.S. would also likely open the door to the legal production of hemp, a variety of the same Cannabis plant that contains much lower amounts of the psychoactive drug, THC. Proponents say hemp could meet an increasingly larger percentage of our domestic fiber and fuel needs.

Cannabis, the plant from which marijuana and hemp is derived, grows quickly without the need for excessive amounts of fertilizer or pesticide (it's a "weed" after all) and absorbs carbon dioxide like any plant engaged in photosynthesis.

The fiber and fuel derived from hemp would be carbon neutral and

as such wouldn't contribute to global warming—and in fact could help mitigate rising temperatures by replacing chemical-intensive crops like cotton and imported fossil fuels like oil and gas.

Of course, one might argue that the best thing for the environment would be to stop growing cannabis altogether. "But let's be real: That's never going to happen," said Gloudeman. "In light of that, the next best bet is to make it legal."

CONTACTS: Change.org, www.change.org; Drug Policy Alliance, www.drugpolicy.org.

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What's new about the program?

Sewer work will close Multnomah Blvd / Interstate 5 access

By Lee Perlman
The Southwest Portland Post

The City of Portland's Bureau of Environmental Services (BES) will be back at work on Southwest Multnomah Boulevard this fall, and this time their work will cut the neighborhood off from Interstate 5.

According to bureau spokesperson Stephen Sykes, they are about to replace the existing 30-inch Burlingame Trunk Sewer with a 48-inch replacement on Multnomah Boulevard between Southwest 31st Avenue and the freeway.

For this they will dig a trench as deep as 30 feet on the north side of the boulevard, he said. However, BES hopes to keep a lane open in each direction, eliminating the need for flaggers or detours, he said.

The biggest impact will be on the Multnomah / I-5 access ramps, Sykes said. The work, and the staging area associated with it, will require these

to be closed from the beginning of the project (probably early October) until November 18.

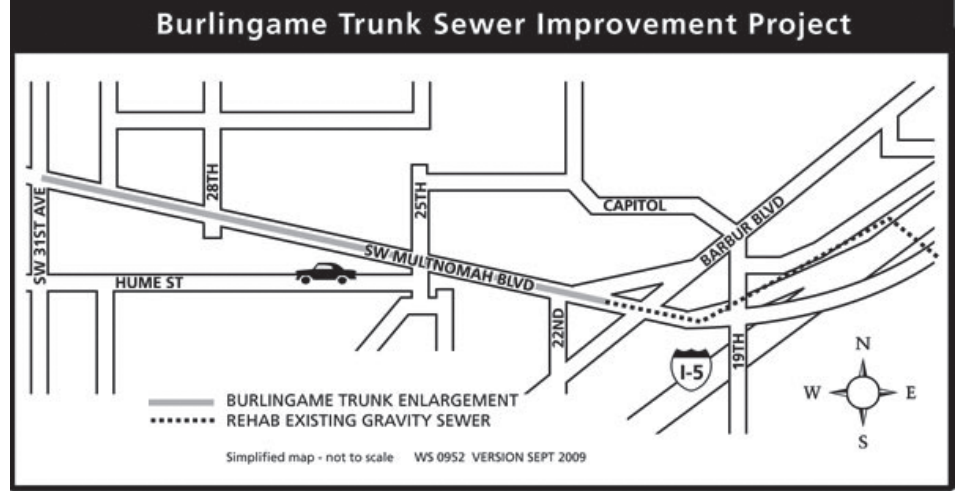
Out of consideration for local merchants, the contract specifies that the closures not continue through the holiday season.

In addition, Sykes said, the contractor will be working 24 hours a day during part of this period, and they have secured a noise variance for this period. "It will just be for a few days, but there may be times when we'll exceed the City's standards for night-time noise generation," Sykes said.

The project will remove several trees, Sykes said. They will be replaced by tupelo, maples, and "a variety of pines."

Sykes said the City plans to designate the Capitol Highway exit as an alternate access to I-5, a route that would require considerable out of direction travel for northbound Multnomah Village motorists.

At a meeting in late April Hillsdale activist Don Baack said he feared mo-



torists instead would take Southwest Bertha Boulevard and overload it.

Meanwhile, to the west, BES will soon begin the repaving of Southwest Multnomah Boulevard between 31st and 45th avenues following completion of an earlier sewer project. This work should begin in late June or early July, he said.

During a review of the project at a community meeting, Southwest Neigh-

borhoods, Inc. Transportation chair Marianne Fitzgerald was unhappy that BES did not plan to improve the sidewalks along Multnomah, even though they are only five feet wide and substandard.

Sykes replied that the City is not obliged to do such work except where construction work has damaged the sidewalk and it must be replaced.

THE COUNTRY STORE

By Don Snedecor
The Southwest Portland Post

Key Bank's Skayhan named to manage Raleigh Hills branch

Susan Skayhan has been selected to manage KeyBank's new branch in the Raleigh Hills area of Portland. The branch opened May 16 and is located at 6620 SW Beaverton-Hillsdale Highway.

Skayhan joined Key as a relationship manager at the Greenway branch in 2004, later becoming assistant vice

president and branch manager for Key's Multnomah branch in Portland and the Farmington branch in Aloha, Oregon.

She brings to her new assignment 20 years of banking and insurance expertise, serving both consumer and small business clients. Active in the community, Skayhan is a member of the Raleigh Hills Business Association and is involved in launching RHBA's first



annual Community Fair on June 12.

Her team, representing 40 years of combined banking experience, include relationship manager Airtio Zamorano, business relationship manager Derek Kirma, and customer service manager Caralie Wright.

Dr. McHarris joins Fanno Creek Clinic

Dr. Louise McHarris, DO recently became associated with Fanno Creek Clinic. McHarris is a Board Certified Physician with special interests in Internal Medicine, Primary Care and Preventive Medicine.

McHarris graduated from Michigan State University College of Osteopathic

Medicine in 1997, and completed her residency at St. John Detroit Riverview Hospital in 2000.

McHarris is bilingual; speaking Spanish with a Bachelor of Arts in Latin American Studies, 1991. Her practice is accepting new patients and most major insurance plans. Fanno Creek Clinic is located at 2400 SW Vermont St.



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Portland voters defeat \$548 million bond measure to repair school buildings

By Lee Perlman
The Southwest Portland Post

Last month Portland voters defeated a proposed \$548 million bond measure intended to repair and replace Portland Public Schools' aging buildings. The voters passed a companion \$250 million tax levy that will partially, but not entirely, offset budget cutbacks.

What will be the effect of all this on Southwest schools? According to Will Fuller, chair of Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc.'s Schools Committee, the effect of the bond defeat will be "long-term and indirect." In contrast the budget shortfall, cushioned though it is by the Levy success, will be "immediate and direct."

The bond defeat "means that we won't be able to replace Markham School, and that is disappointing," Fuller said. The District had determined that this building had passed its useful life, and should be replaced. For other southwest buildings, the proposed improvements "tend to be not so major," Fuller said.

There are some safety-related things, some classrooms, repairs to

roofs." The buildings will continue to deteriorate and the cost of repairs will grow, but they will not affect this year's operations, he said.

The budget shortfalls are another matter. Here, Fuller said, the District will have to cut "core staff," such as librarians and counselors.

There will be a chance to offset some of these things through the use of contributions to local school foundations, Fuller said, but this method is "uncertain and inequitable." Stephenson School, for instance, can count on generating more funds than Markham, given their relative demographics.

The District receives a certain portion of such funds, and redistributes them according to need - which, Fuller says, typically means "the money flows from southwest to northeast."

At best, Fuller said, such funding is a stopgap. What each parent would contribute to a Foundation project "is a fraction of what it would cost to send your kids to a private school," he said. "But there is a tipping point where you go from adding extras to an already good school, and where the problems are so major the contributions are money down a rat hole."

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

South Waterfront Jail

(Continued from Page 3)

(ICE) program at 4310 S.W. Macadam Ave., according to City planner Douglas Hardy. The hearing will begin at 9 a.m. July 6 at 1900 S.W. Fourth Ave.

An application for the permit by property owners Lindquist Development LLC was deemed complete on May 9, Hardy told *The Post*. He will make a recommendation on the request to a City Hearings Officer who will decide the case.

Hardy will accept public input on the issue through June 13. He can be reached at 503-823-7816, by mail at Suite 5000, 1900 S.W. Fourth Ave., Portland Ore. 97201, or by e-mail at douglas.hardy@portlandoregon.gov.

The public can also testify at the hearing but, Hardy said, the Hearings Officer has already imposed a three-minute time limit on such testimony.

Earlier this year the Portland City Council, on an appeal by the South Portland Neighborhood Association, affirmed design approval for a building expansion at the site. However, Council also found that 4,000 square feet of the expanded 65,000 square foot building constituted a detention facility, and as such required a Conditional Use permit with a new review process.

Under the Type III procedure in this case, either party could appeal the Hearings Officer's decision to City Council. A recognized neighborhood association such as South Portland can bring such an appeal without paying a fee.

Naturopathic college to dedicate herb garden

The National College of Naturopathic Medicine will officially dedicate its new

Zidel Healing Garden at 10 a.m. June 24, according to College spokesperson Marilyn Considine.

The garden, an 11,000 square foot plot at Southwest Water Avenue and Woods Street, is named for the Zidel family, who contributed \$150,000 towards its development.

It contains herbs that contribute to natural healing practices, a labyrinth in the shape of a feng shui mystic knot, and a teahouse contributed by the So-kenbicha Tea Company.

The teahouse is "important to our Chinese students, and to the staff of our Chinese medicine division," Considine said. It is used for tea ceremonies, which are "a formal way of celebrating with friends and neighbors. It's a resource not just for us but for the entire city."

Patrick Quinton, Executive Director of the Portland Development Commission, will be the keynote speaker at the dedication, Considine said.

Citizenship Ceremony

(Continued from Page 1)

ective officer of Otak, a Lake Oswego architectural and engineering firm. Othman and his family immigrated to the United States from Baghdad, Iraq. He described himself as an example of the opportunity America offers new immigrants. "I came here 54 years ago when I was one year old," he said. "I'm honored to be here. I'm passionate about America. I'm a student of American history, inclusion, and diversity."

After the ceremony, the Portland Guadalajara Sister City Association sponsored a reception of lemonade and large cakes decked out with red, white and blue stars and stripes. The *Faces of America* video played in the background as the new citizens and their friends waved American flags.

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Wilson softball team clinches PIL title

On May 16, the Wilson High School varsity softball team clinched the Portland Interscholastic League (PIL) 5A girls' softball league championship at Rieke Field in Hillsdale. The Wilson Trojans defeated the Franklin Quakers in seven innings by a final score of 7 to 4 to bring home the title.

"The girls brought their best today and stayed focused during the last three games of conference play," said Anna Cullop, Wilson Head Coach. "I am proud of all these young women." The Wilson team was in a three-way tie for first place. They defeated Cleveland on May 12th and Franklin on May 16th, thereby securing the first seed in the

State 5A playoffs.

On Sunday, May 22nd, the Wilson team will be recognized by the PIL Athletic Department and the PIL Hall of Fame at an awards presentation at the Tiger Woods Center on the Nike campus in Beaverton.

Front Row: Maddie Price, Molly Michelotti, Courtney Vanlaningham, Sophie Miller, Emily Reeves, Brooke Rencher. Back Row: Assistant Coach Stephanie Adams, Morgan Fritz, Madi Lostra, Jessica West, Ashley Reeves, Lauren Barmon, Eliza Gandee, Head Coach Anna Cullop

(Story and photo courtesy of Karen Miller)



Federal grant funds Hillsdale Terrace replacement

By Lee Perlman
The Southwest Portland Post

Last month the City received an \$18.5 million Hope VI Grant from the federal Bureau of Housing and Community Development, allowing for the replacement of Hillsdale Terrace.

The existing, 60-unit structure at 6775 SW 26th Ave. will be replaced by a 122-units, Shelly Marchesi of Home Forward (formerly the Housing Authority of Portland) told *The Post*.

This will include seven units that will be awarded to first-time homebuyers who perform "sweat equity" by helping to build the structures, in cooperation with Habitat for Humanity. Existing Terrace tenants will be given first choice at this program.

Home Forward itself will contribute \$9 million toward the \$47.3 million project. This is from the sale of single family homes in various parts of the city. Other funds include \$5 million from the City of Portland, \$12.2 million in state tax credits, \$1.5

million from Habitat, and \$1 million in grants.

Marchesi said the site of the existing building is eroding, and there is a constant problem with mold. "This is our most difficult site to maintain, and it's horribly inaccessible for anyone with physical constraints," Marchesi said.

The new building will be built on the old site plus three additional lots recently purchased by the agency. The part of the site nearest Southwest Capitol Highway will undergo design review, Home Forward Planning and

Design Director Julie Livingston said. The agency hopes to break ground in summer 2012, following relocation of existing tenants, she said.

Portland City Commissioner Nick Fish, who announced the grant at a news conference last month, said, "This is great news for the city. It will improve the lives of tenants, provide construction jobs, strengthen our connections to the surrounding community, and continue Portland's tradition of green building. Congratulations to our partner, Home Forward."

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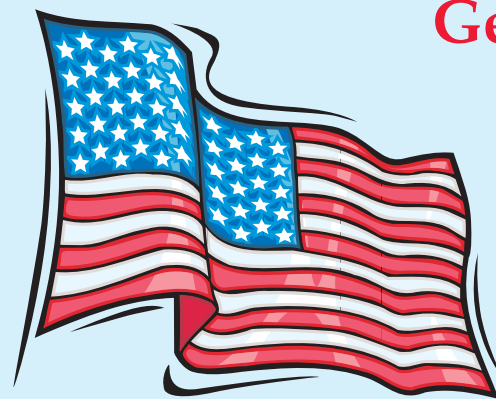
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