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Neighborhood briefs

The Portland Tribune, Oct 9, 2007 (3 Reader comments)

NORTHWEST

Bridge move has a price

Neighborhood activists who dreamed of moving the old bridge at Sauvie Island to Northwest Flanders Street, where it would serve as a bicycle and pedestrian crossing over Interstate 405, took a hit recently when a preliminary engineering estimate for the project pegged the cost at about \$5 million.

According to city engineers, a smaller bridge built from scratch on the site would cost about \$2 million.

In August the Northwest District Association transportation committee endorsed the bridge move in concept and a search for private funding. The funding search continues, according to Kim Carlson, transportation committee co-chairwoman.

NORTH

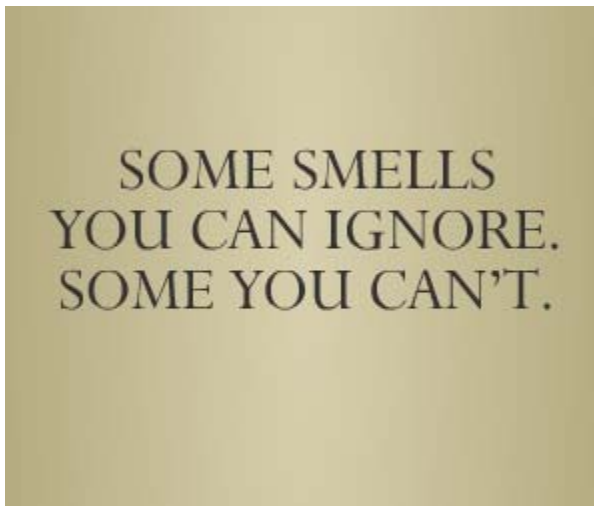
Library sites narrowed

North Portland residents have two more opportunities to weigh in on their preferred site for a new library branch, expected to be open by 2009.

County Commissioner Jeff Cogen has in past months collected information from local real estate developers and neighbors about potential sites for the library.

The site must be between 5,000 and 7,500 square feet, available for a long-term lease and halfway between the St. Johns Library and the North Portland Library branch on North Killingsworth Street.

Cogen has narrowed the field to four potential locations. Three are in Kenton: a vacant storefront on North Denver Avenue; a mixed-use space



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being developed at North Willis Boulevard and Brandon Avenue; and a mixed-use space owned by TriMet on North Argyle Street.

One site is in Portsmouth: the Hope Meadows project, a multigenerational foster home planned for the site of the former Ball Elementary School.

Public meetings are set for 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday at the North Portland Library branch, 512 N. Killingsworth St.; and 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Nov. 13 at the Historic Kenton Firehouse, 8105 N. Brandon Ave. For information, call Karol Collymore, Cogen's spokeswoman, 503-988-6786, or visit www.commissionercogen.com.

NORTHEAST Mall developer backs off

Neighborhood leaders in the Roseway and Madison South neighborhoods were scheduled to meet with a major landowner in the neighborhood Monday to talk about development possibilities for land across from Madison High School.

The meeting followed the recent decision by a mall developer to withdraw its application to the city of Portland to build a big-box retail project on the site, at the corner of Northeast 82nd Avenue and Siskiyou Street.

The decision came after neighbors' active opposition to the mall developer's plans, which included one store that could have covered 180,000 square feet.

Frank Walsh, a Madison South neighborhood leader and president of the Save Madison South organization that was formed to oppose the development, said neighborhood residents were "ecstatic" about the mall developer's withdrawal.

Officials with the developer said the company may come back to the city to propose a new plan for the land.

Walsh said neighborhood leaders hope that development at the site might be smaller shops or stores – and "have a neighborhood orientation rather than a regional draw" that could bring increased traffic from throughout the city.

A planned city hearing on the developer's application, for Oct. 16 and Oct. 17, has been canceled.

EAST Art and nature intersect

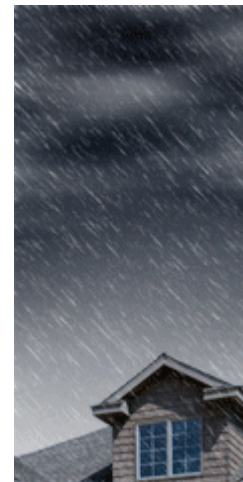
The retirement community Parkrose Chateau will host a public Art Speaks program sponsored by the Portland Art Museum, which is intended to "explore nature as muse."

The Thursday program will discuss how artists interpret nature and will use illustrated slides of the museum's own collection featuring work by Childe Hassam, Claude Monet and Camille Pissarro as well as Asian and Native American artists.

The program will highlight artists who have interpreted scenes from the Pacific Northwest.

The program begins at 10:30 a.m. at 3141 N.E. 148th Ave.

SOUTHEAST



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